

I stand amazed#6

I stand amazed that heaven is my home

For the last 5 weeks we have been in a series called: I STAND AMAZED

- I stand amazed at Holiness of God
- I stand amazed at the Goodness of God
- I stand amazed that God is mindful of me
- I stand amazed at Jesus, the Son of God
- I stand amazed that God is my Father

Today, as we close this series of studies...I want to end with a lesson that will give us hope, joy and assurance.

My prayer is that this lesson will inspire us to continue to standfast in our faith and stand amazed at the things of God.

I STAND AMAZED THAT HEAVEN WILL BE MY HOME

- Do you ever ponder the idea of heaven?
- Do you ever sit and imagine what heaven will be like?
- Do you ever wonder what we will see, what we will hear, what we will do, how we will feel?

I love the old story of the preacher that was preaching one Sunday night...he was talking about heaven, and he got to the climax of his sermon...and he shouted, "Raise your hand if you want to go to heaven"!!

Every person in the church, young and old raised their hand...except for one little boy up front. The preacher said again, "Raise your hand if you want to go to heaven"

The boy just sat there...finally the preacher looked at the boy and said, "Son, don't you want to go to heaven one day, why aren't you raising your hand? The boy said, "Yes sir, I want to go to heaven one day...but the way you were talking, I thought you were getting a trip up for tonight"

I want to live a rich, full and abundant life on this earth...but my life is dedicated to the fact that one day I want to go to heaven.

It may not be today or tonight or even tomorrow...but one day...I want to go to that place called HEAVEN.

GOING TO HEAVEN...

- It's the reason that we do everything we are doing in life right now!!
- It's why I am a Christian
- It's the reason we worship...I am here right now...because I want to go to heaven.
- Going to heaven is the reason that I pray, study and obey God's will.
- Going to heaven is the reason why I try to live righteously
- Heaven is reason that I show kindness, compassion and care for others
- It's the reason we teach our children and bring them up in the Lord

There is no doubt in my mind that heaven is real

There is no doubt that I can go there

There is no doubt that I can live there for eternity

I STAND AMAZED THAT HEAVEN WILL BE MY HOME

4 things I want to mention

I. I STAND AMAZED THAT HEAVEN IS PREPARED FOR ME

John 14:1-3

“Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. ² In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to **prepare a place for you**. ³ And if I go and **prepare a place for you**, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also.

I am amazed and in awe that God is preparing a place for me!!

- It is a place “in the Father's house”
- It is a place called a “mansion” or “a room”

And Jesus is building and preparing this place for the saved!!

Just imagine that the creator of the world, the creator of the universe, the man that came as a carpenter, a builder...is now preparing for me a mansion of my very own to dwell in the house of the Lord forever!!

Have you ever prepared your house for guests?

One month ago, Rachel and I prepared our home for Ben's graduation party. We mowed, weedeated, pressure washed the driveway and the porches. We cleaned the inside of the house and the outside for the day of the party.

It has been 1 month and guess what?
I've had to mow again and weedeat again.
Dust and bugs and all kinds of stuff are back on the porches.
The driveway is starting to turn green again in places, mold is already starting to form

Our homes require constant cleaning and maintenance and repairs.

But the home God is preparing will be incorruptible and undefiled.

- Nothing will ever break down
- Nothing will ever rust or mold
- Things will always be fresh and new for all eternity

Rev. 21:5

Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new."

Even when we have been there 1 million years...it will all seem fresh and vibrant and NEW!

My new body will live in a new home...and it will be my forever home!!

I stand amazed that God is preparing a place for me.

II. I STAND AMAZED THAT HEAVEN IS PROMISED TO ME

Titus 1:2

in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began,

This has always been in the plan of God...that His children will live with Him in heaven.

This is a guarantee from God!!

I John 2:24,25

If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father. ²⁵ And this is the promise that He has promised us—eternal life.

When God promises something...He will hold true to that promise.

Joshua 21:45

Not a word failed of any good thing which the Lord had spoken to the house of Israel. All came to pass.

God has promised that if we obey His will and live for Him...He will give us eternal life...and eternal home in heaven with Him.

I stand amazed that God has made this promise! I also stand amazed that not only is He preparing my home and promised my home...He also is preserving that home!

I Pet. 1:3,4

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, **reserved in heaven for you,**

Reserved means to keep safe and secure...to keep for future use

We have a trip planned to the beach at the end of July. Several months ago, we made a reservation, a little place called The Beach House.

We have a confirmation number and a room number

When we get to Destin...I am certain I will have a place to stay....a room that is reserved, with my name on it!

They have promised me that it will be ready, clean and have everything I need to enjoy my stay at the beach.

If I can believe and put my faith in the folks that run The Beach House.

I can surely believe and put my faith in my Heavenly Father when He says...I am preparing a place for you...it will be incorruptible, undefiled, it will not fade away...and it is reserved for you!!

God has promised me when I reach the shores of heaven...my mansion will be ready, clean/fresh, it will have everything I need for eternity!

I stand amazed that I have a mansion with my name on it...and I have confirmation---a promise from God that it will be ready when I get there!!

III. I STAND AMAZED THAT HEAVEN WILL BE PERFECT FOR ME

Heaven will be perfect because it will be a place of joy, peace and eternal rest:

Rev. 14:13; Heb. 4:9

Blessed *are* the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' ”

“Yes,” says the Spirit, “that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them.”

Heaven will be perfect because God will be there:

Rev. 21:3

And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them *and be* their God.

Heaven will be perfect because I will have a new body:

Philippians 3:20–21 – Our bodies will be transformed like His glorious body.

1 Corinthians 15:42–44 – Raised in incorruption, glory, and power.

1 John 3:2 – We shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

Heaven is perfect not just because of what is there, but because of what is not there.

Heaven will be perfect because sin will NOT be there:

Rev. 21:17

But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life.

Heaven will be perfect because pain and death will NOT be there:

Rev. 21:4

And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.

I really can't even get my brain to imagine what it's going to be like.

- The perfect day
- The perfect climate
- The perfect feeling
- The perfect picture
- The perfect future
- The perfect God

Everything is right and righteous and PERFECT!! Perfectly fit and perfectly made just for me and you.

But you know what amazes me most about heaven...it's the fact that we don't have to be perfect to go to this perfect place!

IV. I STAND AMAZED THAT HEAVEN IS POSSIBLE FOR ME

Eph. 2:4,5

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

He took my sins and my sorrows
He made them His very own
He bore the burden to Calvary
And suffered and died alone

I am in awe and wonder that with all my sin...that heaven is possible for me!!

Not only is heaven possible for me...but heaven is possible to everyone who will repent and come to the Lord.

God is offering forgiveness and salvation to you today!

Don't you want to go home? Do you want to go to that place called heaven?

- God doesn't offer you a shack by the road...He wants you to move in with Him
- He doesn't invite you to sit on the doorstep and listen to the people inside singing...He is offering you a front row seat at His throne
- There is a crown in heaven that is waiting for you
- There is a robe that is just your size

There is a mansion with your name on it...All you must do is accept God's offer of salvation!

Rom. 6:23

For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

One day a wealthy man facing bankruptcy took a drive through the rural part of the country. As he passed one particular house it caught his attention. It was needing a paint job and repairs of all kinds. The broken window glasses were replaced with oil paper. Many shingles as well as part of the roof were missing which made him wonder how the house was even still standing.

A young girl about the age of 8 or 9 and poorly dressed was playing in the front yard. The man was compelled to stop and talk to the young girl. In their conversation, he mentioned how sorry he was that she lived in such a poor surrounding.

The little girl excitedly asked him, "Why haven't you heard? My daddy just inherited a fortune and he's building us a mansion just over that hill over there. Don't know when it will be done, but I won't have to live in this house forever.

This story was heard by songwriter Ira Stanphill and he wrote these words:

Chorus

I've got a mansion just over the hilltop
In that bright land where we'll never grow old
And someday yonder, we will never more wander
But walk on streets that are pure as gold.

I stand amazed that heaven will be my home one day!!