

Making Your Reservations in Heaven

Gulf Coast Bible Camp (Lucedale, MS)

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Introduction: We all are familiar with songs about Heaven. Jesus made a promise a long time ago, not just to the apostles, but to all who would be Christians (Read **John 14:1-7**). Jesus knows He is going to leave the apostles, but He will return. They are about to see Him, mocked, beaten, and killed before He could do greater things. He gives this message during the Last Supper. **John 14-16** are Jesus' words of comfort for His apostles to help them prepare for the disappointment ahead. They needed to make reservations in Heaven. Let's study together...

Discussion:

1) NEED A RESERVATION? SEEK THE RIGHT PURPOSE

- The right purpose is being righteous (**Genesis 15:6**) and working (**Deuteronomy 27:10**).
- The right purpose is seeking the kingdom of God first (**Matthew 6:33**).
- The right purpose is seeking salvation (**Romans 10:9-10**) and living right (**Mark 1:15**).
- The right purpose comes from reading and accepting God's word (**Romans 10:17**).
- The right purpose is acknowledging that faith must be accompanied by works (**James 2:21**).

2) NEED A RESERVATION? FIND THE RIGHT PLACE

- The right place is the Father's house (**Psalm 53:2, Matthew 5:34**).
- The right place is one of eternal fellowship with God (**Matthew 25:31-46**).
- The right place is not made with hands (**II Corinthians 5:1, I Corinthians 15:47**).
- The right place is only seen through the eyes of faith (**II Corinthians 4:16-18**).
- The right place is a real city with real buildings and landscapes (**Hebrews 11:13-16**).

3) NEED A RESERVATION? KNOW THE RIGHT PEOPLE

- The right people would include Enoch who went to Heaven (**Genesis 5:24, Hebrews 11:1-35**).
- The right people would include Elijah who went to Heaven (**II Kings 2:11**).
- The right people would include Jesus who ascended into Heaven (**Acts 1:9-11**).
- The right people would include the disciples who recognized Elijah & Moses (**Mark 9:4**).
- The right people would include Lazarus and Abraham who went to Heaven (**Luke 16:19-31**).

4) NEED A RESERVATION? MAKE THE RIGHT PREPARATIONS

- The right preparations began with God before time (**Genesis 3:15, 22:18, Ephesians 3:10-11**).
- The right preparations must include Jesus who was willing to die (**Matthew 26:28, John 3:16**).
- The right preparations are revealed by the Holy Spirit (**John 16:13, II Timothy 3:16-17**).
- The right preparations must include my obedience (**Acts 2:38-39, Hebrews 9:28, I Peter 3:18**).
- The right preparations will allow me to be added to the church (**Matthew 16:18, Acts. 20:28**).

5) NEED A RESERVATION? TAKE THE RIGHT PATH

- The right path is through Jesus, the Way (**John 14:6, Acts 4:12**)
- The right path is through Jesus, the Truth (**John 1:17, 8:32, 17:17**).
- The right path is through Jesus, the Life (**John 1:1-14, Hebrews 5:9, I Timothy 1:16**)
- The right path is following the Word of God (**Romans 10:17, II Timothy 3:16-17**).
- The right path is surrendering to the will of God (**Matthew 16:24, Romans 12:1-2**).

Conclusion: We all have many blessings waiting on us in Heaven. Jesus said, "*If it were not so, I would have told you.*" We can rest assured that Heaven is there, and He is preparing a special place for each of us. Jesus left this earth and ascended to the right hand of God. Until He returns, or until our death to face Judgment Day, we have to choose our destiny. Do the right thing! We have to begin making our reservations today! We don't want time to run out! Are you headed to Heaven or Hell? Where will you spend eternity?