

- In Memory -

## Iris Durbin

March 2, 1955 - August 29, 2024

Service Schedule at Virginia Ave., Church of Christ

Visitation: Tuesday, September 3, 2024, 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

Celebration of Life: Tuesday, September 3, 2024, 2:00 p.m.

### Heaven Is Better By Far!

Mark N. Posey

The word "better" means, "stronger, nobler and best." Paul said, "...having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better..." (Philippians 1:23). Though it will take more than desire to get to Heaven, a desire is certainly the starting point. Let's gain more and more knowledge of what Heaven will be like, increasing our desire to go there. As our desire for Heaven grows, we will see it as did the writer of Hebrews—"a better country" (Hebrews 11:16). Let's see why Heaven is "better" by far.

In Heaven, there will be a **better multitude** (Revelation 7:9-10). Richard Baxter said, "My knowledge of that life is small, the eye of faith is dim, but it's enough that Christ knows all, and I shall be with him." Heaven will contain a wonderful multitude (Hebrews 12:22-24).

In Heaven, there will be a **better mansion** (John 14:1-3). If I find in myself a desire that no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world. This world is not our home. Paul said, "Our citizenship is in heaven" (Philippians 3:20). Solomon said, "Man goeth to his long home" (Ecclesiastes 12:5).

In Heaven, there will be a **better mortality** (1 Corinthians 15:53-58). One day our mortal will put on immortality and corruptible will put on incorruption. You've heard the old adage that says, "All good things must come to an end." Well, Heaven will be the exception to that; it will have no end.

In Heaven, there will be **better music** (Revelation 5:9). The New Song begins, "You are worthy." In John's day, Roman Emperors were celebrated upon their arrival with the Latin expression *vere dignus*, which is translated, "You are worthy." In Revelation 5:9-10, the True Ruler is honored and worthy!

In heaven, there will be a **better mentality** (Colossians 3:2; Matthew 6:19-21). The Christian's whole disposition should orient itself toward Heaven where Christ is, just as a compass needle orients itself toward the north. This is the proper order—upward focus, saying, "Yes, Lord" and then "No" to the world, the flesh and the devil. It's the world behind me and the cross before me!

In conclusion, the reason that some have little desire to go to Heaven is because they've not studied the Scriptures sufficiently to gain an appreciation of that spiritual abode. Study your Bible, and then, Heaven will become "better" by far!

- Gospel Gazette online

People cannot change truth, but truth can change people.

### News & Notes

**SYMPATHY:** To the family and friends of **Iris Durbin** who passed away last Thursday. God bless and comfort those who sorrow.

**COVERED DISH DINNER:** **Today about noon** at the Fellowship Building followed by our **early afternoon worship service at 2:00 p.m.** at the church building.

**LABOR DAY COOKOUT:** **Tomorrow, 1:00 p.m.** at Thompson Park, Pavilion 1, East Liverpool. Take a covered dish or dessert. Meat & beverages provided. Sponsored by the Chester & East Liverpool congregations.

**CARE & SHARE BEARS:** **Each Tuesday, 9:00-11:00 a.m.** All ladies are invited to participate in making stuffed bears for sick & needy kids.

**CONVERT'S CLASS:** **Each Thursday at 11:00 a.m.** Everyone welcome.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST;** **Next Saturday, Sept. 7th, 8:00 a.m.** at Coplin's in Newell.

**GOSPEL MEETING:** **Sept. 8-12, 7:00 p.m., Monday-Thursday** at McKinleyville. Different speakers each evening. Rico speaks Monday.

**MEN'S DAY:** **Saturday, Sept. 28th, 10:00 a.m.-Noon,** Lubeck Church of Christ, Washington, WV. Speakers: Ed Melott & Rodney Nulph. Lunch provided. Additional details on the bulletin board.

**PANTRY:** Instant potatoes.

**SICK & SHUT-IN: At Home:** Becky McKitrick, Lois Hissom, Sue Haight, Dean Spencer, Rich Robinson, Harry Huff, Peggy Linger, Claudette Miller, Nancy Cox, Barbara DeLong, Cheryl Renfro Walker. **Fox-Chester:** Audrey Geer, Janice Hutchins, Mary Johnson. **Elsewhere: Carloyn Carbone** (sister of Janet Malcomson & Becky McKitrick), Care Haven Center, 2720 Charles Town Rd., Martinsburg, WV 25405. **Brenda Harris**, 102 Cardinal Dr., Rockwell, NC 28138. **Herman McHan**, 7401 Elmwood Dr., Lisbon, OH 44432.

### Love and Hate

*"Therefore all your precepts concerning all things I consider to be right; I hate every false way." Psalm 119:128*

In the "Scripture Thought" above, no doubt you noticed that children of God must learn what to hate and what to love.

We must love God with all our hearts (Matt. 22:37), while learning "to hate every false way." What we hate will also shape what we love. If we hate falsehood, we will also love the truth. If we hate sin, we will love righteousness. If we hate injustice, we will also love fairness and equity. If we love God's truth as revealed in His Word, we will oppose and seek to defeat every teaching which is out of harmony with it. If God's Word is "right" in every respect, then anything which contradicts it is wrong, and cannot be right. We must have both holy love and hatred.

- Darwin Hunter (Bulletin Digest)