

"A Home in Heaven"

by Ramon McCullough (1934 – 2018)
(written when Ramon was around age 17)



Will any soul that reaches heaven feel strange there?

All of us are looking forward to a home in heaven. But do we think of heaven as more than a place of "residence" for the faithful? Will it be a home in the true sense of the word? Compare home with — house, mansion, palace ... these are cold, heartless terms without the thought of love in them. The thought of home has proved a shield to virtue; the very name of it has a spell to call back the wanderer from the paths of sin and vice. There is no place on earth we enjoy as much as when present, or miss as much when away as a true home.

Let us think of heaven first as a place prepared by our Lord; and secondly, that it is prepared for us. What a place that must be! There every purified desire of the heart shall have perpetual satisfaction, and where Christ's own happiness shall be shared by those for whom He died.

In heaven we will be "forever with the Lord." This will make our eternal home one of joy and peace. "Forever with the Lord," why not now with the Lord? Is not our present life part of forever? If we have been learning His ways and walking in His company here, and are to learn His ways and walk in His company in heaven, why should we not be at home in heaven? For He is not a God of the dead but of the living; for all live unto Him (Luke 20:38).

The occupations of heaven are endless praise, triumph, joy. The possessions of heaven are infinite glory, riches, knowledge. The character of heaven is perfect love, holiness, peace.

Blessed are they that are homesick, for they shall come at last to the Father's house.



Those who lay up treasures in heaven are the richest people on earth.

News & Notes

NEW CONVERT CLASS: Each Sunday a.m. Bible Class in Room 401.

CARE & SHARE BEARS: Each Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. All ladies are invited to participate.

MEN'S ENRICHMENT CLASS: Each Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Men are urged to come and spend an hour with your brothers and be encouraged and uplifted.

COUPLES FELLOWSHIP: Thursday, February 14th at 6:30 p.m. at the home of David & Janet Malcomson. All married couples invited. Sign-up sheet on the desk.

MEMBER VISITS: Calls are being made for Elders and Minister visits with members that can be scheduled in your home or to meet here at the building. Schedule an appointment so this outreach can be completed ASAP.

PANTRY: Canned fruit.

PRAYER REQUEST: Matt & Susie Rice Family (Keith & Elaine McClung's daughter & son-in-law) 201 Wexford St., Raeford, NC 28376. Matt's dad, Charles has been diagnosed with lung cancer, and Matt's brother, Chuck is in ICU with a serious undiagnosed health condition.

SEND CARDS:

Bob & Patty Eddy, 4898 Oroszy Ave., Lorain, OH 44052.

Alex Harless, 1322 North 4th Street, Toronto, OH 43964.

SICK & SHUT-IN: At Home: Glenn McMahan, Beulah Walker, Keith & Elaine McClung, Charlie Delong, Jenny Rhodes, Arlen & Joann Webb, Russell Martin, Blondenia Orr, Doris Dunham, Alex Harless. **FOX:** Mary Jane Bowers. **CROSS-ROADS:** Sarah Miller. **IN FLORIDA:** Ilene Rayl.

The Best Is Yet To Be

If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all - how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?

How great and how good God is! His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "God is," as the song says, "the fountain whence ten thousand blessings flow." James, the Lord's brother, tells us that every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of heavenly lights.

Basking in the sunlight of God's love and enjoying the unsearchable riches of Christ, the Christian should be a perpetual optimist. Phillips Brooks once wrote, "Life is full of ends, but every end has a new beginning." That's the view of the optimist. The Christian will come to ends, but no dead end. One never knows the beauty 'round the bend.

The best is never over - the best is never gone
There's always something lovely to keep you struggling on

There's a compensation for every cross you bear

A secret consolation is hidden somewhere

Ends are new beginnings as one day you will see

The BEST is never over, the Best is yet to be.

- by Charles Cash, Siloam Springs, AR