I WANT TO GO TO HEAVEN

In the hustle of everyday life and all the things that demand our attention, there is a strong tendency to forget what is really important. After all is said and done, when we leave this world, we want to be sure we are going to a place of rest. If we forget that, we forget the most important thing in the world. For many however, it is something they are going to take care of later.

The story is told of a preacher who worked in the inner city of a large metropolis, and sought out young children playing in the streets. One day when among them, he gathered a bunch of them and asked them if they wanted to go to heaven? All the boys answered in the affirmative except one. He asked the boy, “Son, don’t you want to go to heaven when you die?” They boy answered, “Oh, yes sir, when I die, but I thought you were getting up a load right now.”

While we are amused at the little story, it reveals the thinking of most of us. We want to go to heaven when we die, we just don’t want to go RIGHT NOW.

I don’t know about you, but I want to go to heaven, and anytime the Lord feels its time to take me. I think most people want to go to heaven and a lot of them think that is where they will wind up. The problem with most of them is that they are not willing to do the things the Lord requires to do it.

Most of the people I have known say they believe in God, but do not realize there is much more to getting ready for the trip. We know what it is to get ready to do something, building a project, making a trip, there is preparation. Why can we not understand the same applies to our eternal destiny?

Jesus says “…I go to prepare a place for you…” (John 14) so we must prepare to go there. That preparation includes repentance, (Acts 17:30) confession (Rom. 10:19) and being baptized for the remission of our sins, (Acts 2:38)

There is much to do after that and the New Testament includes those things necessary. Then Jesus says, “Be though faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life.” (Rev. 2:10) If you want to go, you have to make preparation.