



Dear Friend of [Abiding Above](#),

June 2016

For the Christian, this is not our home. Heaven is our real and eternal home.

A man and his son were riding home one day from the cemetery where they had buried a loved one. The little boy was looking out of the window and thinking. Finally his father asked him what he was thinking about. The little boy answered, "It seems to me that we are going to be dead a lot longer than we are going to be alive."

We chuckle at such thoughts from children, and at the same time, we must admit that our lives here on earth in this moment we call time are very brief compared to eternity. Home is one of the most tender words in our English language. It is the term which best describes heaven. When you think of home what thoughts come to your mind? Do you think of the family around the dinner table sharing the events of your day? A place where you can relax and just simply be yourself and know the people around you love you just the way that you are? Home is a place to rest from the weariness that befalls you in the day-to-day routine of life.

Listen to what Jesus said in [John 14:1-3](#) - *"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 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. 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."*

Jesus is speaking here of another home away from this earth, He is speaking of our heavenly home.

The Apostle Paul longed to go to heaven. Paul said in:

[Philippians 1:23](#) - *"For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better."*

No genuine Christian lives very long without being homesick for heaven.

God's Word tells us in [2 Corinthians 5:8](#) - *"We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord."*



Chris Hodges
President & CEO

Hebrews 4:9 – *“There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His.”*

In Scripture we see four rests for God's children:

A Sabbath Rest – God created the universe in a six-day period of time. On the seventh day God rested.

A Redemption Rest – Jesus on the cross shouted, “It is finished,” at that moment, God’s redemption rest for you and me was provided.

A Salvation Rest – We can now, while we are alive, enter into the rest of salvation.

A Future Rest – One day our future rest will be in a wonderful place called Heaven. This will be our glorification. We will be like Jesus. We will have the mind of Christ. We will have glorified bodies.

In heaven, we are at rest from the power of sin, we see this in **Revelations 21:27** – *“But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of Life.”*

We are at rest from the power of suffering, we see this in **Revelation 21:4** – *“There shall be no more pain...”*

We are at rest from the power of separation. We see this in **Revelation 21:4** – *“... there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying.”*

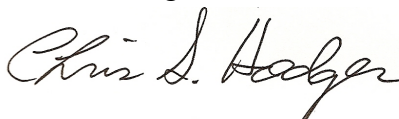
Let's remember, heaven is really our final destination. We cannot take anything with us to heaven except what we do for Jesus, right here and right now!

Thank you for serving Jesus in prayer and financial support of this ministry! We need you and we are grateful for you!

On a special note: We are in need of a slightly used Windows laptop computer with Windows 2000 or Windows XP operating systems to operate one of our older CD printers. If you have one that is in good condition we'd love to hear from you. We send out many sermons on CDs to people and radio stations in America and other countries.

Abiding above,

Chris S. Hodges



President

Abiding Above Ministries

Colossians 3:1-3