

Heaven Will Surely Be Worth it All

Verse 1

Often I'm hindered on my way, burden so heavy I almost fall.
Then I hear Jesus sweetly say, "Heaven will surely be worth it all.

VERSE 2

Many the trials toils and tears, many a heartache may here appall
But the dear Lord so truly says, Heaven will surely be worth it all.

VERSE 3

Toiling and pain I will endure, till I shall hear the death angel call,
Jesus has promised and I'm sure, Heaven will surely be worth it all.

CHORUS

Heaven will surely be worth it all, worth all the sorrows that here befall.
After this life with all its strife, Heaven will surely be worth it all.

This song was written by W. Oliver Cooper, copyright in 1946. It describes a person who is:

1. Experiencing disillusionment and even suffering that comes in this life, often more in the advanced years than in young years. These disillusionments are real and affect his emotions.
2. By faith there is another reality, he hears Jesus speaking to him, calling to him to keep his focus on the end of the road.
3. Underlying the words of this song is the great exchange, a deliberate giving up of both legitimate and illegitimate activities for something that is still invisible. (Made vivid for me in a message that Bro Loyal preached that often ministers to me when I am down.)

Expressed in Bible terminology:

"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.*" (Ro 8:18) Read Rom 8:16-23

"For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding *and eternal weight of glory;*" (2Co 4:17) Read 2Cor 4:15-18

1. What does it take to get to heaven?
2. What does Jesus value, treasure highly in disciples lives?
3. Are there people who expect to go to heaven who don't make it?
4. What did Jesus disciples look forward to receiving?

- I. **What does it take to get to heaven?** *Simple answer: To be a disciple of Jesus Christ. Jesus gave His life for us so we can give our life for Him to share in the*

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Shirksville Mennonite Church
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eternal kingdom forever. “**27** My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: **28** And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand.” (Joh 10:27-28) and “**25** He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal. **26** If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour.” (Joh 12:25-26)

A. **Discipleship means that Jesus will be first in our lives.** Many of us want a package deal, at a reduced price. Most reward for the least expense. So many other goals, dreams for our life. “Either I’m Lord of all or I’m not Lord at all. Everybody talkin' 'bout heaven ain't goin' there

1. “**23** And he said to *them* all, If any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. **24** For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.” (Lu 9:23-24)
2. “If any *man* come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.” (Lu 14:26)
3. “So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.” (Lu 14:33)
4. Package deal. Mennonite/Amish/Brethren. Go to heaven for the cheapest bargain. Churches can interpret and apply commands and principles. A friend told me “I’m only going to be OOA until the moment I die.” When I told that to another OOA friend, he said “So what’s he saying, ‘Then I’m free?’”
5. Question is not only “Does the church allow it, but does Jesus control it?” Church allows smart phone. Does Jesus control it? Would He use it like you do?

B. **Discipleship means we will be willing to suffer**

1. Persecution: “Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.” (2Ti 3:12) “**12** ¶ Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: **13** But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ’s sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.” (1Pe 4:12-13)
 - a. The persecution may be physical
 - b. It may be verbal
 - c. It may be social.
2. Personal denial of selfish or carnal desires
 - a. “But I keep under my body, and bring *it* into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.” (1Co 9:27)
3. Disappointment with other brethren

- a. “Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is offended, and I burn not?” (2Co 11:29)
- b. “*In* journeyings often, *in* perils of waters, *in* perils of robbers, *in* perils by *mine own* countrymen, *in* perils by the heathen, *in* perils in the city, *in* perils in the wilderness, *in* perils in the sea, *in* perils among false brethren;” (2Co 11:26)

C. Discipleship means we identify with and witness for Christ. “For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and *in his* Father’s, and of the holy angels.” (Lu 9:26)

1. Do we really think we will enjoy something we never talk about?
2. Do we think we can enjoy something now but never talk about it?

II. **What does Jesus value, treasure highly in disciples lives?** This helps us know where to keep our focus.

A. *Giving in secret* “**2** Therefore when thou doest *thine* alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. **3** But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: **4** That *thine* alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.” (Mt 6:2-4)

B. *Praying in secret* “**5** ¶ And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites *are*: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. **6** But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.” (Mt 6:5-6)

C. *Fasting in secret* “**16** ¶ Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. **17** But thou, when thou fastest, anoint *thine* head, and wash thy face; **18** That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.” (Mt 6:16-18) **To summarize these points, for reward it must be a spiritual activity and it must be done secretly.**

D. *Encouraging those serving Christ* “**39** He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it. **40** He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me. **41** He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet’s reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man’s reward. **42** And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold *water* only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his

reward.” (Mt 10:39-42)

- E. *Good works done in secret.* “**24** Some men’s sins are open beforehand, going before to judgment; and some *men* they follow after. **25** Likewise also the good works *of some* are manifest beforehand; and they that are otherwise cannot be hid.” (1Ti 5:24-25)

III. Are there people who expect to go to heaven who don’t make it?

- A. *Only a few will make it:* “Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.” (Mt 7:14) “Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them, Strive to enter in at the strait gate...” (Lu 13:23-24)
- B. *Religious works but working iniquity:* “**21** ¶ Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. **22** Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? **23** And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.” (Mt 7:21-23)
- C. *Too fearful to reach out and do Jesus’ unfinished work.* “**24** Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed: **25** And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, *there* thou hast *that is* thine. **26** His lord answered and said unto him, *Thou* wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed: **27** Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and *then* at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. **28** Take therefore the talent from him, and give *it* unto him which hath ten talents. **29** For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. **30** And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” (Mt 25:24-30)
- D. *Too busy enjoying life to care for the suffering.* “**41** Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: **42** For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: **43** I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. **44** Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? **45** Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did *it* not to one of the least of these, ye did *it* not to me. **46** And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.” (Mt 25:41-46)

- E. *Too selfish to share.* “**17** But whoso hath this world’s good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels *of compassion* from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? **18** My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.” (1Jo 3:17-18)

IV. What did Jesus’ disciples look forward to receiving?

A. Paul

1. “For we know that if our earthly house of *this* tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.” (2Co 5:1)
2. “That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in *his* kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.” (Eph 2:7)
3. “**20** For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: **21** Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.” (Php 3:20-21)
4. “Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.” (2Ti 4:8)
5. “And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve *me* unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom *be* glory for ever and ever. Amen.” (2Ti 4:18)

B. Peter

1. “To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,” (1Pe 1:4)
2. “**13** Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. **14** Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.” (2Pe 3:13-14)

C. Jude

1. “Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present *you* faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,” (Jude 1:24)

D. John

1. “**9** After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; **10** And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.” (Re 7:9-10)
2. “**13** ¶ And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? **14**

And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. **15** Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. **16** They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. **17** For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.” (Re 7:13-17)

3. “**1** ¶ And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. **2** And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. **3** And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, *and be* their God. **4** And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. **5** And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. **6** And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. **7** He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.” (Re 21:1-7)
4. “**10** And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, **11** Having the glory of God: and her light *was* like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;” (Re 21:10-11)
5. “**22** And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. **23** And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb *is* the light thereof. **24** And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it. **25** And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. **26** And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it. **27** And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither *whatsoever* worketh abomination, or *maketh* a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb’s book of life. 22:1 ¶ And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of

God and of the Lamb. **2** In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, *was there* the tree of life, which bare twelve *manner of* fruits, *and* yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree *were* for the healing of the nations. **3** And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: **4** And they shall see his face; and his name *shall be* in their foreheads. **5** And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.” (Re 21:22-22:5)

- V. **Conclusion:** “**35** Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. **36** For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.” (Heb 10:35-36)