



Heaven Will Surely Be
Worth It All

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The rewards will surely be worth whatever the cost...

Worth any cost...

Romans 8:18

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2 Corinthians 2:17

For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison

The Cost of Discipleship

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- Jesus must come first
 - Before one's own self

Luke 9:23-24 – And He was saying to them all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me. (24) "For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake, he is the one who will save it."

The Cost of Discipleship

- Jesus must come first
 - Before one's own self – Luke 9:23-24
 - Before anyone else, including family

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Luke 14:26

"If anyone comes to Me, and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple.

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Matthew 10:34-37

"Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. (35) "For I came to SET A MAN AGAINST HIS FATHER, AND A DAUGHTER AGAINST HER MOTHER, AND A DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AGAINST HER MOTHER-IN-LAW; (36) and A MAN'S ENEMIES WILL BE THE MEMBERS OF HIS HOUSEHOLD. (37) "He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me."

The Cost of Discipleship

- Jesus must come first
 - Before one's own self – Luke 9:23-24
 - Before anyone else, including family – Luke 14:26; Matthew 10:34-37
 - Before anything else the world has to offer

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Luke 9:25

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"For what is a man profited if he gains the whole world, and loses or forfeits himself?"

Luke 14:33

"So then, none of you can be My disciple who does not give up all his own possessions."

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- We must be willing to suffer for Christ
 - To bear our own cross

Luke 14:27 – "Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple."

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- We must be willing to suffer for Christ
 - To bear our own cross – Luke 14:27
 - To endure persecution

2 Timothy 3:12 – Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

Physical

1 Peter 4:12-13 – Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; (13) but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation.

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Verbal

Luke 6:27-28 – "But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, (28) bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you."

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 - Before anything else the world has to offer – Luke 9:25; Luke 14:33
- We must be willing to suffer for Christ
 - To bear our own cross – Luke 14:27
 - To endure persecution – 2 Timothy 3:12
 - Physical – 1 Peter 4:12-13
 - Verbal – Luke 6:27-28

The Cost of Discipleship

- We must be willing to suffer for Christ
 - To endure disappointment
 - From our own failure

Enduring Through The Race

1 Corinthians 9:25-27 – Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. (26) Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air; (27) but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified.

The Cost of Discipleship

- We must be willing to suffer for Christ
 - To endure disappointment
 - From our own failure
 - From our failing brethren

Paul spoke of his concern for the churches...

2 Corinthians 11:28-29 – Apart from such external things, there is the daily pressure on me of concern for all the churches. (29) Who is weak without my being weak? Who is led into sin without my intense concern?

The Rewards of Discipleship

From Paul's writings...

From Paul's writings...

- Endured much hardship

2 Corinthians 11:23-25 – Are they servants of Christ?—I speak as if insane—I more so; in far more labors, in far more imprisonments, beaten times without number, often in danger of death. (24) Five times I received from the Jews thirty-nine lashes. (25) Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, a night and a day I have spent in the deep.

From Paul's writings...

- Endured much hardship – 2 Corinthians 11:23-25

Yet he looked forward to:

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Yet he looked forward to:

- A house not made with hands

2 Corinthians 5:1 For we know that if the earthly tent which is our house is torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

From Paul's writings...

- Endured much hardship – 2 Corinthians 11:23-25

Yet he looked forward to:

- A house not made with hands – 2 Corinthians 5:1
- The riches of God's grace

Ephesians 2:7 – so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

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- Endured much hardship – 2 Corinthians 11:23-25

Yet he looked forward to:

- A house not made with hands – 2 Corinthians 5:1
- The riches of God's grace – Ephesians 2:7
- A glorious transformation

Philippians 3:20-21– For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; (21) who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.

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Yet he looked forward to:

- A house not made with hands – 2 Corinthians 5:1
- The riches of God's grace – Ephesians 2:7
- A glorious transformation – Philippians 3:20-21
- A crown of righteousness

2 Timothy 4:8 – in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

From Paul's writings...

Y 2 Timothy 4:18 – The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed, and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom; to Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

- The riches of God's grace – Ephesians 2:7
- A glorious transformation – Philippians 3:20-21
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- A heavenly kingdom – 2 Timothy 4:18

From the pen of Peter...

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1 Corinthians 4:9-13 – For, I think, God has exhibited us apostles last of all, as men condemned to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men. (10) We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are prudent in Christ; we are weak, but you are strong; you are distinguished, but we are without honor. (11) To this present hour we are both hungry and thirsty, and are poorly clothed, and are roughly treated, and are homeless; (12) and we toil, working with our own hands; when we are reviled, we bless; when we are persecuted, we endure; (13) when we are slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become as the scum of the world, the dregs of all things, even until now.

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Yet he looked forward to:

- An inheritance imperishable, undefiled, reserved in heaven

1 Peter 1:3-4 – Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, (4) to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

From the pen of Peter...

- Likewise suffered hardship – 1 Corinthians 4:9-13

Yet he looked forward to:

- An inheritance imperishable, undefiled, reserved in heaven – 1 Peter 1:3-4
- A new heavens and new earth, in which righteousness dwells

2 Peter 3:13-14 – But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells. (14) Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless,

From the pen of Peter...

- Likewise suffered hardship – 1 Corinthians 4:9-13

Yet he looked forward to:

- An inheritance imperishable, undefiled, reserved in heaven – 1 Peter 1:3-4
- A new heavens and new earth, in which righteousness dwells – 2 Peter 3:13-14

Conclusion

Heaven Will Surely Be Worth It All!

Romans 6:3-4

Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? (4) Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

Hebrews 10:35-36

Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. (36) For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised.