



"And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also." 1 John 4: 21

Sunday – January 25, 2009

## Heart to Heart...

When people speak and teach of heaven, they often speak of the beauty of it. That is due some to the songs we sing and probably from Revelation 21. Just one quick note: Revelation 21 is not speaking of heaven! Go ahead and read it. Heaven wasn't coming down out of heaven! Maybe that might peak some interest to do some personal study of God's word and not follow some commentary! If one really wants to know what heaven will be like, read Revelation 4-5. There we find what happens in the presence of God and His Son. It is simply *worship*! The four living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to the One on the throne. The twenty-four elders fall down and worship Him who lives forever and ever. Songs are sung along with the tens of thousands of angels worshipping their God and Savior.

*Worship* is what goes on in heaven. From the Old Testament to the New Testament, *worship* is the main theme among the heavenly host and those in fellowship with the Almighty God. Here is the question we need to ponder: Have you ever wondered that in the New Testament, very little is taught about attendance of the assemblies? The only time it is really mentioned is in Hebrews 10:25, but there the writer is addressing the Jewish Christians who are returning back to the Jewish temple and Jewish ways. I've often wondered why nothing is mentioned about attendance. Perhaps they had very little problem with this in the first century church. Or maybe it is because their relationship with the Lord made such an impact, it was a normal part of life? When we speak of worship, you hear little joy and thrill about assembling with the saints honoring God. You hear little about living each day as a living and holy sacrifice before the Lord (Rom. 12:1) with joy and thanksgiving. That makes me wonder how much the grace of God and His salvation has affected our lives. People in Christ sometimes seem so joyless and empty which lends itself to little desire to worship with the saints!

If heaven is going to be a place of constant *worship*, and it is, what should be in our hearts if we are the saved on earth? It might do us good to re-think our relationship and see what the driving force in our lives is. Paul said that Christ is our life (Colossians 3:4). He was crucified with Christ and it was Christ living in him (Galatians 2:20). If Christ is our life and He is living in us, shouldn't He be the most thrilling thing in our lives? That is what should lead us to *worship*! If Christ isn't the focus of our lives here, our *worship* will be lacking. Where will that leave us in the end? Think about it!!!

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