

Things God Has Prepared for Us Here

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1 Cor 2:9-12 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

Isa 64:4 For since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, what he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him.

- I. The first thing to realize here is that there is no reference to heaven, or eternity, or any point in the future – he is talking about here and now.
 - A. If you love God now then He has prepared some things for you now.
 - 1. You don't have to wait until you die to find out.
 - 2. Salvation isn't about you making a blind commitment and living a lonely life of drudgery and hoping in something that is yet to be seen.
 - B. When a person is truly born of God and enters into a real relationship with God through Jesus Christ eternal life begins right then.
 - 1. The benefits of being the bride of Christ begin THEN – not somewhere out in the far future.
 - 2. The “things which God hath prepared for them” are available immediately.
 - 3. The things He has prepared are not found or discerned through the senses or the intellect.
- II. No one can comprehend the things of God until they are saved.

But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit.

- A. There is a realm that you don't know about as long as you remain estranged from God in your sin.
- B. There is a whole universe of unspeakable joys and blessings that you never even realize exists until you are born of the Spirit of God.
- C. But when you are born again you suddenly realize that you can see what you never saw before.

John 3:3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

- D. It is the Spirit of God entering into you that opens your eyes, your ears, and your heart to the things of God.

John 6:63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

- E. The Spirit of God cannot enter in where there is no room for him.
 - 1. The heart must be surrendered and the old man must be crucified.

III. The things of God and God himself are real to a true child of God.

A. You understand the things of God just as clearly and as real as you understand the things of man.

(v. 11) For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

B. If your Christian life is no more than clinging to a hope of something better after you die, then you haven't experienced the new birth.

(v. 12) Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

C. If you don't know what it is like to experience the presence of God here and now then you really have no hope of spending eternity with Him in heaven.

D. If the journey is so wonderful now then we surely cannot begin to imagine what awaits us on the other side.