

## Encouraged Because Heaven Is Real

One morning I went to the dentist. When I entered the door the receptionist said, "Hi Mr. Goodlet. How are you today?" I really wanted to answer by saying, "How good can I be? I'm here at the dentist's office ready to have my tooth drilled?" But I didn't say that, because I knew my life as a Christian gave me much more to be happy about. As I sat in the chair and had a suction tube, two pairs of hands and a drill whining away in my mouth, I thought about the second coming of Jesus. I said to myself, "This would be a really good time for Jesus to come and take me away to heaven." Obviously He did not choose to do so, and He saw me through my dental appointment with no pain or tears.

My knowledge of heaven is much like my knowledge of the second coming of Jesus, and of course they are interwoven together in my thoughts. I do not know all of the details concerning the time and method of the second coming, but I know it will happen. The same is true about heaven. I do not know many of the details, but I do know heaven is real, and it will be beyond what my human mind can comprehend. This encourages me, because I know Jesus has prepared a place for me.

Have you ever flown a kite? I mean really fly one as high as you possibly could? When I was young I would get as many rolls of string as I could and when one roll would run out of string I would add another one. I had so much string on that kite that whenever a plane went by I hoped my kite wouldn't hit it. I had so much string I could hardly see my kite anymore, but I knew it was there. How did I know? There was still a tug on the string. That is similar to how I know there is a heaven. There is a tug on my heart that says heaven is real. There is a better place beyond this world that Jesus has prepared for me.

There was a time that if you came from a foreign country and wanted to enter America, you had to go through Ellis Island. There your health would be checked along with your background to see if you were fit to enter our country. If you came any other way, you came illegally and if caught could be deported. To enter heaven you must come by way of Calvary. "The way of the cross leads home," as one song says. There is no other way, but through the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

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