

Thank you...Lyle Graddon
Speaker for today

Heaven!!!

*“He will wipe away every tear from their eyes;
and there will no longer be any death; there will no
longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain;
the first things have passed away.”*

Revelation 21:4

ATTENTION

Business Meeting today at 2:30 p.m.

CELEBRATE!

Cotter Pogue was baptized last Sunday!

Address: 82621 Sagrada Court
Indio, CA 92201

January Anniversaries

8 Bob & Debbie Pescador

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.

Sunday.....10:45 a.m.

Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

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*“Trust in the Lord with all
your heart and do not lean on
your own understanding.”*

Proverb 3:5

- *“Fight the good fight”*
- *“Keep the faith”*
- *“Finish the course”*

Heaven Bound

Excerpts from article by Tim Dooley

Hebrews 12:2 tells us that *“Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”* Notice the Hebrew writer say Christ did all this for the *“joy set before Him.”*

Six times in the Book of John (five time in chapter six) we read that Jesus *“came down from Heaven.”* Consider that Jesus, God Himself, left the place that we are trying to go to. He knew the glory set before Him, what He had to do, and where He was going. He also knew what He had to do in order to get there.

You and I can and should learn from Jesus what it takes to be **“Heaven Bound.”**

Jesus came *“to fulfill all righteousness”* (Matthew 3:15). We too need to be seeking to fulfill all righteousness in our lives. We need to look to what God says is *“right”* and not lean upon our own understanding (Proverbs 3:5).

Paul wrote to Titus and said, *“For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;”* This

begins with our humble submission to the Father even as we see Jesus' submission.

For us this means heeding the Word of God (Romans 10:17), believing (active faith: James 2:20, 26), confessing Jesus with our lips and our lives (Matthew 10:32-33), repenting of all known sin (Acts 17:30), and being buried with Christ in baptism (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:38).

We should be like Christ in our desire to do the work set before us. Jesus said, "For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me" (John 6:38).

We must be faithful! Revelation 2:10 admonished the church at Smyrna (which included every individual member) to be "*faithful unto death.*"

We should be content to serve Him in this life for He is faithful and has promised He will never leave us. If we do these things we can be ready; **Heaven Bound!**

Having a True "Happy New Year"

By Dan Jenkins

How many times in the last few days have we heard these words, "Happy New Year"? Probably far more than we can remember. These words may have various meanings depending on one's background and their own personal values. Have we ever considered the spiritual aspects and implications of this phrase?

Jesus' words in the Sermon on the Mount can so easily help us to see that the Bible speaks of happiness, not just at the beginning of a year, but about true happiness every day of the new year.

What is Jesus' perspective on a New Year?

Jesus began His first recorded discourse with the Beatitudes. The word "beatitudes" is a Latin word for being blessed. In His sermon, Jesus used the word "blessed" nine times. The Greek word found here is far different from the way we usually define the word. When the angel announced to Mary that she was to bear the Son of God, he said, "*Blessed are you*

among women" (Luke 1:28). The windows of heaven had been opened and the favor of God had been poured on upon the virgin. The Greek word the angel used is not the one found in the Beatitudes.

Defining the word blessed in the Beatitudes. The word blessed in Matthew 5:3-11 indicates happiness and joy. Jesus defined the source of true happiness in this first sermon. Who is the one who is blessed (happy)? What avenue should we follow to have true happiness from heaven?

- Have a humble spirit (poor in spirit), not filled with pride
- Learning how to deal with grief (those that mourn)
- Putting others before self (those who are meek)
- Longing to be righteous (hungering & thirsting for it)
- Have a forgiving spirit (those who are merciful)
- Purity of life and soul (pure in heart)
- Sowing peace (being a peacemaker)
- Suffering for doing right (persecuted)
- Reviled (all kinds of evil falsely said about us)

Look at His conclusion. "*Rejoice and be exceedingly glad.*" Now that's real happiness!

What is the motivation for seeking this kind of a happy new year? Look at the verses again and pay attention to what awaits us:

- Being part of His kingdom here and in heaven (v. 3)
- being comforted by heaven (v. 4)
- Possessing the earth in a way the ungodly will never understand (v. 5)
- Filled with His righteousness (v. 6)
- Receiving abundance of mercy (v. 7)
- Seeing God (v. 8)
- being called God's child (v. 9)
- Receiving His kingdom (v. 10)
- Being associated with the prophets and having a great reward in heaven (v. 12)

Happy New Year!