

Everybody Wants To Go To Heaven, But Not Right Now

Several years ago country singer Kenny Chesney recorded a song entitled, *Everybody Wants To Go To Heaven*. The overall message of the lyrics I believe sum up the mentality of most people in this world; that is, everybody wants to go to heaven, but most are not ready to go just yet. Consider with me the following:

Everybody may want to go to heaven, but not everybody will. It's commendable that people desire to go to heaven; unfortunately, many of those same folks who desire it won't make it. It's not that God doesn't want all men to be saved, for we know that He does (**John 3:16-17; 1 Tim. 2:4**). The problem is many refuse to do all of God's will and thus forfeit their eternal salvation (**cf. Mat. 7:21-27; 25:1ff; Heb. 2:1-3**). The fact is, the majority of folks, according to God's Word, will be lost (**cf. Mat. 7:13-14**).

Why don't people want to go to heaven right now? With all the evil and suffering that's in the world today, why wouldn't we want to be with God right now in that heavenly abode where no such heartache exists (**Rev. 21:4**)? Many don't want to go right now because they've become too attached to the things of this world (**cf. Mat. 19:16ff; 2 Tim. 4:10; 1 John 2:15-17**). Others don't want to go just yet because they're living in sin and are unwilling to change (**cf. Acts 24:25**).

Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people. Prior to our Lord's ascension He told His disciples that He was going to prepare a place for them and that one day they could be with Him there (**cf. John 14:1-3**). While everybody may want to go to heaven, Scripture teaches that only those who are prepared will be saved (**cf. Mat. 25:1ff; Heb. 9:28**).

Prepared people will want to go to heaven right now. Think about it- if we're truly living as we should and have a good understanding of heaven, then we shouldn't be reluctant to go (**cf. Phi. 1:21-23; Rev. 22:20**).

Do YOU want to go to heaven, and do YOU want to go now? If you want to go to heaven, but not yet, then chances are you're not living as you should. Prepare today without delay!

Terry R. Townsend

