

“Heaven is for Real: The Reality of Heaven”

Wylie United Methodist Church
Pastor Jeff Hatcher – April 27, 2014

John 14:1-3

1 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.
2 In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

We can trust that heaven is real because...

1. GOD'S WORD PROMISES IT

2 In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you.

- Heaven found 422 times in Bible
- Heaven found 236 times in NT

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Ecclesiastes 3:11

[God] has also set eternity in the hearts of men..

- Jesus refers to God at least six times as “heavenly Father”.

Matthew 5:48

Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Matthew 6:9-10

9 "This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, 10 your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

We can trust that heaven is real because of...

2. PERSONAL TESTIMONY

Revelation 21:10-11 (John's vision of heaven)

10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. 11 It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal.

John 20:27-29

27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." 28 Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" 29 Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

We can trust that heaven is real because of...

3. FAITH

1 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.

Hebrews 11:6

Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

John 14:6

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

2 In my Father's house are many rooms... I am going there to prepare a place for you. 3 ... that you also may be where I am.