

WE ARE GETTING A NEW HOME!

By Pastor Greg Hooker

“In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also” (John 14:2, 3).

As most of you know, Audrey and I recently closed our gallery in Gatlinburg due to the rising cost of materials. Following, we purchased a camper and set it up in a campground located in Pigeon Forge to live in. We are truly blessed and thankful to the Lord for providing a place we can ‘home’.

Be that as it is, God brought the above passage of Scripture to my mind today – Christians call this promise ‘their blessed hope’. You see; if you are a Christian – whether you live in a house, mobile home, camper, or tent – our true and final home is yet to be moved into. Jesus said He has *“gone to prepare this place for us”* – a place of infinite beauty beyond the words of the most eloquent poets. It will be a place where our Savior will reside along with our loved ones who have gone on before us. Unlike our earthly homes, however, it will be a habitation that will never rot, or decay. It will never be bombarded with hail stones and angry winds. Devastating earthquakes, tidal waves and floods will all be absent and the love of the ‘Son’ will always shine upon it!

Moreover, Jesus is preparing us a place where sin will never gain entrance and the holiness of the Lord will flow from His Royal Throne. He will also be King and Governor of this wonderful place throughout eternity and Satan, along with his demonic allies, will be eternally incarcerated in the bottomless pit.

Is Jesus preparing a place for you, too? Do you have this ‘blessed hope’ to hold on to as you depart this world? I hope so. But if you are not sure, just ask Him! Simply bow your head, confess and believe that Jesus paid for your sins on the cross, and invite Him to come into your heart and be your Lord and Savior (read John 3:16). I guarantee, based upon the authority of God’s Word, He will save you! Then you will have a sure and blessed hope for eternity!

Dear Lord, thank you that our homes here on earth are temporary, but you have prepared a place no mortal tongue can describe for all who have received you as Savior. Help us to keep our eyes focused on the heavens for your glorious return, awaiting our ultimate home-going.

In Jesus name, your son, Pastor Greg.