

Bringing Heaven down to Earth

We all know that heaven is a place of the future. Most religions teach about heaven as being a place of eternal joy and satisfaction and about hell as a place of suffering and despair. Most Indonesians desire to go to heaven when they die. But actually we don't need to wait for heaven when we die. Even now we can bring heaven down to earth.

But first we need to look at a list of people who will never enter heaven. In Romans 1:18-32 God is giving us a vivid description of godlessness and wickedness of the people here on earth today:

- Not glorifying God
- Not thankful to God
- Futile thinking
- Darkened hearts
- Fools
- Worship dead idols instead of the living God
- Sinful desires of the heart
- No Sexual impurity
- Degrading of their bodies with one another
- Speaking lies
- Shameful lusts
- Unnatural relations of ladies
- Men inflamed with lust for one another
- Men committing indecent acts one with other men
- Receiving the penalty for their perversion
- Not retain knowledge of God
- Depraved mind
- Filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity
- Full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, and malice
- Gossips, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, and boastful
- Invent ways of doing evil
- Disobey parents
- Senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless
- Approve of those who practice evil

The list continues in Romans 3:10-18

- No one is righteous
- No one understands or seeks God
- They turned away from God and become worthless
- Their throats are like open graves
- Their tongues practice deceit
- Their lips are like poison of vipers
- Their mouths full of cursing and bitterness
- Their feet swift to shed blood
- Their ways are marked by ruin and misery

They know no peace
No fear of God before their eyes

This is not a nice picture of our surroundings. It is frightening indeed.

In Romans 1:18 the Bible says that the

“Wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness”.

Furthermore in Romans 6:23 God says,

“The wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord”.

The word “death” means a separation from God. The Lord Jesus told His disciples not to fear the first death but rather the second death. This is an eternal separation from God in hell. Some day there will be a separation of right from wrong as explained in Matthew 25:31. The Lord Jesus will sit on His throne in heavenly glory. All the angels will be with Him. All the nations will be gathered before Him. He will separate the people one from another, some on His right and others on His left. Then Jesus the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world’.

Then He will say to those on His left ‘Depart from me, you are cursed into eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels’. They will go to eternal punishment in hell fire, but the righteous to eternal life in heaven.

Some think the situation is hopeless. Even the Apostle Paul cried out in Romans in Romans 7:24, “What a wretched man I am! Who can rescue me from this body of death?” But then in Romans 7:25 he gives the answer, “Thanks be to God – through Jesus Christ our Lord”.

Heaven came down to earth when the Lord Jesus Christ was born in the town of Bethlehem 2005 years ago. He left heavens glory and came down to this evil and wicked earth. He said that the sole reason for His coming was to “seek and save the lost”.

He brought the message of hope from heaven down to earth. He explained about the way to heaven in John 14:6, “I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

Jesus brought heaven to earth. He brought to this earth hope, truth, life, love, joy, peace, goodness, mercy, grace, healing and forgiveness.

Now Jesus wants to live in you and me and continue His ministry of bringing heaven down to earth.

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and for ever. The same Spirit that was in Him, the Holy Spirit wants to function today through all of us and bring heaven down to earth.

To bring hope where there is no hope

To speak the truth where others are lying

To bring eternal life where people are condemned to death

To bring love where there is hatred and suspicion

To bring joy where there sadness

To bring peace where is hatred and war

To bring goodness where is corruption

To bring mercy where people are suffering

To bring grace where there is bitterness

To bring healing where there is sickness

To bring forgiveness where there is revenge

By submitting to the Lord Jesus Christ and by being available to Him we can become His instruments to help bring heaven down to earth. As we introduce our family, friends and neighbors to Jesus Christ we can also help bring heaven into the lives and hearts of our family and friends.