

# OUR HEARTS' DESIRE AND PRAYER FOR YOU

When Paul wrote regarding the Jews who were not converted, he said, "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved." (Romans 10:1) His desire and prayer was that they might be saved. This is always the desire of Christians for others. We are using this text this morning to express our feelings in regard to those who are lost.

First, it is our hearts' desire and prayer that you **ESCAPE THE HORRORS OF HELL**. Hell is real. The Scriptures describe it as a "lake of fire," as "outer darkness," and as a place where there is no relief from suffering. Jesus said that in the Day of Judgment some would be sent away with the words: "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." (Matthew 25:41) In the Bible, hell is not a joke.

Further, our prayer is that you will be **RECEIVED INTO HEAVEN**. Heaven is the paradise prepared for the people of God. Jesus said, "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) Earth's most beautiful places and moments can hardly be compared to the glory of that realm. To know about heaven is to want to go there. Christians have God's promise that they will. We want you to share this hope.

However, all of the rewards of the Christian life are not reserved for the future. There are immeasurable benefits in the present life also. It is, therefore, our hearts' desire and prayer that you **ENJOY THE BLESSINGS WHICH ARE IN CHRIST**. Ephesians 1:3 tells us that all spiritual blessings are in Him. Christians have the peace of God that passeth understanding, the privilege of prayer, and the assurance of God's constant care. (Philippians 4: 7; I John 5:14) These things are not lessened when shared. We would to God that you might partake of them too.

Finally, let us suggest that our hearts' desire and prayer for you is that you **OVERCOME THE POLLUTIONS OF THE SINFUL WORLD**. Living in sin destroys man-soul, mind, and body. Do you realize that nothing that is wholesome and good must be sacrificed in becoming a Christian? In turning to God, one must abandon only those things, which corrupt and destroy. Aside, even, from the eternal consequences, a man cheats himself by living in sin. A righteous life is a man's greatest personal asset.

In these brief remarks, we have outlined what every true Christian desires for every lost person. Sinner friend, there are Christians praying for your salvation. Consider, too, that God wants you to be saved. The Bible teaches that He wants all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. I Timothy 2:4

The question you must ultimately face, though, is what is your desire for yourself? We know that Heaven desires your salvation. We are assured that Christian men and women are praying to that end. But what is your decision? Each man must determine by his own actions what his eternal destiny will be.