

When We Move to Our Heavenly Home

Part One

Preface

Jim wrote this for me as a birthday gift on July 27, 2021. I had been asking a lot of questions about heaven and what it was going to be like. Jim had tried to describe what the Bible says, but many of my questions remained unanswered. The preschool part of my brain needed simple answers. So, Jim told me he would write a description based on the Scripture of what it would be like on our first day in heaven. As it turns out, this writing became a blessing and a comfort to several of our very dear friends who lost their spouses soon after my birthday this year. God works in mysterious ways. These words were probably not meant just for me. Jesus put the yearning and desire in my heart to know and ask questions. I want to share this message with others who, like me, yearn to know what their loved ones experience the moment they take their last breath here on earth and what they, too, will experience. It comforts me to know that as our loved ones gently let go of our hand, Jesus takes their hand and leads them to their forever home in heaven with Him. For those of us who know the Lord, when our time here on earth is complete and our purpose is fulfilled, we immediately meet our Savior face to face and are reunited with our loved ones and friends who have gone on before us. And the beautiful part is our Savior is by our side the whole time. He never leaves us, and He leads us straight to the throne of God. The words contained in these pages were lovingly placed here by my dear husband as a gift to me to answer my questions and to bring comfort, assurance, and peace to me, but I want to share these words and this message with those dear to me who may also be yearning to know what their future in heaven holds.

Much love, Kay
December 2021

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For the birthday of my beautiful wife!

My dear love! It seems like it was only yesterday when we met and began our lives together. The days and years have gone so fast, like a flash of lightning through the skies. While it seems more days with each other are behind us than the days in front of us, that is not true. Because we have both placed our trust and belief in the faith found in the LORD Jesus, our time together will really never end. We made our home together here on earth, and we will have a home together in Heaven, too. I want to tell you about when we move to our Heavenly home and how it will happen with each of us individually, no matter who goes first. I want you to know about our eternal home and the journey there. So, let's begin with the journey from your earthly body.

The Journey from Your Earthly Body

The First Stage of Your Journey into Eternity

When Your Day Comes

It doesn't really matter which one of us makes the move first. The way the moving day from your earthy body transpires will be the same for both of us. It will be according to the LORD's will for our individual lives and in His timing.

Before the foundation of this world was spoken into being by the LORD, on the first day of creation, the number of our days on this earth were known by Him. Like the LORD said to Jeremiah, *"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you..."* (Jeremiah 1:5). That promise applies to everyone born on this earth throughout all times, and it applies to you and me.

The LORD knew how long you would live here on earth, but don't worry about that, for the LORD said, *"And who of you by being worried can add a single hour to his life?"* (Matthew 6:27). So, your moving day will come precisely on time.

You Will Not Be Alone

Do not fret about that day; you will not be alone. No matter how it happens, no matter what the people around you think about your condition at the time, the LORD will be with you, and you will not feel a terrible thing at the moment of the move.

The LORD will be the One to take you by the hand and lead you to your eternal home. The LORD promised that when He said, *"I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also."* (John 14:3). So off you will go with the LORD, leaving your body behind. You see, the LORD made a promise at the end of His time here on earth when He said, *"...lo, I am with you always..."* (Matthew 28:20). He never breaks His promise!

Your Body, Soul, and Spirit will Separate

Three important things will happen the instant the LORD takes you out of your body. Let me remind you that every person on earth has a physical body, a physical soul, and a physical spirit.

The physical body is the clay of the earth that we call skin, organs, and bones.

The physical soul is you, the person who thinks, speaks, loves, adores, listens, inquires, learns, sins, and communicates. It is the person who you are, no matter what your body looks like. It is your soul that needs salvation because your soul is eternal.

The physical spirit within you is the spirit of life that turns the clay of the earth into living flesh and bones and allows your body to function. That spirit of life came to you from your parents. Theirs came from their parents. On and on, the chain of physical life rolls backward all the way to Adam, with whom, on the day of his creation, the LORD breathed the spirit of life into his clay,

and his body came to life (Genesis 2:7). Through all the generations from Adam and Eve, the spirit of life has moved with the birth of every child. Every child that marries, and has a child, will pass on the spirit of life. Life is required to give life. A living clay body can pass on life to another living clay body. Dead clay cannot pass on life because there is no life to pass on. But then, one day, when each person dies, the clay body dies. What happens to you and the spirit of life then?

On your moving day, your body, soul, and spirit will be separated.

The Bible says that the dust of your body “... *will return to the earth as it was....*”
(Ecclesiastes 12:7).

The spirit of life that animates the clay dust will “... *return to God who gave it.*”
(Ecclesiastes 12:7).

Your soul, the person who you are, “... *goes to his eternal home....*”
(Ecclesiastes 12:5).

So, your body will be placed in the ground and, over time, will return to dust. Your soul will be taken to your eternal home by the LORD. And the spirit that gives life to your body, and passed on that life to your children, once no longer needed by your body, will return to the LORD God Who is the giver of life (Ecclesiastes 12:7). It belongs to Him; therefore, it will “... *return to God who gave it.*”

Before we move on, the Bible tells us something else about when your soul makes the journey from your earthly body and what will be happening here on earth when it says your soul “... *goes to his eternal home while mourners go about in the street.*” (Ecclesiastes 12:5).

Long before your relatives will process the burying of your body, your soul will be in your new heavenly home. But what happens to your soul between leaving your body and reaching your heavenly home? That point is where we will pick up in the second stage of your journey into eternity with all the new things that you will see when you have departed from your body. That point is where all the glorious rewards of your decision to ask Jesus to be your LORD and Savior become so evident. That point is where you will see and know exactly the process by which the LORD has glorified you for all eternity.

My favorite song of all the ages, written by Isaac Watts in 1707, expresses just that moment.

*When I can read my title clear to mansions in the skies,
I'll bid farewell to every fear, and wipe my weeping eyes.
Let cares like a wild deluge come, let storms of sorrow fall!
May I but safely reach my home; my God, my heaven my all.
There shall I bathe my weary soul, in seas of heavenly rest,
And not a wave of trouble roll, across my peaceful breast.
I'm goin' to trust in the Lord, I'm goin' to trust in the Lord,
I'm goin' to trust in the Lord till I die.*

Now, let's describe the details of the instant that you leave your body!