

## Gird Up the Loins

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The Apostle Peter calls upon all Christians to be “girding up the loins of your mind” (1 Peter 1:13). In Bible times, girding up the loins was done by gathering up the loose clothing around the waist that would restrict movement and progress.

“Girding up” was an act of readiness and preparedness. Sojourners (Exodus 12:11), preachers (Jeremiah 1:17), servants (Proverbs 31:17; Luke 2:35-37), and soldiers (Isaiah 11:5; Ephesians 6:14) were all told to gird up their loins. Girding up the loins involves two things for Christians.

First, girding up the loins involves putting out of the way anything which impedes the Christian’s progress: worry, fear (Philippians 4:6; 2 Timothy 1:7), envy, jealous, hatred, bitterness, impurity (Galatians 5:19-20), and conceit (Romans 12:3,16).

Second, girding up the loins involves being mentally prepared. Peter writes in 1 Peter that Christians need to be mentally prepared for a number of things: for holy living (1:15; 2:1-10; 3:10-12; 4:3-5), for loving service and generosity (1:22; 3:8; 4:8-9; 5:5), for temptation (2:11; 5:8), for subjection (2:13 – 3:6), for suffering (2:20-21; 3:14; 4:12-16), and for giving a defense of one’s faith (3:15).

Dear Christian, let’s go out now and “gird up the loins of our mind”! Let’s be ready and prepared to make progress in our service to Jesus. - *Chris Reeves*

## Summer VBS

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June 3-7

**Theme: Our Big God**

7-8 PM

Monday: God Is Big Enough to Provide

Tuesday: God Is Bigger Than Any Other god

Wednesday: God Answers Prayers in Big Ways

Thursday: God Is Bigger Than Me Alone

Friday: God Is Bigger Than Our Thoughts

Warfield Blvd. church of Christ  
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Website  
WBCOC.org

Assembly Times  
Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm  
Wednesday: 7 pm

Everyone Is Welcome!  
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## THE WARFIELD BULLETIN

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.  
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

# Five Things Missing In Heaven

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Often when we consider the subject of heaven, we look in the Bible at all the good and beautiful things that will be in heaven. There will be angels, God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the righteous of all time, singing, serving, rest, and much more, in heaven.

However, another thing to consider about heaven is what the Bible says about all the things that will not be there. What will not be in heaven, also makes heaven a beautiful place.

Think about it. Why do we look forward to going home after a hard day's work? Because of the work that is missing at home! Why do we look forward to going on vacation? Because of the work that is missing there! In the same way, why do we live faithfully, ever longing to go to heaven? Because of all the negative things of this life that will be missing heaven!

Take just a moment and read from your Bible in Revelation 21-22. When you read about the beautiful place called heaven, take note of what is in heaven and what is not in heaven.

## **The Sea Is No More (Revelation 21:1)**

“The first heaven and the first earth” is a reference to the current order of

things as we know it now; this will all be gone (20:11,13). No more jobs, home responsibilities, politics, no physical body (1 Corinthians 15:50), etc. Our existence will be spent in a beautiful place serving God (Revelation 3:12; 21:9-26; esp. v. 22); a place of rest (14:13).

## **Death Shall Be No More (Revelation 21:4)**

Those situations in life which cause us to cry will all be gone; no more tears, no more death, no more mourning, crying or pain. Our existence will be spent with nothing but joy (Revelation 7:13-17).

## **There Shall Be No Night There (Revelation 21:25)**

We are presently marked by time (Genesis 1:14; Psa. 90:12). Night and day which marks time for us will all be gone; time as we know it will be gone (Revelation 21:23-25; 22:5). Our existence will be spent in endless eternity (Matthew 25:46).

## **There Shall In No Wise Enter Into It (Revelation 21:27)**

The unrighteousness that surrounds us in this world now will all be gone; no unrighteous people (Revelation 21:8,27,15; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10; Galatians 5:19-21), no devil and his angels (Revelation 20:10), no

unsaved (Revelation 20:11-15; Matthew 7:21-22; 25:41-46). Our existence will be spent with only the righteous of all time and with the Godhead (2 Peter 3:10-13).

## **There Shall Be No Curse Any More (Revelation 22:3)**

The “curse” of sin going back to the beginning of time will all be gone (Genesis 3:9-24). The Paradise that was lost in Adam can be regained in Christ; first in the church, then in the Paradise of heaven (Revelation 2:7; 22:1-3). Our existence will be spent in total fellowship and blessing with God (19:6-9).

## **Will You Be Missing In Heaven?**

What will not be in heaven? What is missing there? There will be no present life as we know it, no dying, no time, no unrighteousness, and no curse. How awesome that will be!

But, there may be something else missing there too. Friend, you may be missing in heaven. You may be missing because you never obeyed the gospel of Jesus Christ. You were never baptized for the remission of your sins (Acts 2:38). Or, you never lived faithfully all the way to the end of your life (2 Timothy 4:7-8). Will you be missing in heaven too? It is my prayer and desire that you will not be missing there. - *Chris Reeves*