

# A Heaven Here and a Heaven Hereafter

by Thomas Brooks

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*The state of true grace brings happiness, safety, and assurance, yielding a heaven here and a heaven hereafter.*

**Scripture:** Psalm 16:11, Matthew 5:8, John 10:28, Romans 5:1, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 2:8-9, Philippians 4:7, Colossians 3:3, 1 Peter 1:8-9, 1 John 5:13

**Topics:** "Assurance of Salvation", "Grace"

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## Description

Thomas Brooks emphasizes that being in a state of true grace brings eternal happiness and security, making the soul cherished by God. He explains that while grace itself ensures a future in heaven, the awareness of being in that state provides a present joy and comfort, creating a 'heaven here' as well. Assurance of grace is portrayed as the pinnacle of a Christian's happiness, often accompanied by profound joy and peace. Brooks notes that many lack this assurance, yet it is a vital aspect of a blessed life. Ultimately, possessing grace and the certainty of it is akin to experiencing heaven on earth.

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## Transcript

To be in a state of true grace, is to be miserable no more; it is to be happy forever. A soul in this state is a soul near and dear to God. It is a soul much beloved, and very highly valued by God. It is a soul housed in God. It is a soul safe in God's everlasting arms. The being in a state of grace makes a man's condition happy, safe, and sure.

But the seeing, the knowing of himself to be in such a state, is that which renders his life sweet and comfortable.

The being in a state of grace will yield a man a heaven hereafter; but the seeing of himself in this state will yield

him both a heaven here and a heaven hereafter. It will render him doubly blessed--blessed in heaven, and blessed in his own conscience.

Assurance is the beauty and apex of a Christian's happiness in this life. It is usually attended with the strongest joy, with the sweetest comforts, and with the greatest peace. It is a pearl that most want--a crown that few wear. His state is safe and happy, whose soul is adorned with grace, though he sees it not, though he knows it not. To have grace, and to be sure that we have grace, is heaven on this side heaven.

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