

# Hope Laid Up for You in Heaven

by W.H. Griffith Thomas

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*The sermon emphasizes the importance of hope in the Christian life, which is a distinctly Christian virtue resulting from union with God in Christ.*

**Scripture:** Psalm 31:19, Proverbs 2:7, Luke 19:20, Colossians 1:4, 2 Timothy 4:8, Hebrews 9:27

**Topics:** "Christian Hope", "Eternal Heaven"

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## Description

W.H. Griffith Thomas emphasizes the importance of hope in the Christian faith, as mentioned in Colossians 1:4-5, where believers are encouraged to look forward to the hope laid up for them in heaven. This hope is not just wishful thinking but a confident expectation rooted in the promise of God's goodness and wisdom, as seen in various biblical references. The sermon highlights that true Christian hope is a result of our union with God in Christ, with its focus on the glorious return of Jesus and the eternal joys of heaven.

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## Transcript

"Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints, For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven..."

(Col. 1:4-5).

This hope is said by St. Paul to be "laid up" for believers "in the heavens," and the verb is particularly worthy of notice because of its use elsewhere. Thus, a crown of righteousness is said to be "laid up" for those who love Christ's appearing (2 Tim. 4:8, ASV), while it is also recorded that it was "laid up" for men once to die (Heb. 9:27). Another solemn contrast is drawn in our Lord's parable of the pounds, where the unfaithful servant "laid up" his master's gift instead of using it (Luke 19:20). In two Old Testament passages, moreover, it is declared that the Lord has "laid up" His goodness for those who fear Him (Ps. 31:19) and "sound wisdom for the righteous" (Prov. 2:7). No Christian life, then, is complete which does not include in it this forward look of joyous certitude toward a bright future, for hope as a grace is not a mere spirit of what we call hopefulness, or a natural buoyancy of temperament. It is a distinctly Christian virtue, the result of union with God in Christ; and it has for its immediate object the Lord Jesus at His glorious appearing, and for its ultimate, eternal and exhaustless substance the glories of heaven and God as our all in all.

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