

DEEPER LIFE BIBLE CHURCH NL | SUNDAY SERMON | 21 DEC 2025

MARCHING JOYFULLY TO THE HEAVENLY CITY

Bible Reading: Numbers 10:1-36

Israel journeyed with perspective: they were marching onward to the Promised Land. We also have a glorious destination. Last week, we saw how to walk worthily on the highway that leads to that heavenly, holy city. We who are pilgrims to that Land are admonished to rejoice in the Lord no matter what happens to us or around us on earth (Phi 3:1; 4:4; 1 The 5:16; 1 Pet 4:12-14). Where we are going is a land of no sorrow; it is a place of rest, an abode not temporary, a place better than Israel's Promised Land. This destination is final. This perspective makes life's trials fade into insignificance; the glory of heaven is incomparable (Rom 8:18).

THE SATISFACTION OF OUR HEAVENLY DESTINATION Numbers 10:1-6,29

Heaven is the final home of the saint. **"For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself"** (Phi 3:20,21). The heavenly highway might be filled with challenges, but it is a joyous pilgrimage. Why? **One**, there is the joy of sins forgiven, name written in heaven; it is the joy of salvation (Psa 51:12; Luke 10:20). **Two**, there is God's presence on earth no matter the trials (John 14:23). **Three**, to escape eternal damnation is a thing of eternal significance (John 3:16; 5:24; 10:27-29). **Four**, assurance of daily victory makes our joy grounded and durable (John 6:33; 1 Cor 15:57; 1 John 5:4). **Five**, the privilege of highest service is a thing of joy that surpasses any earthly employment (Luke 10:21; 2 Cor 8:23). **Six**, the prospect of eternal reunion with our departed loved ones offers us comfort that only believers in Christ can boast of (1 The 4:13,14). And **seven**, the promise of eternal reward rejoices every redeemed soul (Mat 5:10-12; 25:21,23; 1 Pet 1:3-9).

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF A HOLY DISPOSITION Numbers 10:11-28

There is a lifestyle that befits a pilgrim. From our text, we see orderliness in the journey of Israel. God organised them and gave them His precepts to guide them throughout their journey. Heavenly pilgrims should not walk disorderly but like Christ walked (2 The 3:6,7; 1 John 2:6). They should be **"followers of God, as dear children"** (1 Cor 5:1). What does that entail? **One**, walk humbly with God (Mic 6:6-8). Submit to God's word. Pride is unbecoming of a heavenly candidate. **Two**, walk in the light, in love, not in hatred (John 8:12; Eph 5:3,8; 1 John 1:7). **Three**, walk honestly (Rom 13:3). A Christian should not defraud others, lie, cheat or partake of evil. **Four**, walk in the Spirit: obey God's word and do not yield to the pull of sin (Gal 5:16). Avoid mockers, seducers, rebellion, evil speaking, etc. **Five**, walk worthy of your calling, knowing you are a pilgrim and an ambassador called to represent Christ and His Kingdom (Eph 4:1; Col 1:10). And **six**, walk circumspectly; walk wisely (Eph 5:15; Col 4:5). Your decisions and choices should show that the Spirit of wisdom lives in you. Let the word of God rule your life.

THE SERIOUSNESS OF OUR HONOURABLE DUTY Numbers 10:29-36

There is one major duty for those en route heaven: evangelism. It is one of eternal consequence. We see Moses here persuading Hobab to go with them. Similarly, we should persuade others to join us towards the holy city. How did Moses approach this? **One**, he stated clearly what the destination was and the assurance it was their possession. Call the sinner with assurance to leave his sinful life to become partaker of a heavenly inheritance (1 Cor 14:8; Acts 2:40). **Two**, he invited Hobab explicitly: **"Come thou with us..."** Jesus came to call sinners to repentance. We are to call them out so they can come with us. They should not stay where they are but come out of the world and become members of God's Kingdom (Mark 1:15; 2:17; John 1:35-37,40-42). **Three**, he told him the benefits of going with them: **"... and we will do the good: for the Lord hath spoken good concerning Israel"**. We should state the benefits of the gospel clearly. The primary reason is eternal life; other blessings will follow (John 3:16; Acts 3:19; Mat 6:33). **Four**, Moses did not give up even when Hobab declined. He went on to persuade him by telling him compelling reasons and his part in it: **"And it shall be, if thou go with us, yea, it shall be, that what goodness the LORD shall do unto us, the same will we do unto thee"**. We should labour to persuade people based on the promises of God (John 1:45,46; Acts 2:40; 26:24-29). Moses succeeded (see Judges 1:16; 4:11). We also will succeed in Jesus' name!

"If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them" – John 13:17