SummerSalon14

Aug 23 2-4 pm EST UTC-5

Are You Looking Forward to Heaven as Much as Your Next Vacation?





summersalon14@gmail.com



"So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding *in the matter* for which I sent it." Isa 55:11

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POB 70995 Knoxville, TN 37938 865.774.7895 pprsinc@gmail.com www.pprsinc.com

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Most would answer, "No."

We've all had similar experiences.
We eagerly anticipate —even day dream about upcoming weekend plans; we clear our schedules to prepare our home for guests. We shop and pack for that long awaited, well earned

"Have you entered into the springs of the sea or walked in the recesses of the deep?" Job 38:16



vacation. We focus to expend our best efforts, making sure everything is just right —so all will be as perfect and prepared as possible. To Do lists are completed. Special activities are planned so the event is memorable. Most of all, we want to please those with whom we will spend this special time together. Nothing is more important than gaining all we can from our effort. We deserve to enjoy this life.

But how often do we stop to consider that our Creator—the God of the Bible—desires that we anticipate and prepare for our eternal reward far more than attending to temporal, fleeting events of this earthly life? The hard question before us reveals much about our spiritual condition. "Are we looking forward to Heaven as much as our next vacation?" If the truth is "no," the Bible tells us we are ignoring the promptings of the Holy Spirit who warns us by the example of the Laodicean church. Spiritual deception gains control of lives where interest in preparing to appear at the Judgment Seat of Christ is lacking. Reflection is needed to admit lukewarm lifestyles that focus on the here and now more than our Lord.

SummerSalon14 will explore this and other theological topics in a two hour fast forum. Topics are grouped systematically, with emphasis on confronting false teachings about the life and work of the body of Christ; prophecy; the work of the Holy Spirit; Israel, God's chosen nation; salvation; worship; grace faith; the eternal state; and Genesis creation. Uniquely American idolatry will be exposed for its coercive effect on Pauline doctrine defining our identity in Christ alone.

SummerSalon14 is needed because the most significant worldwide problem is spiritual deception.

While the visible work of the adversary is to "steal, kill, and destroy," before these outward evils occur, people must be spiritually deceived to be of use to Lucifer in perpetrating evil.

All evil is simply this: the absence of God's righteous goodness. And it is spiritual deception that prevents recognition of and resistance to evil —evil that is often disquised as the "best" human thoughts, words, and deeds.

Though sin (the outworking of evil) was paid for at the Cross —and the penalty for that sin (death and the grave) was also conquered there, the Apostle Paul reminds us that ...even he did not do righteous goodness, despite the power of God that lived in him. Even the great Apostle suffered from spiritual deception. This is universally true: **sin makes us stupid.** But spiritual discernment is the remedy for stupidity.

Only one sacred Scriptures, revealing only One God, offers the remedy for spiritual self-deception. And it is Paul's Galatians 2:20 admonition that reminds us we are not our own. We have our identity in Christ Jesus alone. "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

One may *profess* faith in Christ. But without intimate knowledge of God's Word, that life is carnal, according to 1 Corinthians 3. Carnality cannot produce spiritual discernment. Rather, it feeds spiritual deception.

Hunger for spiritual discernment will be satisfied on August 23, 2014, 2-4 pm, eastern. **SummerSalon14** will present a broad range of doctrinal resources that will give the Berean believer tools necessary to confront spiritual deception and false teaching.

Vacations will come and go; family gatherings will be remembered in pictures. But all the plans we make now to enjoy this life will burn up as hay and stubble at the Judgment Seat of Christ. Our Lord calls us to store up our treasures in heaven that they may enter eternity with us.

It is our prayer that **SummerSalon14** will provide you with an opportunity to increasingly be conformed to Christ so that your desire will be to look forward to heaven more than your next vacation. Maranatha!