

Longing for Home

*"All these people were still living by faith when they died.
They did not receive the things promised;
they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance,
admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth.
People who say such things show
that they are looking for a country of their own.
If they had been thinking of the country they had left,
they would have had opportunity to return.
Instead, they were longing for a better country – a heavenly one.
Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God,
for he has prepared a city for them."*

Hebrews 11:13-16 (NIV)

After moving his young family to the city, my father loved to take us back to his farm for holidays. As we drove north, he would happily whistle tunes while driving. Although his family originally came from Yorkshire, England he loved Scottish melodies especially, "Scotland the Brave". He would whistle that beautiful melody over and over as he navigated our old 1930 Buick north toward Burk's Falls. I learned to love the tune but only years later realized its name. Although my Dad spent the last 43 years of his life living in Toronto, farm life never left him.

The people referred to in our text for today were individuals whose hearts were longing for another country, another city which they felt was their true home. These people were able to lift their eyes off the present and looked away to the future

home pledged to them by their promise-making God. They believed the Lord was as good as His word.

Reader, are you content with this world or do you long for another made by the Lord Himself? When you read the promises God what do they mean to you? Is your life a journey toward another country and city? Will you settle for what this shattered, broken world offers? Or will you come to the One Who is the way, the truth and the life and become His loyal follower on a journey to the promised land?

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Come unto Me and rest;
Lay down, thou weary one,
lay down
Thy head upon My breast."
I came to Jesus as I was,
Weary and worn and sad;
I found in Him a resting place,
And He has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Behold, I freely give
The living water; thirsty one,
Stoop down,
and drink, and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank
Of that life-giving stream;
My thirst was quenched,
my soul revived,
And now I live in Him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"I am this dark world's Light;
Look unto Me,
thy morn shall rise,
And all thy day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found
In Him my Star, my Sun;
And in that light of life
I'll walk,
Till trav'ling days are done.
Horatius Bonar

Come to Jesus and come now.

© Rumford Ministries
www.RumfordMinistries.org
Some rights reserved