

# Home

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Home is a word that stirs pleasant and loving memories for most people. While serving in the armed forces and during my college years I always looked forward to going home. Later in life when I had a family, I especially wanted to be home. We often think about home and how good it feels to be there. Why do people look forward to going home?

Home is a place where one generally feels secure and free from the temptations and pressures of the world. More importantly, home is where a person is accepted, loved and enjoys the company of one's family members. Dorothy, in the motion picture "The Wizard of Oz", expressed it best, "There is no place like home"!

But our home on earth is temporary. Abraham thought of himself as a stranger and pilgrim on earth (Heb. 11:13). Peter described those Christians in the Dispersion as sojourners and pilgrims (I Pet. 2:11). While we are not fleeing our homes for fear of losing our lives, aren't we also sojourners in the world because we are not a part of the world? We sometimes sing the hymn *This World Is Not My Home*, "I'm just a passing through ....." . Do we really mean it?

The feelings and thoughts we have about our earthly home should create in us the longing to go to our heavenly home. We remember the loving welcome our mom and dad gave us when we returned home after being away for a long time. The father of the prodigal son in Luke 15:11-32 was compassionate and forgiving when his son returned home. This is a perfect description of how our Heavenly Father will welcome us to our heavenly home.

Like Abraham, we should look for that home whose builder and maker is God (Heb. 11:10). The apostle Paul, shortly before his death, clearly looked forward to going to his heavenly home (II Tim. 4:8). Hopefully, we also will "love His appearing" and teach our children to desire to go to a much better home, our heavenly home.