

There are some seven billion souls on this planet today. Most of them will tread lightly on this earth. They'll grow up, maybe get married, and have some kids. They will go about their business, seeking to care for themselves and their own. But most stay within themselves, looking out for themselves and their families. They will live, grow old and die, until one day, they are another plot at a neglected cemetery and another name on somebody else's family tree.

But a few rare souls dedicate their lives to doing good in this world, making a difference in the name of the Lord. They possess the courage to cast away fear and doubt and live for God, not themselves. A desire for fame or recognition does not drive them, nor do they seek to climb the career ladder. They have chosen the narrow path with daily burdens, pains, and sufferings to do God's will. These are the few who have given themselves completely to the Lord. Buck Nicholson was truly one of these exceptional souls.

Bro. Buck spent his life spreading the Gospel. Even early on, he preached to those who would hear with his distinctive, commanding voice.

His love for Jesus never waned. He married and raised a family based on the same Biblical principles that he lived and preached. His family still emanates the eternal love of Christ, which Bro. Buck first taught them.

Even as his family expanded, Bro. Buck kept preaching the Gospel. He wanted nothing more than to tell others of Jesus and His saving power. Bro. Buck's love of his fellow man led to the inception of Spreading the WORD ministry, which aims to deliver the Gospel of Jesus to people worldwide so more souls can be saved.

What a legacy Bro. Buck has left. He left the ministry ready to preach the Gospel to more and more people with over 700 sermons archived. This means Spreading the WORD Ministry can broadcast Bro. Buck's unique preaching style for many years without any repetition.

Bro. Buck's messages will continue to be proclaimed in 30-minute sermons, by means of the radio stations we use throughout the United States. Enabling the WORD to be presented a minimum of 214 times each week.

Thanks to internet capabilities, Bro. Buck's message can be heard in almost every country on Earth. Out of the 195 recognized countries in the world, we at Spreading the WORD Ministry are thrilled to report, Bro. Buck's broadcast has reached 192 of countries. What a joy to see the Gospel being broadcast to the ends of the earth!

And now, we mourn Bro. Buck's passing. We weep not for his soul because we know the Lord greeted him saying, "Well done, my good and faithful servant." We know Bro. Buck is in heaven, where there is no grief or pain but life eternal. We mourn because our precious brother has left us. We will miss his presence in our lives but rejoice in the truth he is with our Savior.

Even as we say goodbye, we thank God for Bro. Buck's life. He did not tread lightly in this world; he made a profound difference and lead many souls to the saving power of Christ. Nothing could be more important. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for giving us Bro. Buck, and thank you, Buck, for a life well spent.

It is our mission to continue Bro. Buck's legacy of spreading the WORD of our Lord. We ask for your prayers for Bro. Buck's family and the ministry. We need the tremendous power of these prayers to support us as we continue to spread the Word through Buck's preaching.

While the finances are strong, we continue to expand our mission of spreading the WORD. However, we need your help. Please consider giving to this worthy ministry. Broadcasting for all the radio stations we currently contract with costs tens of thousands of dollars each month I can think of no better ministry to support than one that directly broadcasts the saving grace of Jesus Christ to all who will only listen.



## Our Next Home Christopher Kolker MD

As we at Spreading the WORD continue to mourn Buck's passing, we are certain that Buck now rests in Heaven. And times like these make us wonder what Heaven is like. What is Buck experiencing, and what is our future if we accept God's grace with our faith?

Cartoons suggest that we will float on clouds and play harps all day long. That sounds boring, and fortunately for all of us, that's not supported by scripture.

Many books in the Bible give us various glimpses of Heaven. Daniel, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and the Gospels give us snippets of what Heaven must be like. However, perhaps the clearest indication comes from John of Patmos's vision, as told in the Book of Revelation. That vision is perhaps most clear in the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter:

When the Lamb opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been flamed because of the word of God and the testimony they had maintained. They called out in a loud voice, "How long, Sovereign Lord, holy and true until you judge the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?" Then each of them was given a white robe, and they were told to wait a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and brothers who were to be killed as they had been was completed. (v. 9-11)

This passage tells us more than we might initially believe. We can infer many things by reflecting on and praying over these few lines.

Most importantly, when these people died on Earth, they went to heaven. They didn't wait; they had a direct passage. Their personal lives played a role in their placement in heaven.

Therefore, they are remembered for their lives on Earth. They were all martyrs in this life (6:9) and grouped as such. This fits with Jesus's saying that many rooms are available for all of us in Heaven (John 14:2). We get to Heaven through God's grace, but we may be in different places in Heaven based on our works and sufferings.

John tells us the saved were able to call out and to wear clothes. This strongly implies a physicality to the afterlife. They are not just spirits or ghost-like beings. And since they are standing individually, these are real individuals united under God's grace and care, just like you and me. We still seem to retain the uniqueness that God gave us.

They ask God to intervene on Earth. Even in heaven, they care about us here. They seem to know what is going on in our sinful condition. And in their petition, we know they can interact with God and ask questions and requests.

We also know in Revelation that there will be a wonderful city at the end of time. The first heaven that John saw may change into a physical city he describes at the end of Revelation: The New Jerusalem (21:1-2). It's a physical place where the saved live and experience Eden's restoration. It's paradise renewed- a place where we all want to be. It may seem different for each of us depending on our culture and understanding of Eden, like sections of a town. But we will fully know perfection, as God will live with us (v. 3). There will be no more death, mourning, crying, or pain, for the old order of things has passed away (v.4).

This sounds like a fitting reward for Buck and other saints who have gone before him. I hope and pray that your life is nothing more than a quest to find that room prepared for you in New Jerusalem, that Holy City on a hill where grief and sorrow are left behind.



## We ARE Making a Difference

My brother Alvin is very sick with some kind of parasite he picked up while working in Kenya. He is on some meds for it but the whole ordeal has wracked his body and he is exhausted physically and mentally. Please pray for him. Alice Marshall

Always live with the willingness you have to reach out to people with the mighty WORD! Christopher Goulard—I live in Lyon, France

I see so much anger and hatred in the world today. The bible teaches against this and it is one of those lessons that many are ignoring today. M. Dawson—Atlanta Georgia

Dear Brother Buck, Thank you for the program today. I really needed your lesson. I always learn so much from your teachings. B. Samuels— London England

I'm Maria Alvaro and I try to follow the example of Christ in all that I do and every day of my life. God always stands for what is right. PS—I listen to you in Lima, Peru

I have never been alone until my wife passed in December. There is this big hole in my life and I am having a bad time of it. Please pray for me. I need to be strong. J. Moore Birmingham, Alabama

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As he waited, he was approached by a man who asked, "Son, can you tell me where the post office is?"

The little boy replied, "Sure, just go straight down the street a couple of blocks and turn to your right."

The man thanked the boy kindly and said, "I'm the new pastor in town, and I'd like for you to come to church on Sunday. I'll show you how to get to Heaven."

The little boy replied with a chuckle, "Awww, come on; you don't even know the way to the post office!"



"So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the WORD of God." Romans 10:17