Becky Combee Ministries,

WE HAVE COME

There is a unique passage of Scripture used to describe heaven that I really like. It thrills my heart and opens my understanding in a new and different way. The startling impact in this Word about heaven is the record of the people and places. We are greeted by a vast assemblage of heavenly occupants and two very special locations are brought to our attention. The writings of Hebrews highlight each of these

with the words "you have come." ¹ I love those words, "you have come." Hear him say, YOU HAVE COME TO Mount Zion, the church of the firstborn. YOU HAVE COME TO the heavenly Jerusalem. YOU HAVE COME TO thousands of angels. YOU HAVE COME TO

the spirits of just men. YOU HAVE COME TO God Himself. YOU HAVE COME TO Jesus, the mediator of the New Covenant. And YOU HAVE COME TO the blood that forgives us.

Now, as we step into heaven and briskly look from left to right, we see beyond the sights and the sounds that resonate of celebration. We see heaven itself! And it is greater than the color of amber, the appearance of fire, the blue of sapphire and the brightness of the rainbow.² It surpasses the sound of great waters, the lightning and thunder.³ In awe and wonder, we bow our hearts. God is here! Jesus is here! The church is here! Our family is here. We are here. WE HAVE COME!

I don't suppose we can imagine the grand gathering of the church in heaven. Our experience acknowledges only a small number of God's people. Yet we will stand with the redeemed of the Lord from every age of time. By our side there will be scholars, faithful servants, martyrs, and those who prayed. We will praise God with

pastors, evangelists, and musicians of every century. We will raise our voice with devoted husbands, loving wives, and children from every nation. Together, we are the church and WE HAVE COME! WE HAVE COME to the throne of our God. WE HAVE COME before the presence of our Lord

and Savior Jesus Christ. WE HAVE COME to an innumerable company of angels. With them, we cry, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing."⁴ We join the endless chorus of the four beasts saying, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty."⁵ We bow with the twenty-four elders and declare, "Thou art worthy, O Lord."⁶ No longer are we enamored by the lights or the colors. This is heaven and WE HAVE COME to worship.

The majesty of this praise and worship is

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overwhelming. It is spectacular and extraordinary. Jerusalem. WE HAVE COME TO that glorious But I believe it is also normal. We were made to city. worship Him. Our Father seeks our worship and descending from heaven and described its streets of now we must worship Him. WE HAVE COME gold, walls of jasper and foundations of precious with just men to thank Him for the great plan of jewels.⁹ However, the glory of God's city exceeds redemption. WE HAVE COME to acknowledge its jeweled architecture. The Revelation of John Jesus' death and resurrection. WE HAVE COME records, "I saw no temple therein: for the Lord to the blood of the New Covenant, the blood of our God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.¹⁰ Lord Jesus Christ. fathom that great moment.

entered the Holy Place of heaven with His blood, them and be their God." ¹¹ This then, is our final He came into that Holy Place to obtain our joy. WE HAVE COME TO THE CITY OF THE redemption, to appear in the presence of God for LIVING GOD! In this city we dwell with God our us. WE HAVE COME to that holy altar. From Father and with our Savior Jesus Christ. there. His "blood speaks." ⁷ His blood declares that HAVE COME to our heavenly home! our sins are remitted, or blotted out. The songwriter eloquently penned, "Jesus has bled, and there is remission...Blessed salvation once for all." ⁸ WE HAVE COME to that blessed place.

The news of this blessed place strengthens our praise and worship. Yet there is one more vista described by the writer of Hebrews. It is the New

The Apostle John saw this great city Today, our minds cannot He further records, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they The writer of Hebrews teaches that Jesus shall be his people, and God himself shall be with WE

> ¹Hebrews 12:22-24 NLT ² Ezekial 1:26-28 ³ Revelation 8:5 ⁴ Revelation 5:12 ⁵ Revelation 4:8 ⁶ Revelation 5:14;11:16 ⁷ Hebrews 12:24

⁸ Free From The Law, O Happy Condition, Words and Tune Once For All, Philip P. Bliss, 1873 ⁹ Revelation 21:19 ¹⁰ Revelation 21:22 ¹¹ Revelation 21:23

Her LUKE 2:1-12

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed.² (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. 4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)⁵ To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. ⁶ And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.⁷ And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and

laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. ⁸ And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. ¹⁰ And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, ¹⁴ Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.