

It is something that is not revealed to us. There is that which comes after the resurrection of the body and it is the great hope and I Peter says it is a hope reserved in Heaven for you. It speaks of something God has for you--it is something apart from this world and away from anything you have access to now but it is a hope that is not merely a place or time but it involves the whole process and that may be a good part of the discussion in v. 6 but it is not merely a word in the discussion but it has bearing in the whole matter and it is what Christ has for His believers. He has great things in store for them. So He says, "Lift up your eyes to the Heavens and look at the earth beneath. The Heavens will vanish like smoke and the earth will wax old and be like a garment but my Salvation shall be forever.\* My righteousness shall not be abolished." What God has established nothing else can destroy and none can remove any thing else. To those to whom He has promised eternal life it is something of increasing excellance and nothing that is ever going to be destroyed. In v. 7 He then gives a word of comfort: "Hearken to me, ye that know righteousness --the people in whose heart is my law. Hear ye not the reproach of men neither be dismayed at the reviling--remember that the things of God are eternal and the human things are temporary for moths shall eat them up like a garment and the worm shall eat them but my righteousness shall be forever and my salvation unto all generations." It is a comparison between the temporary nature and that which is of God. We have in this life often a situation similar to what it was in Babylon and there is an oppression and a cruelty and in that situation you almost feel "What is the use?" They just revile, ridicule and look down upon me. What does it all amount to any way and would it not be better to be on the winning side? He asks after all which is the winning side. Is the one that has the brief period of success and the one who seems to be in control or the one of permanent belief? Think of one in Paris in 1943 and the Germans in control of Paris say, "Collaborate with us--work with us, as we are in control here and we can put you in prison and murder or whatever if you don't." If you just quietly and passively get along you are in a rather miserable condition and still it is not like as if you resist God but if you will collaborate there is an opportunity for you to be better off than you have ever been and to enjoy the fruits of victory and to participate in them. They will be established and last for about a year and an individual in France had a tough problem facing him and he could easily ask what the use could be in sitting and resisting the Germans when they had everything in their power and they would be like the people in many nations that had been conquered and they would be annihilated in time. "When