

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand, And cast a wishful eye To Canaan's fair and happy land, Where my possessions lie.

I am bound for the promised land.

(Samuel Stennett)

¹³All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen them and having welcomed them from a distance, and having confessed that they were strangers and sojourners on the earth. ¹⁴ For those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a country of their own. ¹⁵ And indeed if they had been thinking of that *country* from which they went out, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better *country*, that is, 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)

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Strangers & Sojourners

> The attitude and desire of faith – yearning for our homeland

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Strangers & Sojourners

- 1. The Eyes of Faith
 - · faith sees and welcomes as home the yet-future promises of God, even in the face of death
 - as Christians, we see and experience the fulfillment of these promises, yet await their consummation

Strangers & Sojourners

2. The Confession of Faith

³ Then Abraham rose from before his dead, and spoke to the sons of Heth, saying, ⁴ "I am a stranger and a sojourner among you; give me a burial site among you that I may bury my dead out of my sight." (Gen. 23:3-4)

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Strangers & Sojourners

- 2. The Confession of Faith
 - faith intentionally embraces the lifestyle of a stranger and sojourner on the earth
 - as Christians, we consciously live as strangers and sojourners in this life (cf. 1 Pet. 2:11; Phil. 3:20-21)

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Strangers & Sojourners

- 3. The Desire of Faith
 - faith intensely pursues and desires the true and better home, the heavenly city
 - as those who desire what God has promised for our lasting joy, He is not ashamed to be called our God

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²² For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now. ²³ And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for *our* adoption as sons, the redemption of our body. (Rom. 8:22-23)

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