

Entry into Heaven

There is a story from the Middle Ages about a young woman who was turned away from heaven.

As she left, she was told that if she would bring back the gift that is most valued by God, she would be welcomed back. She departed, and after a while, she brought back ...

- Some coins that a destitute widow had given to the poor.
- A remnant of a Bible that had been used for years by an eminent preacher.
- Some dust from the shoes of a missionary laboring in a remote wasteland.

She brought back many similar things, but was turned back repeatedly.

One day, she saw a small boy playing by a fountain. A man rode up on horseback and dismounted to take a drink. The man saw the child and suddenly remembered his boyhood innocence.



Then, looking in the fountain and seeing the reflection of his hardened face, he realized what he had done with this life. And tears of repentance welled up in his eyes and began to trickle down his cheeks – an outward symbol of the surrender of his heart to the lordship of Jesus Christ.

The young woman took one of these tears back to heaven and was received with joy and love.

Clearly, the way to heaven is God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ – the faith of oneself, not the faith of another.

– Beecher Hunter