

# Heaven on Earth

Do a survey of today's local newspaper or pay close attention to the evening news broadcast on television or radio.

Here's what you'll likely find: stories on the U.S. economy, ongoing military efforts against terrorism, medical and technological advances, and other such accounts of what's going on in the world.

Here's what you will likely not find: news reports about heaven.

Let's face it: the world we live in is not focused on heaven, writes Dr. David Jeremiah, senior pastor of Shadow Mountain Community Church in El Cajon, California, in his book *Turning Points*.

"Atheists, agnostics and pagans aren't concerned with heaven at all, and we can understand their inattention. The surprising reality is that many Christians hardly give heaven a second thought either. We live as if this world is the real thing, that which defines who and what we are.

"In fact, just the opposite is true," Dr. Jeremiah continued. "The world is a very



temporary parentheses in the eternal plan of God. Christians' citizenship is heavenly, not earthly. While on earth, the way we keep our eyes focused on heaven is to live in the presence of God through continual worship and communion with Him. Though the media are full of news, don't let it distract you from the good news of the gospel."

And believers understand that we serve God by serving others. In doing so, we lay up treasures in heaven.

*For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal (2 Corinthians 4:18).*

– Beecher Hunter