



ALL THIS FUTURE

Alan's word for 2023

# THE POWER OF MOMENTUM

1) Resolve will be essential

What motivates resolve?

2) Respond well to life's valleys

*and momentum will build*

What fuels the capacity to respond well?

I see the promise of heaven





“Some day you will read in the papers that D.L. Moody of East Northfield, is dead. Don't you believe a word of it!

At that moment I shall be more alive than I am now; I shall have gone up higher, that is all, out of this old clay tenement into a house that is immortal – a body that death cannot touch, that sin cannot taint; a body fashioned like unto His glorious body.”

D.L. Moody

## I see the promise of heaven

...we would rather  
be away from the  
body and at home  
with the Lord.

2 Corinthians 5:8 ESV

For me to  
live is Christ  
and to die  
is gain.

Philippians 1:21 ESV

My desire is  
to depart and be  
with Christ, for  
that is far better.

Philippians 1:23 ESV

2 Corinthians 12:2-4 CSB

I know a man in Christ who  
was caught up to the third heaven fourteen years ago.  
Whether he was in the body or out of the body, I don't know;  
God knows.

<sup>3</sup> I know that this man  
whether in the body or out of the body I don't know;  
God knows—  
<sup>4</sup> was caught up into paradise and heard inexpressible words,  
which a human being is not allowed to speak.



“It is an  
unfortunate fact  
that profound spiritual  
experiences do not  
always lead to lasting  
transformation....”

Phil Anderson,  
*The Lord of the Ring*

“By the measure you  
use, it will be measured  
to you—and more will be  
added to you. <sup>25</sup> For whoever  
has, more will be given to him,  
and whoever does not have,  
even what he has will be  
taken away from him.”

Mark 4:24b-25 CSB

Colossians 3:1-4 CSB

So if you have been raised with Christ,

**seek the things above,**

where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

<sup>2</sup> **Set your minds on things above,** not on earthly things.

<sup>3</sup> For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

<sup>4</sup> When Christ, who is your life, appears,  
then you also will appear with him in glory.



- 1 The more we seek and experience engagement with heaven,
- 2 set our minds on the truths and realities of heaven,
- 3 and consciously invest our lives toward heaven,  
the more real heaven will become to us.

# 1 seek and experience engagement with heaven

increasingly  
learn to walk with  
God in the reality  
of a conversational  
relationship

increasingly  
come to know  
God's will and ways  
as we engage him  
in Scripture

increasingly  
be transformed,  
becoming like  
Jesus from the  
inside out

increasingly  
learn how to live  
in and from God's  
always present  
kingdom

do all of this  
remembering that  
a day is coming  
when we will be  
with him in glory

The Holy Spirit  
is the down payment  
of our inheritance,  
until the redemption of  
the possession, to the  
praise of his glory.

Ephesians 1:14 CSB

...who **tasted** the  
heavenly gift, who  
shared in the Holy  
Spirit, <sup>5</sup> who **tasted**  
God's good word and  
the powers of the  
coming age...

Hebrews 6:4-5 CSB

the master of  
the feast tasted  
the water now  
become wine....

John 2:9 ESV



## 2 set our minds on the truths and realities of heaven

the promise  
to those who  
die before the  
Lord's coming

the promises  
included in  
*The Day* of  
his coming

the promises  
related to the  
new heavens  
and new earth

### 3 consciously invest our lives toward heaven

“...store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Matthew 6:19-21 NIV

And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup> So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Galatians 6:9-10 ESV

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