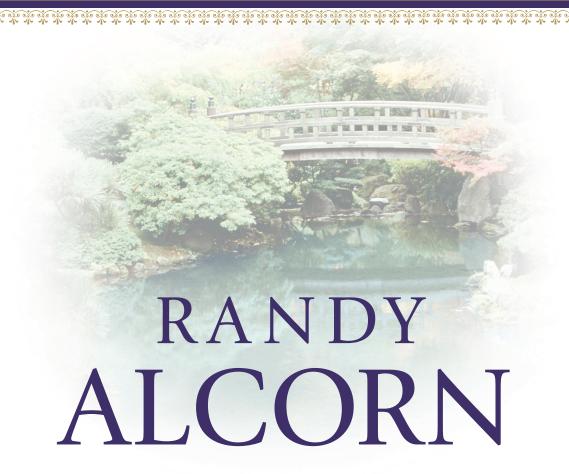
"This is the best book on Heaven I've ever read."

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Preface and Introduction: The Subject of Heaven

Because of our wrong assumptions about the eternal state, we bring misguided perspectives to what it will mean to see God or be with him. We succumb to the vague, ethereal notions of eastern religions rather than build our understanding on the concrete, physical depictions of biblical and historical Christianity. We fail to envision God as forever incarnate in the risen Christ, and we fail to recognize the New Earth as a physical environment, civilization, and culture in which God will dwell with us.

1. What are you looking forward to in your study of Heaven?
2. Read Acts 17:11. What does this passage say, and how does it relate to how we should view claims about the afterlife based on near-death experiences and personal speculation?

3. Consider 1 Thessalonians 5:21: "Test everything. Hold on to the good." How should this principle be applied to reading any book
other than the Bible, including Heaven?
4. "The sense that we will live forever <i>somewhere</i> has shaped every civilization in human history Anthropological evidence suggests that every culture has a God-given, innate sense of the eternal—that this world is not all there is" (<i>Heaven</i> , xix, or xvii in revised edition). Do you think this statement is significant or revealing? In what way:
5. Read Psalm 39:4-5. How are these verses important as we consider the subject of Heaven?
6. Ancient merchants often wrote the words memento mori—"think of death"—in large letters on the first page of their accounting books. What perspective did this bring to their daily lives? Is anticipating death unhealthy, or can it be healthy?

What did you learn from the story of Florence Chadwick, the wimmer? How does this story relate to the subject of Heaven?					
	100				



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About Randy Alcorn

Randy is the founder and director of Eternal Perspective Ministries and the best-selling author of over 50 books (over nine million in print) including *Heaven*, *The Treasure Principle*, and the Gold Medallion winner *Safely Home*.



About Eternal Perspective Ministries

Eternal Perspective Ministries (EPM) is a nonprofit ministry dedicated to teaching principles of God's Word and assisting the church in ministering to the unreached, unfed, unborn, uneducated, and unsupported people around the world. You can order all of Randy's books and products through EPM's online store at www.epm. org.

