HEAVEN WAITS #8: *Eternity*

✨Ecclesiastes 3:11, 'Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God's work from beginning to end.' (NLT)✨

No matter what anyone pursues in this life—what successes achieved, what money earned, what possessions obtained, or even just the opposite, what opportunities squandered—someday, we all are going to die. There is a 100% guarantee of this truth. I know that every generation always has someone in it who is trying to figure out how to *live* forever, but I got news for them: ain't gonna happen! (Not the way these jokers are thinking anyway.) The God of the Universe, the One who spoke it into existence and breathed life into being, did not design mankind to exist forever. However, He did set eternity in the hearts of humanity.

What does that even mean? you ask. Within every human being, God, when He was fashioning me and dreaming of you, He placed a hollow void inside every human being. We would be aware of that barren space from the moment we are cognitively able to comprehend, and we would, even at a young age, begin trying to fill that very hole within. For every person, it is something different we encounter that feels as if we have found 'the thing'. But unless we complete the emptiness inside of us with God, we will simply come undone as seams of peace and joy and completeness unravel. Even another person, your ride-or-die, your soulmate, your gravity, will never complete you the way God intended, as His plan has always been to be your and my Number One.

In that same God-sized, God-shaped hole, is where the Creator of the Universe placed eternity. We would yearn during the course of life to strive for, to seek, to pursue something beyond the here-and-now, the meaning to life, the meaning to me and the meaning to us. Most everyone I have ever talked with or listened to is on a quest of the 'next', in the hunt for surely there is more than just 'this'! There is a thirst, a hunger, a longing, to what is around another bend, and then, how do we get there? You might notice, often, at the time of passing of a Christ follower, there is a peace and a joy within that individual and also, in their loved ones who know what that person's 'next' is. That very likely may not be the same peace and confidence in the life of an unbeliever because many who have not grabbed hold of the eternity placed with them have no assurity of a heaven that waits for them.

Heaven waits. Heaven waits for you and for me. He has prepared a place for us and I believe it is a reward for all of the trying times and broken promises we each encounter in this life. It is ours to simply accept—not work for, not pine for, not be guilted into—just simply accept and receive. But the truth is, walking with God right now, while navigating this world and dreaming of the eternity that glows within, is of great wealth and value for today, any day. You don't have to wait! You can come right now! You can come to the assurance of faith in God and the eternity He has set inside of you.

There is an echo in my spirit of the very words spoken generations before by a hero of mine and a brother in faith, Moses: 'If You don't go with me, God, please! I don't want to go. Without You, God, please don't make me go.'

✨Exodus 33:15, '"Then he said to Him, "If Your Presence does not go with us, do not bring us up from here."' (NKJV)✨