

# **Would You Leave Your Best Friend Behind?**

**By Bud Moellinger 2008**

One time not too long ago a man found himself walking along a road in the country. He did not know where he was or where he was walking to. The thought occurred to him that he had died and was in fact dead! He reckoned this only because his dog which had died many years ago was walking alongside of him. Although a strange circumstance, he was pleased to see his old best friend again.

As they walked, they came upon a fancy fence that bordered along the road. Soon they came to a fancy entryway, with a magnificent gate, complete with a little guard house. Seeing a man in the guard house, the man stopped and asked, "What is this place?"

"This is Heaven," the guard replied.

The man said, "We have been walking for a long time, could we come in and get a drink of water?"

The guard replied, "Sure, just go up the lane to the Big House, and you will find a cooler with spring water in the shaded arbor next to the Big House. You will have to leave the dog here though," the guard added. "Dogs are not permitted in Heaven."

The man just looked at the dog and said, "Come boy, we will be heading on down the road."

Soon the man and the dog came upon an old fence that really was not in too good of a shape that bordered along the road. Walking along the fence, they approached a gate that was propped open and hanging to the ground by only one hinge. An elderly man was sitting in the shade of an easy-up shelter gazing at the man and the dog.

"Hey partner" the man called out, "Could I get a drink of water here?"

"Sure," said the elderly man in the easy-up. "Go up the lane to that big grove of trees, there is a spring there with sweet cold water running from out of the hillside."

"What about my dog?" the man asked. The elderly man replied, "There is a bowl hanging from the tree limb that your dog can use for a drink of water."

As the man started up the lane towards the trees he asked, "Mister, what is this place?"

"Heaven," replied the elderly man.

"But they told me the place back up the road was Heaven," the man said.

"Nope," replied the elderly man, "That place is Hell; they lied to you."

"Doesn't that make you mad that they try to tell people that their place is Heaven," the man with the dog said.

"No," said the elderly man, "We are just happy they weed out anyone who would go on and leave their best friend behind."