

## **SPIRITUAL TASK—IS IT EASY OR DIFFICULT TO GET TO HEAVEN?** *(Heaven and Hell 533, 359)*

*by the Rev. David Roth at the New Church of Boulder Valley*

**Story** There are teachings from the Word that give the impression that getting to heaven is very difficult. There are also teachings which lead us to believe that it is not so difficult. So which is it?

**Meaning** *“It is not as hard to follow the path to heaven as many people believe. The only difficulty is finding the power to resist love for ourselves and love of the world and preventing those loves from taking control, since they are the source of all our evils. To the extent that we resist the evils that well up from love for ourselves and the world, we are led by the Lord and not by ourselves. Then the Lord resists those things within us and removes them.”* Heaven and Hell 359

**Task** This week observe the decisions and choices you make. Ask yourself, “Did I choose that from a prevailing love for myself and my own self interest? Or Am I making this decision based on worldly or spiritual interests?” Just observe your patterns and see what you find out. Is there a tendency that you can begin to work on changing?