



WHERE ARE YOU
GOING TO SPEND
ETERNITY?



WHERE ARE YOU GOING TO SPEND ETERNITY?

EBCWA email pjmoses@bigpond.com.au; john.mcewan@xtra.co.nz

The answer to that question is dependent on your relationship with God.

GOD'S DESIRE

God wishes to have a relationship with all members of the human race. In **2 Peter 3:9** He says that ***“He is not willing that any should perish”***. However, He respects the free will of us all and He will not force us into a relationship.

MAN'S PROBLEM

Our problem is that He is totally perfect while as we know not one of the human race is which causes us a major problem. All of us fall short of God's standard and by ourselves we are unable to achieve it so we need to rely on God for a solution to this problem.

GOD'S PROVISION

“God's Way” has been provided by the death and resurrection of His Son the Lord Jesus Christ. By His death and resurrection Jesus provided “The Way” for all members of the human race to be considered righteous. In this the Lord Jesus Christ satisfied God's righteous standard on our behalf allowing access, by grace, for us into a relationship with God. At the Cross in AD 32 all of the sins of humanity, past, present and future were judged and paid for. Jesus announced “paid in full” before He died. Jesus is the only One who provides this solution.

SIN IS NO LONGER A PROBLEM

Sin is therefore no longer a problem because all the sins of the entire human race were paid, for once and for all by Jesus Christ at the Cross. Therefore, as

far as God is concerned every human being who has reached accountability has the opportunity provided for them to have a relationship with Him by trusting in His Plan

IF SIN IS PAID FOR WHAT IS OUR PROBLEM THEN?

The problem all of us have is one of attitude of the individual to God's gracious provision of salvation by grace. What is required on behalf of the individual is acceptance of God's Way rather than any alternative way that we might try to gain approval by God for relationship with Him. This generally speaking would be accumulation of human good works.

THE CHARACTER OF GOD

GOD IS KING OF KINGS – God is in charge of history. He is greater than any angel or man. Everything from Creation until the end of the world is under the ultimate control of God. He can therefore look after us so we know that we are safe in the King's hands.

GOD IS TOTALLY GOOD – God is absolutely perfect in all His ways. The Bible tells us that Jesus Christ was tempted in every way like us but was without sin. He who knew no sin was made sin for us so that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.

GOD IS PERFECTLY JUST – God is fair to all. He is not willing that any should perish. However, He has to judge sin. He provided a perfect plan in which His Son, a perfect person, was sacrificed to satisfy His justice and allow us to have fellowship with Him

GOD IS PERFECT LOVE – God loves us with a perfect love. He loves us with the same love that He loves His Son the Lord Jesus Christ. Love casts out all fear. Recognising the perfect love of God will give us great confidence in our future.

GOD IS ETERNAL LIFE – God has always existed. Before creation He was there and He will be there forever more. God loves us so much that He sacrificed His only Son, that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life

GOD KNOWS EVERYTHING – God knows absolutely everything. This is because God is outside time. He knew exactly when you would trust in Christ, He knew the sins we would commit and was able to judge them all at the Cross two thousand years ago.

GOD IS SUPREMEPLY POWERFUL – the Gospel of John tells us that we are in the hands of God and that no one is able to take us out of those hands. Jesus Christ not only created the universe but by His power he holds it all together. What a mighty God we serve.

GOD IS EVERYWHERE – God is ever present wherever you go in the universe. Whether you are in the deepest mine or on the Moon, God is there. There is no place where you can find that God is not with you. Even as one goes through the valley of the shadow of death He is there.

GOD IS UNCHANGEABLE - God is unlike human beings. He does not change. He is the same yesterday, today and forever. This means that the

7000 or so promises which He has given us in the Bible remain as true now as when the promise was first given

GOD IS TOTAL TRUTH – God has given us the Word of Truth for our use while we are on this earth. We can take His Bible as totally true and reliable. Jesus said I am the way, the truth and the life. His ways are not our ways so we must learn the Truth from Him and not rely on people.

God exists in three persons, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit which allows for relationships to be seen in the Godhead.

Even though they are called the Father, Son and Spirit they all have equal qualities. For instance: God the Father is just as unchangeable as God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. All three have the same Holiness, Love and Eternal Life as well as the other areas of character.

The main difference is in their responsibilities in the Plan of God. The Father is the Planner, the Son undertakes and fulfils the Plan and the Holy Spirit reveals the plan.

THE UNSAVED MAN'S RESPONSE TO THE PLAN OF SALVATION

Responses to the Plan of Salvation include outright rejection or ignoring the Plan. They can offer human good works to God but this is not acceptable to Him. Human good which is normally praised by humanity is tainted and in His sight is judged as “filthy rags”. **Isaiah 64:6**

EVALUATION AND JUDGMENTS

Both believer and unbeliever are evaluated by the Lord Jesus Christ.

The believer at the Judgment Seat of Christ 1 Corinthians 3:11-15 and the unbeliever at the Great White Throne Revelation 20:10-15 In both cases sins are not mentioned as they have been paid for by Christ at the Cross. We are however evaluated by the quality of our good works. As the believer has accepted the good work of Christ he is accepted by God. Any good works undertaken under God's direction after salvation are rewarded, but works from our human nature are burnt off. Our works are not the basis of our salvation.

Titus 3:5-7

In the case of unbelievers, as they have not obtained the Righteousness of God through faith in Christ, their works are not accepted and all are condemned to an eternal relationship with Satan.

THE CHALLENGE

Will you personally accept the fact by faith that Jesus Christ's work on the Cross was for you or will you ignore or abuse it, as Satan does? Your choice regarding who Jesus is, and what Jesus has done seals your eternal destiny. Who do you wish to spend eternity with? Satan or Jesus? It is that blunt a choice!

THE ANSWER

To be eternally saved we need to ensure that our way is God's Way. God's Way "*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life"* **John 3:16**. Jesus is unique. He said "*I am the way, the truth and the life no one comes to the Father but by me*" **John 14:6**

The limited opportunity to accept God's way ends with your death.

St Marks Congregational Church / Telephone: 041-3606060

www.stmarks.org.za / info@stmarks.org.za

St Davids Congregational Church / Telephone 041-3601127

www.stdavids.org.za / stdavids@telkomsa.net

This Tract is also available in Afrikaans and isiXhosa.