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When there is a true repentance of past sins and wrong ways in our life, and we surrender everything to Jesus—for Him to be absolute Lord of our life, we are then *born again*—a *new life* has begun. Jesus comes into our heart through His Holy Spirit—giving us *assurance* of eternal life. 1 Peter 1:5 We "Are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation."

We absolutely *must* surrender everything that is *outside* the will of God—absolutely! The Ten Commandments are recalled—Maintain a repentant attitude; Keep a forgiving mindset always; Focus every day on the Cross as a reminder what the shed Blood of Jesus accomplished! Isaiah 45:22 "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else."

Other verses remind us to Surrender Everything to God, because Acts 4:12 "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." It is the only Way; the only Truth; and the only Life! John 14:6. 1 Timothy 2:5 "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus."

Hell is a real place—we need to be *convinced* of its reality and to be *warned* never to even *think* of going there. Some people do not *believe* there *is* such a place as Hell, but what they believe doesn't *change* anything—it only matters what is *true*! We can believe the earth is flat, but it is not.

Hell is very real—Jesus spoke of it 33 times—describing its horrors in graphic detail!

There a *many* false religions—Hindus believe in reincarnation—physically returning to life on earth until one gets it right—but the Bible *refutes* that delusion. When Jesus said we must be *born again*, He meant a *spiritual* birth, not a physical one. When we *trust* in the shed Blood of Jesus, we are reborn spiritually into God's family.

When a person passes from this earth, they go to one of two places—Heaven or Hell! They do not return to earth in another form. Job 16:22 "When a few years are come, then I shall go the way whence I shall not return." NIV "Only a few years will pass before I go on the journey of no return."

There are sceptics that try to find something that God *cannot* do, trying to cause doubt or unbelief. There are actually several things God cannot do—He cannot *lie*; He cannot *sin*; and He cannot *not* love someone—those things are outside of His character.

There are people who think there is no God because there is so much *evil* in the world, but evil does *not* prove that there is no God—it only proves that there is *evil*. Love, by its definition, demands a choice—we *choose* to love those we love.

The evil seen in the world today is because people choose *not* to love God *nor* obey His commands. If we truly *believed* that people are made in the *image of God*, we may *not* do things that we *do* to people. In the Garden of Eden there was no death until sin entered. And thanks to a loving God there is no death in Heaven because there is no *sin* in Heaven.

God has made Himself available to everyone—Titus 2:11 "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men." Even if a person has never read the Bible, they still can know He lives and gives salvation to all who surrender everything to Him and truly trust Him for things in this life. Romans 1:20 "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse."

Since God's grace has appeared to everyone, but so many *still* go to the Lake of Fire, then it proves that they have made a choice—they have *rejected* God and have selfishly *chosen* their own way—just like Adam did in the garden. If anyone is willing to *surrender everything* to God, and to *trust* in His mighty power from that time, He *promises* that they will be 1 Peter 1:5 "Kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation."

There are, unfortunately, people who do not go to church because, they say, *the church is full of hypocrites!* We only have to compare the actions of *followers* of Christ, with the actions of *supposed* followers of Him. There are hypocrites everywhere—walking in malls and shopping in stores, but that does not keep us from going to the mall or shopping; there are hypocrites in restaurants, but that does not hinder us from eating there.

It is not a valid argument nor an excuse to not attend church services because we think someone, or many, are not sincere. No one should let *anything*, or *anyone* stop them from finding out more about the one true God who loves us unconditionally and wants us to *surrender everything* to Him. God is very patient and loving—His desire 2 Peter 3:9 "*That all should come to repentance*."

The *resurrection* of Jesus—an historical event that sets Him apart from all other human beings—is the *foundation* of all faith and the *basis* of our beliefs. When told that faith in the Atonement sacrifice of Jesus is the *only way* to Heaven, some people think that is a very bold statement to make—unless, of course, it can be backed up. When we know about Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, we also know that only *He* can say what He said—only *He* can make that bold, but very *true*, statement: John 14:6 "*I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*" The resurrection substantiates the words of Jesus and eyewitnesses give testimony that the resurrection actually took place!

Surrendering everything to Jesus becomes increasingly more important and urgent. The signs of the times should convince us to surrender everything to Jesus. He is our Lord and Savior and Redeemer! We should know the time— Romans 13:11 "That now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed."

So many people for so many centuries never seem to realize the need to *surrender everything* to the living God. So many are asleep spiritually and need to wake up to the nearness of the Lord's return. Romans 13:12 *"The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light."*

Jesus said John 8:12 "I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." That spiritual light is given to those willing to believe and willing to trust God. Time is precious; we must not waste it.

Statistics say that every day 150,000 souls die and enter eternity. It is most unfortunate that so many—a *vast* majority—are *not* spiritually prepared in the least to enter eternity. That, however, does not change the fact that they have already *experienced* their eternal destination.

The apostle Paul was so zealous about giving the true Gospel message to all who would listen to him, said Romans 10:1 "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved." He so wanted his fellow Israelites to surrender everything to Jesus and live the Truth of the Gospel, that he continually prayed for their salvation—that they would *realize* the necessity of believing in the resurrection power of Christ to be saved.

He said Romans 9:2 "My heart is filled with bitter sorrow and unending grief 3 for my people, my Jewish brothers and sisters. I would be willing to be forever cursed—cut off from Christ!—if that would save them. 4 They are the people of Israel, chosen to be God's special children. God revealed his glory to them. He made covenants with them and gave his law to them."

The apostle would literally give up being saved, if that would save his Jewish friends—if it would have them realize the *need* to totally *surrender* their life to Jesus. Ever since his conversion Acts 9, he lived every minute for his Master—he had totally *surrendered* his life to Him. He loved his friends so much, that he would do anything to see them accepting Christ and going to Heaven.

Surrendering everything means forsaking anything that is outside the will of God—including any interest; reading material; any attitude; laid-up treasures; or anything else that the Bible gives clear guidelines and instructions about.

The apostle always spoke Ephesians 4:15 "The truth in love"—so that we "may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ." He added Ephesians 4:24 "Put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness;" and concluded with Ephesians 4:32 "Be kind and compassionate to one another, for-giving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." That is all part of surrendering everything to the Lord!

No one can hold anything back from the Master, and still say they are following Him. Jesus said Luke 14:33 "Whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath [give up everything; that is outside the will of God], he cannot be my disciple." He also said Matthew 7:20 "Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them." And Titus 1:16 "They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him."

Whether we love *the Lord* or love *the world*—it will be evident by how we spend our time and our money. How do we spend our Friday and Saturday nights—is the question to ask. People spend time with their *children* because they *love* them; we should likewise spend time in the *Word* because we *love* Him—and we want to know more about what He did to save us from a horrible fate.

Titus 2:7 "In all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, 8 sound speech that cannot be condemned." Surrendering everything to God means asking Him to control everything we say and the conversations we have.

We should always be honest; keep our conscience clear; and talk in ways that shines a light for the Lord—because 1 John 3:10 "In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest:"

He added "Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother. 11 For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another"—not some; not a few; but love all!

We do not criticize nor condemn those we love—therefore, we should not criticize nor condemn anyone else either. *Surrendering Everything* means we are *praying continually* for them because we "*Love one another*!"

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