

Heading in the Right Direction!

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There has never been a more *crucial* time to be sure we are heading in the right direction toward the right destination—never a more *critical* time! With the spiritual condition of the world what it is today, *this* is the day to give our heart and life totally to God—with no idols! As the world worsens spiritually every day, we need to take spiritual inventory of our life—asking God to enlighten us *more* to His Truth, and to inspire us *more* in spiritual matters.

We know that there is overwhelming evidence for the Truth of the Bible. The God whom we serve and trust has incredible power—and He is willing to do amazing things for those who *believe* Him and *trust* Him in *faith* for everything in *life*.

Psalm 89:11 “*The heavens are thine, the earth also is thine: as for the world and the fulness thereof, thou hast founded them.*” Isaiah 44:24 “*Thus saith the LORD, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the LORD that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself.*” Revelation 4:11 “*Thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.*” If we *believe* that—we live *that*!

There should be no doubt that God *created* the universe—therefore He can do any lesser thing. He *knows* what is best for us and He *knows* how we can be heading in the *right direction* to the *right destination*—toward eternal living in Paradise—it is all explained in the Bible.

Knowing of His *creating* power gives us confidence in His *healing* power and *protecting* ability. 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.*” Mark 5:34 “*Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole.*” 2 Thessalonians 3:3 “*The Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.*”

There are millions of people in the world who refuse to admit that there is an all-powerful God who requires our love and our trust. Psalm 14:1 “*The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God.*” Only someone blinded by the devil could know of all the evidence and still say there is no God who created it—One who is *the Supreme Being; the Creator and Ruler of all that is; the Self-existent One who is perfect in power, goodness and wisdom.*

God requires that we *believe* Him and *trust* Him because—He Acts 17:31 “*Hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained.*” He is truthful John 14:6, and holy 1 John 1:5; shows compassion 2 Corinthians 1:3; and forgives all those who repent of their sins and confess them before Him 1 John 1:9.

It is amazing that God wants us to be in His presence and to live with Him forever. Luke 12:32 “*Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.*” God is infinite in wisdom; unchanging in mercy; loving, caring, and waiting for us to believe *He is* who He *says He is*.

God is described Isaiah 6:1 “*I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple.*” A seraphim says 3 “*Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!*” 4 “*The house was filled with smoke.*” 5 “*So I said: Woe is me,*

for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips”—and “*My eyes have seen the King, The LORD of hosts.*” We can only admit our spiritual condition to God in that way—and have the same humble spirit the prophet had—crying out for God’s mercy and grace.

There are only *one* of *two* destinations for us when this life on earth is over. Heaven is where all true believers go; It is where God lives and is worshipped continually and forever. We are permitted to store-up treasure—but only in Heaven. It is a place of exceeding joy; We will know others who are there, and God has prepared a special place for us.

It is home—finally and forever with no pain, no suffering, no sorrow nor tears—no anguish, distress, affliction, or hardship of any kind. It is a place of absolute holiness, unsurpassed beauty, total perfection, heavenly-light and divine love.

It is why the apostle said Philippians 1:21 “*For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.*” It is a much better place than earth, and anyone should be yearning to go to this marvelous place—to be with God forever! And yes, to get there, we have to be *heading in the right direction*.

Jesus told us John 17:3 “*This is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.*” The best part—there is never any leaving; no good-bye’s; no parting; no ending—just eternal living for infinity!

The *other* destination that the majority chooses to go to is also for infinity. It was originally made for the devil and his followers. It is forever and irreversible—no one gets *out*, once they go *in*. It is a place of conscious torment; weeping and gnashing of teeth—described as a burning lake of sulfur—*brimstone* is burning sulfur.

It is where we would remember how it once was and recall all the earthly pleasures we chose in unbelief instead of choosing Jesus in believing faith. It is a place of hopelessness and suffering—and a place for all those who reject the Savior who died on the Cross for them! It is refusing the Atonement for sins He *made for them*. No one would *ever* want to go to Hell—not for a second!

God doesn't want anyone to go there *either*; 2 Peter 3:9 "*The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.*" God wants us in *Heaven*, and we should want to be *there*, so the question is—How do we get there, and what is *required* to enter?

Knowing the character of God enables us to answer those questions. God is *holy*, which means *separate* from all that is *unholy*. He is perfect in goodness and righteousness—but we all Romans 3:23 "*Have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.*" We would like to *think* we are good, but God says we have all fallen *short* of His standard—so we need to *know* His standard.

Romans 7:7 "*What shall we say, then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! Indeed I would not have known what sin was except through the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, 'Do not covet.'*"

A man asked Jesus how to qualify for Heaven—Matthew 19:16 "*Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? 17 And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.*

18 "*He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, 19 Honour thy father and thy*

mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."

The man said he had kept all of them—but we know that he could *not* have because he was not *willing* to be scriptural on finances. Jesus told Him he *lacked* one thing and added Matthew 19:21 "*If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.*" The man was *not willing*, so God was *not* in first place.

Just as there are earthly laws everyone is to obey, God has moral laws we are to obey. This Law is what God gave to Moses on Mt. Sinai—called The Ten Commandments. Exodus 20:1 "*And God spake all these words, saying, 2 I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. 3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.*"

God must have the preeminent place in our heart as we *worship, serve, and trust* Him every day for everything. There is not to be *anyone, anything, or any interest* that would come between us and Him—*nothing* can be more important than God. We can *know* if there is something more important by asking: What takes up most of our *time, our thoughts and interest?*

Exodus 20:4 "*Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth*"—no statues and not anything even similar—*nothing* can be placed ahead of God—no entertainment; no sports; no music, money, person, or job can take the place of God in our life and heart—no idols!

Exodus 20:7 "*Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.*" Anyone who says they are a believer in God, cannot talk differently than a believer would talk at any time or in any situation. God's name is holy,

so our prayer is "*Hallowed be Thy Name.*" His name cannot be used carelessly as so many do in the world.

Exodus 20:8 "*Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.*" We are to honor God *every* day, but one day is dedicated especially to Him—spending time in prayer, in meditation, and in church services where His full Truth is spoken and the precious hymns still sung. If we want to know *how* to keep the Sabbath holy, God will *show us* how to set that one day aside for Him.

Exodus 20:12 "*Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.*" We should always show respect and gratitude toward the two people God gave to raise us and train us. Loving our parents and obeying them go together, just as loving God and obeying His Word go together. John 14:15 "*If ye love me, keep my commandments.*"

If we love God and obey the teaching of His Son, we would be *heading in the right direction* to the *right destination!* Only *one destination* of two is the *right* one—where God and His Son live forever and ever—high and lifted-up. And He wants us to be there *with* Them! But our *trusting* Him in *faith* and forgiving others in *love*—well, that's *our* decision!



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