

One Life Separates Two Destinies!



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With the spiritual condition of the world deteriorating every day, it is time to look closely into our heart, our life, and our attitudes toward everything and everyone, so that we are not caught by surprise when Jesus returns. Only an *attitude* separated the two on either side of Jesus at His crucifixion. Both thieves went to two *much different* destinies!

The *Overwhelming Evidence* of the Bible and many things in creation, prove that the *Accuracy of the Word* is undeniable—with many prophecies already being fulfilled. Now that God has given us *His Truth*, we move on and look into what the Bible says about *faith and trust, personal choice, and Eternal Life*.

Ecclesiastes 3:1 “*To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: 2 A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted.*” As the day of Christ’s return comes ever closer, it is time to take inventory of our *spiritual* condition—our *attitudes* toward everyone and everything. *Attitude* is an *indicator of the heart!*

God has put an *awareness* of *eternity* in everyone’s heart. We *know* intuitively that there is *more* than just *this* life—there *is* something beyond the grave. 1 Thessalonians 5:23 “*I pray God your*

whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” The body *stays*, but our soul and spirit *live on and on into eternity*—we *must* check in to the right place!

It was once said: *Between us and Heaven or Hell, there is only life, which is the frailest thing in the world!* That is a frightening thought, but if we have truly trusted God in *this* life, then we have hope for the next—anticipating a glorious kingdom. We persevere in our faith in God; 2 Corinthians 4:17 “*For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.*”

We have to keep our *focus* and *faith* on the Blood of Christ since He *made* that *sacrifice* for us—to work out the *plan* of His Father. We must *follow* that plan by *keeping* our faith and focus on Him. 2 Corinthians 4:18 “*While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.*” We will be somewhere *after* this life a whole lot longer than time spent here.

The only important thing as the return of Christ approaches, is what we *do* with the *teaching* of the Bible—whether we *believed* Him whom God has sent John 6:29; and if we really put our *faith* in Him for everything. If we have truly trusted Him in *this* life, we will surely be *with* Him in the *next* life; but if we have *not* trusted Him, we will be *separated* from Him forever!

Only *eternal* things matter—*not* the temporary. We are often more concerned about *things* and *interests* and *possessions* here in *this* life, than we are about where we will spend *eternity* in the next—even though Jesus warned us Luke 12:15 “*Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.*”

Jesus then told a parable on financial trust. A man who was prosperous and had accumulated many *things*, decided to store it all in larger bins. Luke 12:19 “*I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.’ 20 But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?’ 21 ‘So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.’*”

To leave this life, is to go on a journey from which there is *no return*. No one wants to be labeled a *fool* in this life and *certainly* not in the next. We do not *ever* want to find out that we have been a *fool* the minute after we leave this life. The apostle said 2 Corinthians 5:7 “*(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)*”—he went on to write—8 “*We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.*” The key is walking the walk of trusting God every day!

Life offers many choices every day—what we will *eat*; what should we *wear*; what duties do I take care of first; what am I doing after work, and many such choices, but eternity offers just *two* choices. This one life separates two destinies! We will check in at one or the other!

Everyone will wind up in *one* of two places after leaving this world. Daniel 12:2 “*Many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.*” We will be fully awake and aware—either happy in Heaven or dishonored in Hell.

God has a much better view of eternity than we do—and He wants us to know the Truth, so we can spend eternity with Him. He wrote the Bible so we would know what awaits us on the other side. 1 John 5:13 “*These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal*

life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.”

To believe on the Name, is to obey the Word—not to store treasure on earth—compelling us to trust on God every day for everything. To believe on the Name, is to forgive from the heart—not thinking about what happened and not telling others what was done to us. To believe on the Name, is to trust God for healing if oppressed, and to show mercy toward everyone, like the Samaritan did—Luke 10:37, “Go and do likewise.”

A recent survey said that 76% of Americans believe Heaven exists; 46% describe it as *A state of eternal existence in God’s presence*; while 30% view it as *An actual place of rest and reward where souls go after death*. Another 14% think Heaven is just symbolic. What we think about Heaven is very important—but even more important—how do we make it our destination!

Many think Heaven is a place of personal enjoyment and having every whim catered to, but that seems selfish and self-serving—much like here on earth—where many strive to get what they think they want, even at the expense of others. Heaven is Hebrews 11:16 “A better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.”

Jesus said Heaven has many dwelling places, like a mansion, and He is preparing a place for believers in Him John 14:2. In Heaven, there is no corruption or decay—everything is divinely protected. He tells us to Matthew 6:20 “Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal.”

We will have new spiritual bodies that are healthy and free from ailments and physical oppressions. 1 Corinthians 15:44 “It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.”

In Heaven, there is no hunger or thirst; no sorrow or pain—ever! Revelation 7:17 “For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.” We have one life to decide correctly, and one life to trust God sincerely.

Heaven is where God, Jesus, and holy angels will be—but is it where we can be! We have one life to decide who we believe; who we trust; and what plan we want to follow—it is to decide to accept and follow the plan of the Lord by faith, or follow the way of the world by unbelief. God wants us to have Heaven; do we want it enough to live by faith in Him for it—that is the question! Jesus said Luke 12:32 “Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.”

A child once said—as they looked up at a beautiful summer sky—*If Heaven is that beautiful on the outside, I wonder how beautiful it must be on the inside!* We cannot imagine how majestic Heaven really is! 1 Corinthians 2:9 “Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.”

Heaven has streets of gold and walls made of pearls, emeralds, and precious stones. What we highly value here on earth, is what we walk on in Heaven—ordinary paving material. The grandeur and majesty of Heaven cannot adequately be described. Heaven is where we talk face to face with the Creator of the universe; and where we walk with the Savior forever—any time or all the time!

We have one life to decide in whom we will trust and whom we believe. We all get to choose—whom is telling the truth. The Creator of everything gave everyone that gift and that responsibility! We get to choose our own destiny, because we decide in this life what plan of life we

will follow. Whoever we listen to, and whose word we accept as true, will control our life and our attitudes from that point—and it will point our life toward one of two destinations!

Since we get to choose, then we also get to decide—if we want to repent and turn our life over to God for Him to have His way with us; or we can stay rebellious and follow the world’s way of life.

There are really only two kinds of people—those who say: *Thy will be done*, and those who say: *My will was done!* We have one life to decide—to trust and obey our Lord and Savior—John 14:15 “If ye love me, keep my commandments;” or to rebel and follow the world.

God had everything written in the Bible that would inform us how to live a life that would lead to His kingdom. It is not difficult—just a decision to trust and obey the One we believe is telling the truth. Romans 6:16 “Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one’s slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?” One life to decide and one life separates two destinies!

The time to decide to believe Jesus is who He says He is—our Redeemer; our Lord; and the Master of our life—following Him in trusting faith every day for every aspect of our life—health, healing, supplies, justice, peace, and forgiveness toward everyone, is now without hesitating! It is the only way to be ready to see Him and go back with Him to eternity!



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