

# The Way Seems Right!



#2871 0823 20A  
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Our life can *seem* to be going in a right direction, but it must be according to God's *will* and *Word*—which reminds us Proverbs 16:25 “*There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.*” It is not what *seems* to be right, but what the *Word* says is right. Jesus is John 14:6 “*The way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*” Our *way in this life*, as Jesus describes in the *Gospels*, is what we need to examine.

Today, we are going in *one* of *two* directions—either *toward* God and His Truth, or *away* from Him and His Truth. We should think about the *doctrine* we live by; the attitudes we have; what is *important* to us; and are we *heading* in the *right* direction—because our *doctrine* will *determine* our *destiny* in the final analysis.

*Thoughtful* questions usually give *honest* answers. Can we *live* any way we want and still get to Heaven; can we *hold* bitter feelings toward someone and still have access to God's kingdom; can we *depend* on drugs and doctors and still be acceptable to God; can we *keep* retirement money in a bank and still have eternal life—all are *vital* questions that need *truthful* answers.

The devil likes to have us create our *own* ideas about life and what is the *right* way to go—it feeds our *pride* and keeps us in *charge*. The Bible says there is “*No new thing under the sun*” Ecclesiastes 1:9—so all supposed *new* ideas are just *old* ideas from the *same* enemy of everyone—who loves to *feed* our pride and to *offer* things that oppose God's Word.

The *honest* response to those questions would be—that all resentment must be *removed* from our heart by God, if we want to be eligible for His kingdom; our *faith* and *dependence* must be on the resurrection power of *Christ* when oppressed in body, if we want to be accepted into Heaven; and our *trust* is to be on God's faithfulness to supply our needs without laid-up money or worldly financial plans—if eternal life is our goal.

There are *fables* being *taught* and false *doctrines* being *preached* today—we must be *aware* of them; be *informed* of them; be *sure* that we are not being *deceived* by them. The *doctrine of election* is a lie from the devil, because if we were *not* able to repent, confess, and forsake our sins—due to the fact that we were *not elected* for salvation, then we would *have* an excuse—but the truth is that we do *not* have *any* excuse for not knowing and not living God's Truth—no excuse!

Romans 1:18 “*For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; 19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. 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.*”

Because of God's amazing *creation*, no one will have any *excuse* on Judgment Day—*no* excuse why they did not seek to *know* God; to find

out from His Word what He is *willing* to do for them; and asking Him every day for spiritual *light* by *accepting* the gift of His Spirit to help them along the way. Then, they decide to put their entire *faith* in His divine *power*—*that* is the right way!

The apostle was *inspired* to write 1 John 4:7 “*Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.*” If the *doctrine of election* were true, God would be compelled to withhold *grace* from *millions* of people—which He would never do!

The truth is that God gave everyone a *choice* from the very beginning Deuteronomy 30:19 “*I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.*”

We *can* and *must* choose the life of Christ—loving everyone—so we would be heading in the right direction—*that* is the right way. The life of Christ is a *forgiving* spirit; a *trusting* faith on God; and *learning* every day to *love* every *person*—just as *He* loves us!

From cover to cover, every Bible character had to make *decisions*—and everyone today is *still* responsible to make choices on a variety of issues. Everyone has the responsibility to *choose* God or *not* choose God; to *follow* the Lord or *follow* the world; to *believe* and be saved or *rebel* and be lost. Our *choices* determine our *direction* and our *destination*!

Thinking we are okay *without* any *faith* in God, or without any *trust* on the mighty name of Jesus, is a serious issue, because it concerns the *character* and *faithfulness* of God. It is not just a *secondary* issue but a *primary* one; it is not a *side* issue but the *main* factor. Knowing the *character* of God and following the *Gospel* plan of salvation is *vital*ly important!

The false *doctrine of election* means that some of our children will be saved and some may not—and there would be nothing we could do about it. In other words, if we *train up a child* in the way they should go, and we *teach them the Truth of God* every day—when they sit down, rise up, walk by the way, and lie down at night Deut. 6:6-9—that *that* would have no effect on how they turn out because they have already been *elected* or *rejected* by God—doctrine of election is a *wicked lie* from the devil.

*Doctrine* means *teaching* how to live a godly life. Proverbs 22:6 “*Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.*” That involves a choice on *their* part to choose the right way—it has *nothing* to do with being *elected*, but *all* to do with making right *choices* as they were taught from childhood.

A continual reading of the Bible every day, and by the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit, we will be able to spot false doctrines that are everywhere today. Titus 1:9 “*Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers [those who oppose it].*”

Sound doctrine is absolutely necessary if eternal life is our goal. 2 John 1:9 “*Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son.*” The *doctrine of Christ* is faithful trust on God the Father for everything.

Wrong doctrines have deceived *far too many* for *far too long*—we need the *right* information right *now* so we will not be *deceived* by wrong preaching. Ephesians 4:14 “*That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive.*”

We should want to *know* the Scriptures, so we can head in the *right direction*, to the *right destination*. If we know what Jesus *said*, we will not be deceived by what someone *thinks*. If we know what the Bible *teaches*, we will not be deceived by what someone *preaches*.

The Sadducees believed there is no resurrection—which would head them in the *wrong* direction to the *worst* fate imaginable. Jesus had to tell them Matthew 22:29 “*Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God.*” They were in serious *error* because of not knowing the *Scriptures*, and not knowing the *power* of God that brought His Son Jesus *back* to life.

The Bible is *not* a *buffet* from which we can *pick* and *choose* what we want to believe, or what fits our thinking, and ignoring what we do *not* want to follow and does *not* fit into our plans. The *pride* in our heart wants to follow our own way in life—but it can be going in the *wrong* direction, and leading to the *wrong* place. Proverbs 16:25 “*There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.*”

Jesus said that those on the *left* followed a *wrong* doctrine, and those on the *right* went in the *right* direction—leading to a heavenly kingdom. Matthew 25:41 “*Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.*” Those on His left showed no *mercy*; no *concern*; and no *love* for those who needed all three.

Those on His *left* wanted to know why their *fate* was so *dreadful*—it was because they did not have the *love of God* in their heart, so they showed *none* to anyone else. Matthew 25:45 “*Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.*” 46 *And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous*—who had the love of God in

their heart and *helped* those who needed it—“*into life eternal.*”

God says that if a false *prophet* says Deuteronomy 13:2 “*Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them; 3 Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.*”

The right *plan* that leads to the right *home* is Deuteronomy 13:4 “*Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him.*” If the teaching or preaching is not the *Truth* of the Bible, we should distance ourselves from it immediately.

Today is *not* the day to *water down* any spiritual message on *faith* and *trust*—it is *not* the time for the *church* to *compromise* on *faith* issues—but it *is* time for the church to speak God’s *Truth*—nothing *less* and nothing *added*. Jeremiah 23:29 “*Is not My word like a fire?*” says the *LORD*, “*And like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?*”

There is *one direction* in which to be heading; and *one eternity* we must be assured of receiving. Jesus said to some Jewish believers John 8:31 “*If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; 32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free*”—free from sinful ways and wrong *attitudes*—and heading in the *right* direction to the *right* destination!



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