

The Default Destination!

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1 The Triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem—**Matthew 21:9**, with the people shouting “*Hosanna to the Son of David!*” *Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord Hosanna in the highest!*”

2 And His subsequent journey to the Cross to atone for our sins is why the *Default* does not have to be our *Destination*.

3 Every day we make many decisions on a multitude of issues, but one decision eclipses them all—whether we are thinking of the *Word of God* or going with the default of *the world*—

4 AV **Matthew 6:14** “*If ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: 15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.*”

5 That is an extremely important decision—*Forgive* and *be forgiven*; or *not* forgive and *not* be forgiven. Our *decision* will *decide* our *destiny* in the final analysis.

6 AV **Mark 11:25** “*When ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.*”

7 We decide whether we forgive someone or not forgive them—ultimately deciding our

destination, because if we withhold forgiveness to anyone, we are also rejecting God mercy and forgiveness that He wants to give us.

8 NIV **Colossians 3:12** “*Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.*”

9 God has given everyone that responsibility—to *decide* whether to forgive or *not* forgive; to obey His Word or *not* obey it. His Word clearly states—“*Forgive as the Lord forgave you*”—adding **14** “*Over all these virtues put on love.*”

10 To stand before God dressed in the righteousness of Christ means we are forgiven of the sins we have committed and that includes *forgiving* everyone from the heart.

11 We cannot withhold forgiveness from anyone and thinking we will forgive them later. *Today* is the day; *Now* is the time to forgive—do not delay.

12 WEY **John 3:18** “*He who trusts in [Jesus] does not come up for judgement. He who does not trust has already received sentence.*”

13 That is the critical issue—trusting Jesus in faith to right every wrong done against us.

14 We decide who we *believe* can correct wrongs; and we decide who we trust to do it right—and it *can* decide our destination—“*Forgive as the Lord forgave you.*”

15 Jesus is the only One who can save us from a horrible fate—and His return could happen any second—like stepping on a trap!

16 NIV **Luke 21:34** “*Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with dissipation [indulgence, excess], drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you unexpectedly like a trap*” **1 Corinthians 15:52**.

17 No one can waste time—we have *this day*; *this time* to decide that with God’s help, we will *forgive* anyone to whom we feel resentful. We have all the *warnings* needed to escape the fate of the unforgiven.

18 We have been instructed—to live in *love* and *forgiveness* by the power of the Holy Spirit, and enjoy the mercy of God extended to us.

19 No one need be caught off-guard—NKJV **1 Thessalonians 5:2** “*For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night*”—quickly, suddenly, and unexpected.

20 We are not guaranteed tomorrow—read God’s Word with keen interest, taking notes, and asking God to help us understand AV **2 Corinthians 6:2** “*Now is the accepted time.*”

21 We should not lay our head on the pillow at night unless we are *sure* that we have asked God to forgive us of our sins, and knowing we have *been* forgiven by asking Him to help us forgive anyone who has offended us; harmed us; lied about us; or wronged us in any way.

22 Every day we pray AV **Matthew 6:12** “*Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.*”

23 Every day we must be sure NIV **Mark 11:25** “*If you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins.*”

24 God gives a very simple *solution* to a very huge *problem*—just *forgive* with His help.

25 Jesus is the *Way*; the *Truth*, and the *Life* **John 14:6**—that is why He gave *His* life and rose *to* life, so that *our* life and *our* destination would be with Him forever.

26 The world today is in a default destination mode by *not* forgiving others! Let us not be of that mind-set, but to zealously accept the only way to be assured of the right destination.

27 Jesus was crucified on the cross and rose from the grave three days later to give us a *choice* and a *hope* of Heaven. Without Jesus there is no Christianity.

28 The question facing us—*What do we do with the Truth God has given us?* Only *He* can take us *out* of this world of sin, wickedness, and rebellion—and *into* His marvelous kingdom of light.

29 Only by faith in Him and following the Lord's Prayer **NLT Matthew 6:12** "*Forgive us our sins, just as we have forgiven those who have sinned against us*" will Paradise be possible.

30 Everyone eventually leaves this world and maybe soon—and we must have the *right ticket* to the *right place*, because everyone gets a one-way ticket to eternity—be it Heaven or Hades.

31 For it to be Heaven our ticket must be signed in *red*—with the Blood Jesus *shed* for us.

32 We either arrive in *Heaven* as God's child, or we land in *Hell* as Satan's follower. There is *no in-*

between—we either arrive at *one* or the *other* destination—and both are *forever!*

33 No one can enter Heaven by their own ability—we have to reach for the nail-scarred hand of the Savior—who clearly told us **Colossians 3:13** "*Forgive as the Lord forgave you.*"

34 Everyone must make the *decision* to listen, learn, and follow the Lord's commands—concerning every difficult situation facing them; and every offensive person insulting them. We must place every wrong at the foot of the Cross—and *leave* it there.

35 To go to the worst place imaginable, all anyone has to do is do *nothing*, since everyone is born with a *sinful default attitude*—an attitude that will *not listen to* God and *will not obey* His commands.

36 We must *deal* with the attitude we began life with—because the *default destination* is the worst fate imaginable.

37 God formed a *plan* for our *destiny* to be *Heaven*—but we must decide to *accept* His plan and *follow* it.

38 He sent His Son to *pay* our debt and to *pave* the way back to His kingdom. If we want Paradise, we are to *repent*; *confess* our sins; *admit* our wrong attitudes; and *accept* the Atonement Blood of Jesus in faith as full payment for our sins.

39 Satan *wants* us to sit on the fence—but sitting *on the fence* is *not deciding* one way or the other—it is accepting *the default*.

40 **AV Revelation 3:16** "*Because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.*"

41 The hope we have is the Messiah God sent—**NKJV John 3:15** "*that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.*"

42 After all the evidence that the Bible is *true*, our decision should be an *easy* one, but we often forget that the default attitude we began life with can follow us far into the Christian life—and will try to pull us *away from the light* and back to the dark ways and words of the world.

43 We have been *invited* to *Heaven* by the One we can always *trust*—**NIV Revelation 3:18** "*I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear.*"

44 By the goodness of God, may we decide that with His help, we will walk in the *light* of His Truth; we will *love* and *forgive* everyone; and we will *follow* Him until He returns for His children. **NIV John 3:19** "*Light has come into the world.*"

45 We need to *live by the Truth* Jesus gave us and walk in its *light* every day—which means to *love*, *forgive*, and give offenses over to God to right every wrong.

46 **NIV John 3:21** "*Whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God.*"



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