



WHAT HAPPENS ONCE YOU DIE?

One day, probably sooner than you think, you will reach your grave. **Your clock is ticking.** There is no need to debate this issue.

“It is appointed unto men once to die,” Hebrews 9:27

Your death is not a matter of *if*; it’s only a matter of *when*.

What Happens Once You Die?

What if Christians are wrong and there is nothing beyond the grave? No problem for them! They’re still as well off as all the rest. If Christians are right about heaven and hell, they are winners indeed; but all others are eternal losers. Either way, Christians can’t lose; but those who are not lose. Big-time!

The Bible Says...

You ask, *“So what? How do I know the Bible is true?”* The Bible has a 100% accuracy record in its predictions. Yes! Really! Check it out for yourself. There are hundreds of prophecies in the Bible and not one has ever failed. The Bible also is in complete harmony with itself. Never is there a shade of contradiction in the Bible. Imagine! Sixty-six separate books penned by dozens of men over a millennium and a half! Most of them never met. Collaboration was impossible, yet perfect harmony and total accuracy. Amazing, but no accident!

The Bible claims to be the product of God, not men. It says, *“All scripture is given by inspiration of God,”* **2 Timothy 3:16**. God dictated the words of the Bible. **2 Peter 1:21** claims *“holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”*

The Bible also says you will ultimately face God in judgment. *“As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God,”* **Romans 14:11-12**. At the judgment, the truth of God’s word (*“thy word is truth,”* **John 17:17**) will be the basis of your judgment for *“we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth,”* **Romans 2:2**.

You in the Lake of Fire?

If you are not saved, ultimately you will go to *“the lake of fire.”* *“Whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire,”* **Revelation 20:15**. If your spirit goes to that awful place, it will be because you are a sinner without a Savior. Your sins and mine put Jesus to the cross (*“Christ died for our sins,”* **1 Corinthians 15:3**), yet it will not be your sins that keep you out of heaven. If you go to that *“lake of fire,”* it will be only **because you have “not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”** Before God *“He that believeth...is not condemned; but he that believeth not is condemned already,”* **John 3:18**. Believing is not only accepting the facts; it’s a matter of trusting Christ, placing your faith in or depending on Him. It’s a deliberate choice to give up on all you are in favor of Him alone as your Savior.

Both lost and saved people are sinners. *“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us,”* **1 John 1:8**. The difference between heaven and hell is not sin; it’s a Savior. Saved men are forgiven by the blood of Jesus Christ. *“We have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins,”* **Ephesians 1:7**. Lost men have no Savior and no forgiveness. They are *“without God in the world,”* **Ephesians 2:12**.

Don't Miss It!

Good behavior is great! Men ought to tell the truth, pay their bills, live moral lives, go to church, pray and be baptized; but not in order to be saved. These are the results of salvation, not the means to receiving it. The Bible says, *"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast,"* **Ephesians 2:8-9**.

Only Jesus Christ!

Only Jesus Christ can forgive your sins, keep you out of the lake of fire and deliver or get you to heaven. *"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved,"* **Acts 4:12**.

He alone died, was buried and rose again. Yes! *Rose again!* Many others have claimed to be saviors. They are still in their graves or soon will be. In His resurrection, Jesus stands alone. This is the miracle of all miracles, the one that gave Him the living power to take care of you beyond the grave. **1 Corinthians 15:3-4** calls Jesus' death, burial and resurrection *"the gospel."* This is the powerful work by which God can make you right with Him in spite of your sins however many and bad they may be. In reality He took your death penalty upon himself and paid it in your stead. *"Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed,"* **1 Peter 2:24**. Jesus (*"God with us,"* **Matthew 1:23**) has *"finished,"* **John 19:30**, the work whereby you can be saved and experience eternity beyond the grave in heaven.

He Can Easily Be Your Savior

The instant you believe on Him in your heart, He will save you. A man in **Acts 16:30** asked, *"What must I do to be saved?"* The Bible answer is strikingly simple, *"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved,"* **Acts 16:31**. He was not instructed to pray, be baptized, join a church or do any sort of work *"for with the heart man believeth unto righteousness,"* **Romans 10:10**.

That's it! Trust Him *"In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise,"* **Ephesians 1:13**. Trust is what belief or faith is. **Acts 20:21** calls it *"repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ."* Repentance and faith are inseparable. One is impossible without the other. When in your heart you turn in simple faith from all you are to Jesus Christ as your own personal Savior, He will instantly give you the greatest gift of all, **everlasting life**. *"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him,"* **John 3:36**.

Where You Go After You Die Is Up to You

You know that you can't get yourself to heaven. When your body is a corpse, you will be powerless to do anything for yourself. Your only hope is a Savior and Jesus Christ is the only Savior there is.

What's beyond the grave for you? There are only two options. Where you go depends on what you do with Christ before you depart. You will depart. **Your clock is ticking and you can't stop it.** What you can do right now is believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and be saved. Why don't you do it? The consequences of your decision are eternal. There are no second chances beyond the grave.

One Little P.S.

If you need more help, you owe it to yourself to make contact with me (at my web address below) or your local independent church. The stakes are immeasurably high.