

Where do you expect to go after you die?

Most people would say “heaven” — is that your answer?

But are you sure? Absolutely sure?

Why would God let you into His heaven?

God tells us to be sure about our salvation.

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.** (Philippians 2:12)

I urge you to take just a few minutes to carefully read these passages of Scripture. It is of eternal importance.

Fact: God is far more holy (pure and perfect) than we realize.

So when the Lord saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, “Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.” Then He said, “Do not draw near this place. **Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground.**” Moreover He said, “I am the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” **And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God.** (Exodus 3:5-6)

And Hannah prayed and said: “My heart rejoices in the Lord; My horn is exalted in the Lord. I smile at my enemies, because I rejoice in Your salvation. **“No one is holy like the Lord, for there is none besides You, nor is there any rock like our God.** Talk no more so very proudly; let no arrogance come from your mouth, for the Lord is the God of knowledge; and by Him actions are weighed.” (1 Samuel 2:1-3)

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried to another and said: **“Holy, holy, holy is the**

Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!” And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. **So I said: “Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts.”** (Isaiah 6:1-5)

For we know Him who said, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord. And again, “The Lord will judge His people.” **It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.** (Hebrews 10:30-31)

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. **For our God is a consuming fire.** (Hebrews 12:28-29)

Fact: We are far more sinful than we think we are.

As it is written: **“There is none righteous, no, not one; there is none who understands; there is none who seeks after God.** They have all turned aside; they have together become unprofitable; **there is none who does good, no, not one.** Their throat is an open tomb; with their tongues they have practiced deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips; whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness. Their feet are swift to shed blood; destruction and misery are in their ways; and the way of peace they have not known. There is no fear of God before their eyes.” Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, **that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. ... for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.** (Romans 3:10-19, 23)

Fact: Jesus tells us that most people are going to hell.

Then one said to Him, **“Lord, are there few who are saved?”** And He said to them, **“Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able.** When once the Master of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock at the door, saying, ‘Lord, Lord, open for us,’ and He will answer and say to you, ‘I do not know you, where you are from,’ then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our

streets.' **But He will say, 'I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity.'**

There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves thrust out." (Luke 13:23-28)

Fact: Jesus also tells us that many people falsely believe they are going to heaven.

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, **'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"** (Matthew 7:21-23)

To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled. **They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him,** being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work. (Titus 1:15-16)

So, how can you be sure about your eternal destination?

Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, as newborn babes, **desire the pure milk of the word,** that you may grow thereby, if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious. (1 Peter 2:1-3)

Now the **works of the flesh** are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that **those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.** But the **fruit of the Spirit** is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. **If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.** (Galatians 5:19-25)

And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, **not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together**, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. **He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.** But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. **He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.** (1 John 2:3-6)

How did Jesus walk?

Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. And He found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers doing business. When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers' money and overturned the tables. And He said to those who sold doves, "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise!" (John 2:13-16)

"Blessed are you when men hate you, and when they exclude you, and revile you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of Man's sake. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy! For indeed your reward is great in heaven, for in like manner their fathers did to the prophets. "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full, for you shall hunger. Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep. Woe to you when all men speak well of you, for so did their fathers to the false prophets." (Luke 6:22-26)

"Do you suppose that I came to give peace on earth? I tell you, not at all, but rather division." (Jesus speaking in Luke 12:51)

Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. (1 Corinthians 10:31)

You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead? (James 2:19-20)

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