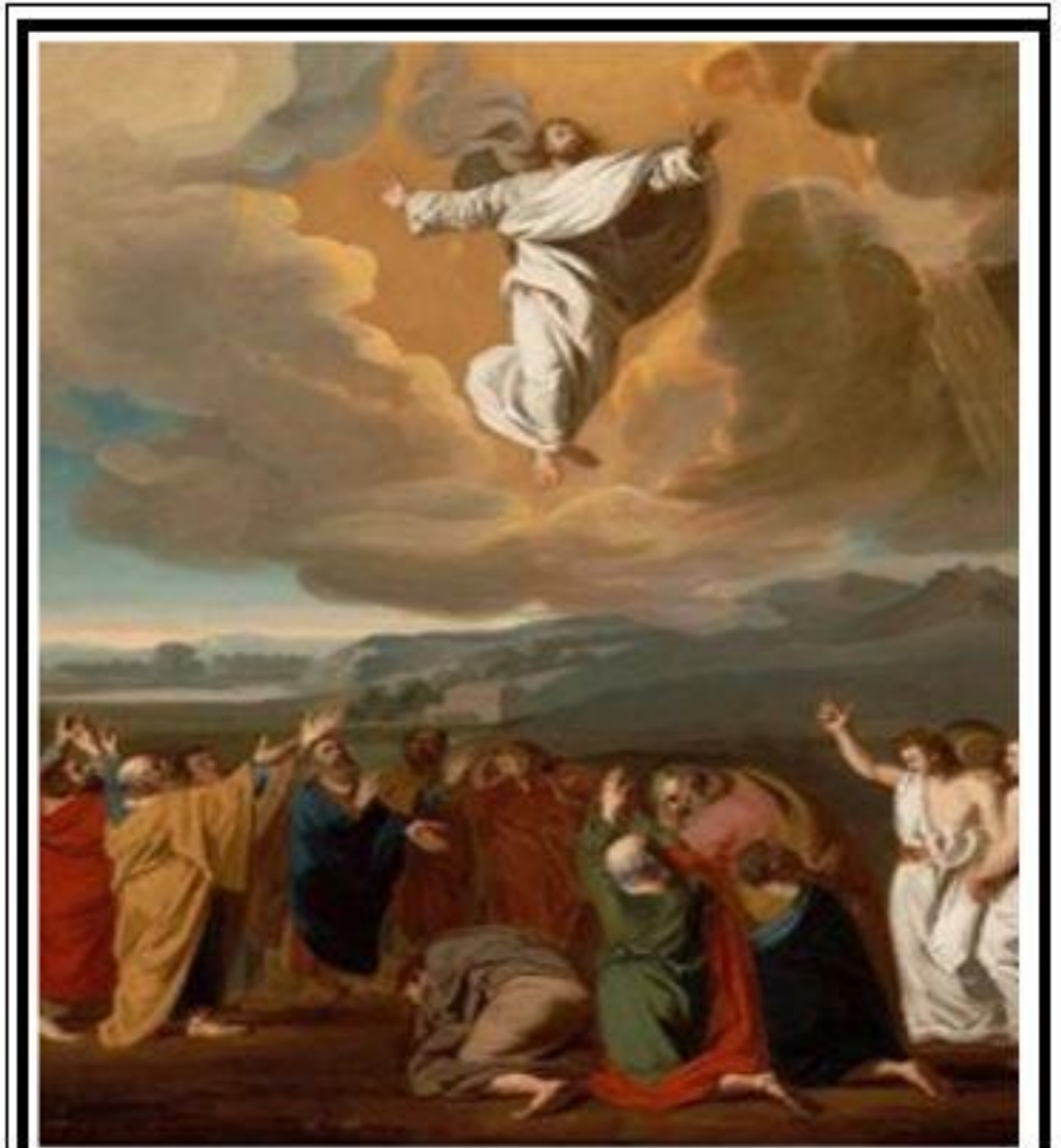


Christ's Message of Redemption



Choosing Everlasting Life or Eternal Death

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BibleWay Publishing

Topical Bible Studies

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Choosing Everlasting Life or Eternal Death

God told Abraham "By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice" (Genesis 22 16-18).

Years later God said of one of Abraham's descendants "'I have found that David, the son of Jesse, is a man after my own heart, who will carry out all my wishes.' It was from this man's descendants that God, as he promised, brought to Israel a Savior, who is Jesus" (Act 13:22-3).

One will find many prophets in the Old Testament foretold that through Abraham and the Children of Israel, a savior would come. He would be a redeemer to restore mankind back into fellowship with man's creator.

"So, with us; when we were children, we were slaves to the elemental spirits of the universe. But when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts" (Galatians 4:3-5 - RSV).

All prophecies were fulfilled in Jesus. According to Matthew Jesus stated "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished" (Matthew 5:17, 18).

Then Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been raised. As was his custom, he went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day. When he stood up to read, the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling the scroll, he found the place where it was written, 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he has anointed me to tell the good news to the poor. He has sent me to announce release to the prisoners [those in Hades, the abode of the dead souls (rd)]and recovery of sight to the blind [those following traditions rather than "the law and prophets" (rd)], to set oppressed people free, and to announce the year of the Lord's favor.' Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. While the eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fixed on him, he began to say to them, 'Today this Scripture has been fulfilled, as you've heard it read aloud'" (Luke 4:16-21).

Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. 10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." Luke 19:9-10

Therefore, Jesus, Immanuel (God with us), not having sinned offered Himself to God as the atoning sacrifice. God accepted His offering by resurrecting Him from death and the grave. This sacrifice and resurrection became the way for forgiveness of sins.

Everyone who:

- a. puts their faith and trust in Christ
- b. dies to his sinful life
- c. calls upon God to forgive
- d. is immersed into Christ
- e. is raised by God a forgiven spiritual being.

- f. clothe themselves in the fruits of the Spirit "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23b).
- g. remaining faithful they will inherit the Kingdom of Heaven receiving everlasting life with God and all the redeemed (Colossians 1:23).

"Not everyone who keeps saying to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will get into the kingdom from heaven, (Matthew 7:21).

Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? (1 Corinthians 6:9).

Everlasting Life – Heaven

Heaven is the abode of God and all the righteous and is described in human terms as magnificent and splendor.

- a. "I saw a throne in heaven with a person seated on the throne. The person sitting there looked like Jasper and Carnelian, and there was a rainbow around the throne that looked like an emerald. Around the throne were 24 other thrones, and on these thrones sat 24 elders wearing white robes and gold victor's crowns on their heads (Revelation 4:2-4).
- b. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There won't be death anymore. There won't be any grief, crying, or pain, because the first things have disappeared"(Revelation 21:4).
- c. A voice came from the throne, saying, "Praise our God, all who serve and fear him, from the least important to the most important." Then I heard what sounded like the voice of a large crowd, like the sound of raging waters, and like the sound of powerful thunderclaps, saying, "Hallelujah! The Lord our God, the Almighty, is reigning (Revelation 19:5-6).
- d. I saw no temple in it, because the Lord God Almighty and the lamb are its temple. The city doesn't need any sun or moon to give it light, because the glory of God gave it light, and the lamb was its lamp. The nations will walk in its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut at the end of the day—because there will be no night there (Revelation 21:22-25).

Those who refuse the free gift of God, the forgiveness of sins, have chosen to follow the desires of the world offered by the Devil. They will not inherit the Kingdom of Heaven. They are doomed to eternal death with the Devil in Hell with all the wicked and rebellious.

Eternal Death - Hell

Hell is the abode of the Devil, his angels, and the wicked.

- a. "All the nations will be assembled in front of him, and he will cull them out, one from another like a shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will put the sheep on his right but the goats on his left." ... "Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into the eternal fire which is prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matthew 25:32-33 ... 41).
- b. Hell is also referred to as the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death (Revelation 21:8b) where "The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place, there will be weeping and gnashing of

teeth" (Matthew 13:41).

- c. For those who have chosen Eternal Death rather than Everlasting Life for all eternity Jesus said "Not everyone who keeps saying to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will get into the kingdom from heaven, but only the person who keeps doing the will of my Father in heaven. (Matthew 7:21).
- d. The Apostle Paul was very specific on the lifestyle they chose "You know that wicked people will not inherit the kingdom of God, don't you? Stop deceiving yourselves! Sexually immoral people, idolaters, adulterers, male prostitutes, homosexuals, thieves, greedy people, drunks, slanderers, and robbers will not inherit the kingdom of God" (1 Corinthians 6:9-10). "Now the actions of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, promiscuity, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, rivalry, jealousy, outbursts of anger, quarrels, conflicts, factions, envy, murder, drunkenness, wild partying, and things like that. I am telling you now, as I have told you in the past, that people who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God" (Galatians 5:19-21).
- e. Lastly the Apostle John records "But people who are cowardly, unfaithful, detestable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars will find themselves in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur. This is the second death." (Revelation 21:8).

One's daily choice of actions will determine where one will spend eternity. What decisions will you make today? Are you going to live for the After-Life with the redeemed or the After-Death with the condemned? **Decide today – Eternity is a long time to be without the love of God!!!**

Questions

1. Did God send a savior to redeem man?
 - Yes
 - No
2. Who is the Savior?
 - God, the Father
 - Jesus, the Christ
 - Satan, the deceiver
 - Some man-made object
 - None of the above
3. Must those in Christ remain faithful to Christ?
 - True
 - False
4. Those who put their trust in Christ message of Salvation and obey will inherit Everlasting Life with God and the righteous.
 - True

False

5. Those who reject God's free gift of Salvation will receive Eternal Death with the Devil and His angels.

True

False

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