

BIBLE TRUTHS ABOUT SALVATION

LESSON ONE

The Bible teaches that we can know for certain that we will go to Heaven when we die. The Bible is God's Word and is, therefore, the final authority on the subject of salvation, which includes going to Heaven. Jesus said in Matthew 24:35, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away." He also stated in John 12:48, "The word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day." Jesus' words are the basis for the New Testament. The authority of His statements has remained constant for two thousand years and will continue to do so for eternity. Our beliefs must be based on God's Word.

According to the Jesus' statements in Matthew 7: 13-14, will there be more people who enter Heaven or miss Heaven at the end of life?

YOU CAN HAVE ETERNAL LIFE BEFORE YOU DIE.

1. Jesus taught that you can have eternal life before death. Read John 3:36; 5:24; and 6:47. In each of these verses, what does a person gain by his/her faith?

Please note that each of these verses is in the present tense. Jesus used the present tense to establish that you can have eternal life *right now*.

2. According to I John 5:13, what was one of the main reasons that I John was written?

3. Consider the apostle Paul's testimony. How did he describe death (Philippians 1:21)?

4. What two possible paths lay before the apostle Paul (Philippians 1:23-25)?

a. _____

b. _____

With whom would Paul be at his departure (death) (Philippians 1:23)?

c. _____

Did he seem to have any doubts about his future destiny (Philippians 1:23)?

d. _____

5. After Paul left his earthly body, where would he be (II Corinthians 5:8)?

6. What was the man crucified next to Christ assured of before his death (Luke 23:43)?

What kind of man was he (Luke 23:33)?

Do you think he deserved to be in Paradise?

Why or why not?

WHAT IS SIN?

The first step to a "know-so" salvation is understanding sin.

1. How do the following verses describe sin? Romans 14:23

James 4:17

I John 3:4

2. According to James 1:13-15, who cannot be blamed for our sin?

What is the source of our sin?

What is the penalty of sin?

3. According to Jesus, how many people of His day kept the law of Moses (John 7:19)?

4. How often would one have to break the law to be guilty (James 2:10)?

5. According to Jesus when does a sinful act take place (Matthew 5:28)?

6. What did Jesus say that people would have to give an account of in the day of judgment (Matthew 12:36,37)?

WHO IS GUILTY OF SIN?

Because of the prior statements describing sin, how many people do you think stand righteous before God?

1. In Romans 3:23, how many people have sinned?

2. How many people are considered just before God according to Romans 3:10-12?

3. Who stands guilty before God (Romans 3:19)?

WE HAVE HOPE OVER SIN.

Thinking honestly through the previous verses about sin could be depressing. However, the first step to a “know-so” salvation is seeing yourself as guilty before a righteous God.

1. Whom did Jesus come to call (Mark 2:17)?

The term “righteous” pictures those who think they are in good standing with God. What truth do we know from Romans 3:10?

2. Read the story of two men who went into the temple to pray (Luke 18:9-14). Describe the first man in your own words.

Describe the second man.

Whose prayer did God hear?

*Romans 5:6 says, “Christ died for the ungodly (sinners).” Many people miss the salvation God has provided for them because they never see themselves as ungodly. **First step: placing yourself in the group called “ungodly”*