"Where will you spend ETERNITY?" is the greatest and the most profound of all questions. It is intricately associated with the very meaning and purpose of life.

Richard Dawkins is without a doubt the world's best known atheist whose main passion is ridiculing the God he believes does not exist. In all his books and lectures he is clear that mindless evolution explains all of life and there is no one to whom we are accountable nor is there hope of life beyond the grave.

From his book *The God Delusion*, translated in 35 languages, Dawkins boldly states:

"I am attacking God, all gods, anything and everything supernatural, wherever and whenever they have been or will be invented." (*The God Delusion* p. 36)







Sir Isaac Newton 1642 - 1726 statue at Oxford University

Diametrically opposed to Dawkins was one of the greatest scientist ever, the physicist, mathematician and astronomer, Sir Isaac Newton.

In his magnum opus, *Principia*, which describes his laws of motion and gravity, Newton viewed the cosmos quite differently:

"This most beautiful system of the sun, planets, and comets, could only proceed from the counsel and dominion of an intelligent Being.... This Being governs all things, not as the soul of the world, but as Lord over all.... The Supreme God is a Being eternal, infinite, absolutely perfect."

Ultimately, what matters is not what is popular or even what gives you comfort. What matters is, "What is the TRUTH." Of what value is a belief system if it is not the truth?

This tract is written from the perspective that there is a God Who has revealed Himself through conscience, the creation and the Word of God, the Bible. This general revelation of conscience and creation brings us to a knowledge of God but is inadequate to tell us of His ways and purposes and how we can have fellowship with Him. For this we need His Word, the Bible.

Since the Bible is the ultimate authority and standard of truth, we quote it because it is the very mind of God. The Bible is a collection of 66 books written over 1500 years in 3 languages on 3 continents by some 40 writers. Each writer was inspired by the Spirit of God where what is recorded is infallible and inerrant in the original documents.

The Bible decrees that God's existence is clearly seen and understood by the creature, so much so that we are without excuse:

"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness. Because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse." Romans 1:18-20

Everywhere we look we see complexity, order, information and design of such staggering proportions that those who refuse to see the handy work of an almighty God simply "suppress the truth." The Psalmist in the Old Testament wrote that when we look into the heavens it is as if they are speaking:

"The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge." Psalm 19:1-2

The question, "Where will you spend ETERNITY?" has a very clear, understandable and even reasonable answer:

"And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:" Hebrews 9:27

You have an *appointment* with God. Just as God has determined when you were born and given life, likewise he has determined the day you will die. It's on the calendar. The date, time and the very moment of your death is fixed. Are you ready?

Then the judgment. Everything you've spoken both the good and bad. Everything you've looked at. Everything you've done with your hands or body. Not only the things you've done, but the things you haven't done. God will also judge you by the "light" that you experienced in this life. Any and all contact that you have had concerning His ways. Even your secrets that only you know: God knows them all.

Revelation 20:11-13 describes this day:

"And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books..."

By our own standard, we consider ourselves as a "good person." "I work hard. I try to do good to others. I take care of my family. I am a moral person. Certainly I'm not perfect but I'm good none-the-less. I do far more good than bad. I'm OK. Judgment, wrath and hell is for really wicked people."

But God's standard is much higher. God will judge all by His absolute perfection, holiness, purity and righteousness. Our conscience as well as the Ten Commandments give us a glimpse of God's standard. One sin is a serious offense to a Holy God and would keep us from heaven.

We are sinners by nature and by practice. We have broken all the commandments. To tell a single lie makes us a liar. To take something that doesn't belong to us makes us a thief. Taking God's name in vain makes us a blasphemer. Even serious sins like murder and adultery, you and I have committed as well.

Jesus Christ declared:

"That everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart." Matthew 5:28

"Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him." I John 3:15

We have committed treason against a Holy God. God has spoken clearly concerning our condition:

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23

Romans 3:10-12 declare that none are righteous:

"As it is written: There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one."

There is a wage for our sins. A wage we have earned and is due us. Justice demands it. Death. Punishment. The wrath of God. Hell.

Romans 6:23 states "the wages of sin is death". This is not only a physical death, but a spiritual death which is to experience the wrath of God in an eternal hell.

Jesus describes the judgment with these terrifying words to the wicked:

## "Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels." Matthew 25:41

So how can we escape the wrath of God that we so deserve? How can we be reconciled to a Holy God that we have offended? Is there a way?

Wonderfully, God in His grace and kindness and amazing love has provided ONE way. It will come at a great price. It will take the shedding of blood of the Holy One. Someone of infinite value and worth. A substitute. Someone to take my place. Someone to take the punishment I deserve. Someone to become sin for me. A curse for me.... the Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:8,9 tells of the love of God towards sinners:

"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him."

This message we call the good news or gospel. The Apostle Paul sums it up as follows in 1 Corinthians 15:3,4:

"For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures."

We must understand who Jesus is and what he has accomplished. It is a work of God by grace through faith alone.

Jesus, the God-Man claimed to be the ONLY way.

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me." John 14:6

This salvation is declared to be by faith and not works in Ephesians 2:8,9:

"For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast."

Not only is this saving faith a gift of God, but it is always accompanied by another gift of God: and that is repentance. A change of heart and mind. A regret and remorse over sins. A heart that desires to turn from sin. We surrender to Jesus not only as Savior but as Lord of our lives.

Jesus said this repentance is essential or you will perish:

"... but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish." Luke 13:3

The Apostle Paul summarizes this salvation for all people:

"I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus." Acts 20:21

Salvation is the work of God in the heart. It is described as being born again.

"Jesus answered and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:3

The Spirit transforms a dead heart and makes it alive, which we call being born again. We then repent and believe.

So, do works have any place in the Christian life? Of course. Our works do not in any way save us, but they are the evidence that we are true Christians.

The Scriptures tell us that we are saved or justified without works. But God has saved us that we might produce good works as the fruit of our salvation and surrender to Him as Lord.

"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them." Ephesians 2:10

"And He was saying to them all, If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake, he is the one who will save it." Luke 9:23,24

The Bible says, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved". Romans 10:13 Call upon the Lord today to save your soul. Repent and Believe. Make Him your treasure and delight.

Then grow in Him daily and tell others what Christ has done for you.

If this tract has been a blessing to you or you have questions or comments, please email jerryben@cox.net or write:



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