Heaven is a holy place and sin can never enter there (Rev. 21:22-27). We cannot work our way to heaven, nor can we claim to be without sin (1 John 1:8). We must submit to God’s way, repent of our sin and turn to Christ for our salvation (Mark 1:15, Acts 2:36-39, Rom. 10:13). It isn’t enough to believe that Jesus is the one you think He is. You must believe that He is the One He claimed to be. He is the resurrection and the life and whoever believes in Him will never die (John 11:25-26). **This is our joy of eternity!**

If you have lived with the heavy burden of trying to be good enough to get into heaven, let me invite you to lay that burden down today. It’s a burden you can’t carry. Trust in Jesus. He is the one who said, “Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.” (Matt. 11:28-29).

Romans 10:9-10 promises, “That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that thou art saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” **Come to Jesus Christ today. Humbly kneel at the cross and He will meet you there!**

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**But, I’m a good person! Why do I need God?**

If you believe morality is enough to get you into heaven, you’re not alone.
But, I’m a Good Person

If you believe morality is enough to get you into heaven, you’re not alone. Many do.

You may say, “I am a good person. I’m just as good as those who attend church, so why do I need God?” Some believe they will be rewarded after death if they simply do more good deeds than bad ones. But this is not what the Bible teaches. Our definition of ‘good’ is a standard used apart from holy Scripture. The Bible says no one is righteous (Rom. 3:10-12). We can never be made right with God by doing good or by following religious rules. Furthermore, this kind of thinking leaves us with more questions than answers. For example, how do we know how high the bar of morality is set or if we made the cut? The answers to questions like these will vary depending on who you talk to. And all are open to debate. The Bible, the only source of truth, clearly teaches that all have sinned. Even our best attempts at being good fall short of God’s glory (Rom. 3:23). According to God’s perfect standard, none are righteous (Rom. 3). We are born in sin (Ps. 51:5). The best person among us falls far short of the demands of His purity and holiness.

No one ever comes to Christ who doesn’t see Him as the One who cleanses their iniquity. If you do not believe Jesus is Savior, He said you will die in your sins (John 8:24). You may be thinking to yourself, “Well, that seems a little extreme. I’ve done so many good things. I’ve never hurt anyone. I’m not perfect but I’m certainly better than most people I know.” Don’t get caught in Satan’s trap of self-righteousness. The enemy’s work is to destroy God’s truth (2 Cor. 11:3) and he would have you believe salvation is based on human achievement (Phil. 3:1-9).

The Bible describes our righteousness as filthy rags in God’s sight (Is. 64:6) and our salvation rests entirely on His amazing grace (Eph. 2:8-9). We cannot satisfy God’s justice (Rom. 3:23-26).

We have no hope of escaping God’s judgment apart from trusting in the finished work of Jesus at Calvary. Forgiveness of sin depends on complete trust in Jesus as the Savior of all humanity. Eternal life is found only by our acceptance of His grace. How wonderful the sacrificial blood of Jesus Christ that can cleanse us from all sin!

If morality, either of character or behavior, could alone make us suitable for heaven, the death of Jesus Christ would have been unnecessary. If we could save ourselves by being good enough, our Lord’s death would be a despairing and hopeless sacrifice (Gal. 2:21). The good news is that God will reconcile us to himself by grace through our faith in the life, death, and resurrection of his Son (1 John 2:1-2). For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life (John 3:16) – such good news!

Maybe it’s this, “But, I found happiness in my life apart from Christianity.” Certainly, you may find momentary happiness without acknowledging Jesus Christ as Lord (Heb. 11:24-26). But you will never experience real contentment. Jesus said He would fill us with unspeakable joy (Rom. 15:13, 1 John 5:13). Christ alone can satisfy our spiritual thirst (John 4:13-14) and in Him we have peace that passes understanding (John 14:27). Have you said, "I just don’t feel the need for God” - as if Christianity were something that were packaged and sold? Salvation is not merely a product that’s going to add a surge of happiness to your life. It is your life.

There is a God who is altogether holy, who is perfectly just, and who declares that He is going to judge each of us according to His holiness (Acts 17:30-31). Since we come short of that standard, the only way we can escape eternal punishment in hell is through a Savior (John 12:47-48). Our best efforts, on the best days, in the best frame of heart and mind, with the best motives fall short of the true righteousness and holiness that God requires (Rom. 5:12-19).

What about sincere people? Won't God welcome them into heaven? Sincerity is not enough. Proverbs 16:25 says there is a way that seems right to us, but the end thereof are the ways of death. A works-based salvation is not the message of Christ. Whether or not one enters heaven is not dependent on a scale of good and evil, wherein we hope our good deeds outweigh the bad ones. This perspective is biblically incorrect (James 2:8-13). "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” (Eph. 2:8-9). Grace is the unmerited favor of God, demonstrated most fully in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ (Mark 15:25).

Won’t all good people go to heaven? There is a common perception that so long as one leads a generally good life, they will get into heaven because God exists and that He is all loving. Indeed, He does exist. He is the creator and sustainer of the universe and everything in it (Col. 1:16-17, Rev. 4:11). Not only is He ever present, all knowing, and all powerful, He is also all loving (1 John 4). God is personally active in His creation, yet distinct from it.