

IS YOUR BEST GOOD ENOUGH?

Have you ever thought about life after death?

A recent survey revealed that over 90% of people believe there is a heaven.

THE SURVEY RESULTS

People were asked two questions and their responses were recorded.

Question 1:

DO YOU BELIEVE YOU'LL GO TO HEAVEN WHEN YOU DIE?

1. "Yes"----- 55%
2. "Hope so not sure I'LL go there"----- 35%
3. "There is no heaven" ----- 6%
4. "No, I'm going to hell" -----4%

Question 2:

WHY WOULD YOU QUALIFY FOR HEAVEN?

1. "I'm basically a good person" ----- 60%
2. "I do the best I can"-----15%
3. "I believe in God" -----10%
4. "I go to church" ----- 8%
5. "I try to keep the Ten Commandments" 5%
6. "I haven't harmed anyone"----- 2%

You may breathe your last within the next five minutes or may live for another five years, but before you die, wouldn't it be wise to see what the Bible says about getting to heaven?

I'M BASICALLY A GOOD PERSON

Really? The Bible says if you've ever told a lie, 'pinched' something or had adulterous thoughts, you're a lying, thieving, adulterer. Now before you start protesting about others being worse than you, the Bible says: "There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness." (Proverbs 30:12). God's word also says that we're not to compare ourselves with each other, but against God's standards. (2 Corinthians 10:12). What is God's standard? Jesus says in Matthew 5:22 "But I say unto you, that whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the, judgment:"

Ever been angry? So, being basically good isn't enough to get you into heaven.

I DO THE BEST I CAN

God says "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away." (Isaiah 64:6)

This comes as a shock to those who are trying to earn their way to heaven.

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Matthew 5: 48 "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." God's standards have never changed. God doesn't give out A's, B's or C's. Only people with a 100% no sin record' are qualified to enter heaven. So you see, "doing the best you can" isn't good enough to get you into heaven.

I BELIEVE IN GOD

So you should. The Bible says: "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:" (Romans 1:20)

But God's word also says "Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble." (James 2:19)

Even the Demons believe that there is one God and this doesn't put you in good company as they're not going to heaven. So, believing in God is not enough to get you into heaven.

I GO TO CHURCH

Research has shown that going to church will help you cope with life's problems and lower your blood pressure. However, Jesus spoke of the church - going religious leaders of his day: "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness." (Matthew 23:27). So, looking and sounding religious by going to church can't get you into heaven.

I TRY TO KEEP THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

To reduce crime, governments may water down the law, but God's laws have always been the same. God requires sinless perfection. His laws can't save you - they only condemn you.

"Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound...." (Romans 5:20).

"Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin." (Romans 3:20).

So trying to keep the Ten Commandments to get into heaven just won't work.

I HAVEN'T HARMED ANYONE

The Bible says "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all." (James 2:10). So we see there are no big sins or little sins in God's eyes. Murdered fifty people or stolen one paper clip? One sin of any description is enough to disqualify you from heaven.

IS THERE ANY HOPE?

FIVE FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW:

1. You are a sinner

You are a natural born sinner. God's word declares that we are all sinners by nature. Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"

2. You will die a sinner

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The Bible tells us everyone must die because we have inherited Adam's sin nature. "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:" (Romans 5:12)

3. You will be judged a sinner

As God made all people, things and places, he intends to judge all men. The Bible says: ".and as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" Hebrews 9:27

4. You will be condemned a sinner

Billions of people facing God to be judged, will experience total gut- wrenching terror to find that absolutely NO - ONE was able to earn their way to heaven. The Bible says in Ephesians 2:8 - 9 "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."

Romans 10:3- 4 "For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth."

5. Your only hope is the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ

All your efforts at goodness are nothing but a foul smell to God. Only by trusting ALONE in Jesus' right standing with God, can you enter into heaven. "Only he has the membership card and ONLY he can sign you in."

"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)

"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." (Acts 4:12)

Jesus Christ came and PAID for your total sins ALREADY with the sacrifice of his sinless blood on the cross of Calvary.

CAN'T I DO ANYTHING FOR MY SINS?

NO. Only Christ's blood was worthy and your goodness is filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6). God has nothing but anger toward your attempts. "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now, justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him." (Romans 5:8-9). Christ's blood is the only payment for sin that God recognizes.

THEN I MUST TRUST 100% THE BLOOD OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST OR NOTHING?

Yes. Nothing else is worthy in God's eyes.

BUT THIS WOULD MAKE ME TRUST JESUS ALONE TO BE SAVED?

Correct. You must be willing to forsake your own goodness and rely TOTALLY on the Lord Jesus Christ as your ONLY means to be saved.

ARE YOU WILLING?

God will cleanse you from all sin and save you forever as he promised. Pray right now.

"DEAR HEAVENLY FATHER, I'm a sinner. My goodness and doing my best can never save me and will send me to eternal hell fire. I know Jesus Christ's shed blood, ALONE paid for all my sins & I am trusting in his death at Calvary to save me right now. Thank you for eternal life in heaven. AMEN"

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord SHALL be saved." (Romans 10:13).

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