

The Mystery at the End

Sooner or later, we'll face the end of life sometime in the future. What then? Writers and philosophers have many varied answers, but the fact remains, we can't see beyond that Mystery Wall with certainty. We can wish for a blissful paradise, a land of plenty where the sun always shines, or we can take the "cop out" position that there is only oblivion to come. No God, no heaven, no hell; just nothing.

Unless - Unless we turn to what God says in His Word, the Holy Bible, speaking to us all. It starts on page one: *In the beginning, God.* From before time began, God was, always was, is now and always will be. Reading on: *God created the heaven and the earth.* His creative power points clearly to His eternal existence. *The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament shows His handiwork.* Psalm 19:1. And look at Romans 1:20: *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 (we) are without excuse.* Believe these basic truths and you are well on your way to actually KNOWING your destiny beyond your lifespan on earth.

One Route to Heaven - Everyone makes the choice whether to look diligently for God's only way, or ignore it at their peril. The default position is Hell forever. The Old Testament part of the Bible, two-thirds of it, firmly establishes that we can do nothing by our own strength, logic, keeping the Ten Commandments or will power to make our way into heaven. *All have sinned and come short of the glory of God.* (Romans 3:23). The New Testament tells exactly how to go about it. The route is summed up in several specific verses, for example Romans 10:9: *If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved.* This is an absolute promise from God. The Old Testament has many illustrative true stories pointing to Jesus' birth, life, death, resurrection and ascension; but we read the details about these events in the New Testament.

One Book inspired by God - God's Holy Spirit directed faithful men to write down His thoughts for us, and the resulting book has been remarkably preserved for thousands of years (example: recent discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls written in Bible Times). Even if your Bible, is left on the shelf unopened, that does not change what it says. You are already guilty before God and badly need a rescue package. That package is yours by faith in Jesus Christ, God's only and eternal Son. He is presented as the ONLY way. He declared *I am the way, the truth and the life, no man comes to the Father (God) but by me.* John 14:6.

One Thing to do? - First, realize that you can do nothing by your own strength, logic or will power to get into heaven. It's only by believing what God says about His Son. When on earth, the Lord Jesus declared in John 3:17: *God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.* Now Romans 3:22: *Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe.* There is no room for believing collectively; it is an individual and personal matter.

One Step to Jesus - Take it now? Come believing what God says about you, and about His Son, Jesus Christ. Once the deal is done, you have Eternal Life from that very moment. Plus you have peace with God now your loving Father. And you have Jesus as your Saviour, Shepherd and Friend. You have nothing to lose, and everything to gain. The Mystery Wall crumbles and you have no more uncertainty about your future beyond this life. Jesus will be there waiting to take you to paradise. *And so shall we ever be with the Lord.* (1 Thessalonians 4:17).

Lorne for Vision 2020 in 2023

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