IS YOUR NAME IN THE BOOK OF LIFE IN HEAVEN

This is the most important question you will ever consider, that is, where will you spend eternity?

WHAT BOOK ARE WE SPEAKING ABOUT ?

To enter heaven after death the Bible tells us that we must have our names written in a book which is in heaven, a book called the Lamb's Book of Life (Revelation 21:27).

REVELATION 20:14 And death and hell were cast into the Lake of Fire. This is the second death.

REVELATION 20:15 And whosoever was not found written in the BOOK OF LIFE was cast into the Lake of Fire.

REVELATION 20:10... and shall be tormented day and night forever and ever.

These scriptures clearly tell us that hell exists. And this place of torment will be the eternal dwelling place of those who do not belong to God, those whose names are not written in the Book of Life. (See also Philippians 4:3; Revelation 3:5.)

SIN SEPARATES US FROM GOD

The Bible also tells us about sin and how it separates us from God.

ROMANS 5:17 For if by one man's (Adam's) offence (sin) death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness, reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

ROMANS 5:18 So then just as through the sinful action of one (Adam), there resulted condemnation for all men; so also through the one act of righteousness (by Jesus) there resulted justification that brings life (union with God) to all men (who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ).

These scriptures are saying that through Adam's sin, we are all stained with sin and thus in need of salvation. (See also Psalm 51:5; Isaiah 59:1-2.)

ROMANS 3:23 For all have sinned (all are born in a state of sin and are sinners), and fall short of the glory of God (are deprived of God's saving presence);

We have all sinned, for our consciences tell us when we do wrong. The Bible shows us indeed that none are righteous before God and that we all need His forgiveness.

ROMANS 6:23 For the wages of sin is death (separation from God); but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Adam's sin brought spiritual death (separation from God) to the whole human race, but God has provided the way back to Himself for all who will receive His free gift.

THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY TO ENTER HEAVEN

The way of salvation for all mankind has been made through Jesus Christ. For He died on the cross for our sin and He conquered sin and death when He was raised from the dead. He is indeed the only way, and His name is the only name given under heaven by which we can be saved. (See also John 3:36; Acts 4:8-12; 1 Timothy 2:1-5.)

JOHN 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

EPHESIANS 2:8 For it is by grace you have been saved (or can be saved), through faith--and this not from yourselves (by self-effort), it is the gift of God--

EPHESIANS 2:9 not by works (good deeds and moral living), so that no one can boast.

God's Word tells us that no human being can earn a place in heaven. Good works and a moral lifestyle are not sufficient and never could be. For we can only enter heaven by the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

JESUS SPEAKS TO YOU TODAY

The Lord Jesus invites us all to come to Him:

REVELATION 3:20 Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with Me.

God desires that all people receive His free gift of salvation. But it is up to each of us to make this choice. God gives each person a lifetime in which to accept His Son Jesus, but we must make this decision before physical death. For beyond this point there is no further opportunity, and whether we have accepted Jesus into our hearts or rejected Him will determine our eternal future - whether we spend it in heaven or hell. The decision is ours. (See also Matthew 11:28-30.)

WELL, HOW CAN I HAVE MY NAME PLACED IN THE BOOK OF LIFE ?

Jesus made this clear when He spoke to the Pharisee:

JOHN 3:3 Jesus answered and said, "Truly, Truly, I say unto you, unless a man is born from above (born again), he cannot enter the kingdom of God."

This is referring to spiritual birth whereby we become children of God and inherit eternal life in heaven with the Lord Jesus Christ.

JOHN 3:16 For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him (Jesus) shall not perish, but have (with God) everlasting life.

The way of salvation is to enter into a relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ. (See also John 11:25-26; Acts 2:21.)

HOW DO I BELIEVE IN JESUS ACCORDING TO JOHN 3:16 ?

The following scriptures show us how to receive salvation.

ROMANS 10:9 That if you shall confess with your mouth that Jesus is your Lord, and shall believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved.

ROMANS 10:10 For with the heart, faith is exercised, resulting in righteousness (rightstanding with God); and with the mouth, open acknowledgment is made of salvation (action with your faith).

Just believing that Jesus exists will not gain us salvation. We need to ask Him into our hearts - we need to believe that God raised Jesus from the dead and we need to confess Him as Lord with our mouths. We become saved by faith (by believing), through God's grace and mercy. (See also 1 John 5:10-12.) When we come to Jesus we must also repent of our sin, and turn from it. We need to then follow the teachings of God's Holy Word-the Bible.

ALLOW US TO LEAD YOU IN THE SINNER'S PRAYER

Dear Father, I come before You in Jesus' name. Scripture tells me I am separated from You and Your love. I want to put this right and enter into a relationship with You as Your child. I want my name in Your Book of Life in heaven. I believe that Jesus died on the cross and shed His blood for my sin. I also believe that Jesus rose from the dead. I am now willing to turn from my way and go Your way, and I am sorry for the things I have done wrong - the sin I have committed. I ask You Lord Jesus into my heart as my personal Lord and Saviour.

I now believe I am forgiven and washed of all sin, and I thank You that my name is now written in the LAMB'S BOOK OF LIFE in heaven. Amen.

> CROSSROADS INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES <u>http://www.crossroadsministries.org.au</u>