

The Son Question

“This is the ‘stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.’ Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4:11-12)

The conventional wisdom about what happens when you die is that you will stand before God, and if you did enough good works that outweighed your bad works, then you get into heaven, because heaven is for good people. And good people go to heaven.

Then the other belief is that if you have done enough bad things that outweigh your good works, then you go to hell, because hell is for bad people. Heaven is for good people who get in by good works, while hell is for bad people who do bad things.

But that is not what the Bible teaches. The Bible teaches that hell is prepared for the devil and his angels (Matthew 25:41); it isn't prepared for people at all.

Heaven is the dwelling place of God, and the way you get into heaven is on the basis of what you did with Jesus. What God will want to know is did you believe in and obey the command of Jesus Christ? Jesus said in John 14:6, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man comes to the Father except through Me.” Jesus Christ is the One that saves us by grace through faith (in Him). God has chosen baptism (1 Peter 3:21) as an act of obedience (not works) by way we get into Christ. The church doesn't save - Jesus saves the church, His body.

Even if you have lived a good life and have been a relatively moral person and have done good deeds, but you have never put your faith in Jesus Christ, then you would not go to heaven. And by the way, your good works never would outweigh your bad works. So be thankful that is not what you will be judged for.

The assurance that we will go to heaven is not as our culture often sees it, but this is as the Bible teaches it. **IT IS THE SON QUESTION – NOT THE SIN QUESTION.** If we truly love Jesus and are truly converted, we will not want to sin.

Donald