

I don't believe in God, but if He exists, won't He let me into heaven anyway if I'm a good person?

Answer: While you may be good by your standard, God has a higher standard. According to God's standard, one sin will keep you out of heaven. You see, sin is like a cancer cell. It spreads and destroys, so God can't let us into heaven if we don't give up our sins (Rev. 21:27). While we can't overcome sin by ourselves (John 15:5), for a limited time, Jesus is offering us the power to overcome our sins! This lifetime is our chance to overcome sin while Jesus is offering us His strength (Rev. 12:11), but when we die, if there is even one willful sin in our life (Jas. 4:17), our opportunity will pass and we will be doomed to destruction (Jer. 8:20). So whether you believe in God or not, the time is now. If you ignore it, your opportunity will pass and you'll miss out on the chance of a lifetime.

How can you be so sure that God exists when there is no evidence of Him?

Answer: Actually, there is lots of evidence that God exists. While Christians have not physically seen God, we have seen enough evidence to believe for certain He is there. You don't have to see a fire burn down a house to know what happened. The charred wood proves the fire was there! In the same way, we see evidence of God. The Bible tells us that "since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen" (Rom. 1:20). We see evidence in miracles, answered prayers, the conscience, laws of nature and other ways. The Bible says faith is accepting "the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). Still, while evidence of God is all

around us, some close their eyes and refuse to see it. That doesn't mean God isn't real. It simply means they have not seen Him yet, so open your eyes. The evidence is all around.

Can you explain to me what Jesus has done for me personally?

Answer: Think back to the first memory you have of doing something you knew was wrong. The first time you felt guilt. Believe it or not, at that instant, you were supposed to die. The reason you did not immediately die is because Jesus died for you. That's right. Since Jesus never sinned, He didn't have to die, but He died anyway and placed His death on your account, buying you back a second chance. Whether you choose to believe it or not, the only reason you are alive right now is because Jesus bought you time. That's why the Bible says "you were bought at a price" (1 Cor. 6:20). Now God is calling you to turn from your sins, but since we are too weak on our own, Jesus is offering His power. Jesus offers to come inside you and help you overcome! That's what Jesus did and is doing for you.

I committed a terrible sin and I feel guilty about it. What can I do?

Answer: While sometimes the devil beats us up with guilt, guilt isn't always bad. The question is, do you realize that what you did was wrong? Have you truly repented and apologized to other parties involved? Have you prayed for forgiveness and determined to live right? If you have, it's time to take God at his word. He says, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). If you have confessed and put

away your sin, trust that God will do His part. Every time the devil holds up your sin and tries to make you feel guilty, tell him Jesus has washed your sin in His blood. If you've repented, Jesus word to you is the same as what He said to the woman in adultery "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more" (John 8:11).

I try to be a Christian, but I keep falling into sin. What should I do?

Answer: The simple answer is, keep trying. Don't give up. I know sometimes you feel like God is ready to give up on you, but He's not. He is patient (2 Peter 3:9). He's on your side. Do you think Jesus went through all that suffering on the cross so He could let you go that easy? No, the devil will try to discourage you and tell you God is angry with you or that God doesn't love you anymore, but don't listen to the devil. God is still on your side. As some used to say, if you fall off a horse, get back up and keep trying. Everything takes lots of time and hard work. Just like learning to walk is hard for a baby, learning the Christian walk is sometimes difficult for the baby Christian, but keep praying for God to help. Keep trying. God is not going to let you go as long as you are trying to do right.

After we accept Jesus, are we still required to keep the commandments?

Answer: When a young man approached Jesus and asked what he had to do to get to heaven, Jesus did not say, "Don't focus on rules. Don't be legalistic. Just focus on your relationship with Me." Instead He said, "Keep the commandments" (Mt. 19:17). In fact, the very last chapter of the Bible says, "Blessed are those who do His

commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life” (Rev. 22:14). Clearly, the Ten Commandments are still the standard of getting into heaven. Jesus did not come to get rid of the law (Matt. 5:17, 18). God’s laws are not suggestions. They are commandments and while we do not earn salvation by keeping the law, those who do not keep the law show by their fruits that they are not in a saving relationship with Jesus (1 John 2:3).

Once saved, doesn’t Paul say we are under grace so we don’t have to keep the law?

Answer: Paul says, “Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace. Certainly not!” (Rom. 6:15). No, once God gives us grace, His “grace is sufficient” to help us live a holy life (2 Cor 12:9). In spite of this, many “turn the grace of our God into licentiousness” (Jude 1:4). Clearly, Jesus did not come to do away with the law, but to uphold the law (Mt. 5:17). Before we are born again we don’t have power to keep the law, but once we turn to Jesus, He gives us power to keep the law. While this is impossible without God, Jesus said that keeping the law is possible with the help of God (Mt. 19:17-26). Those who keep the law show by their works that Christ is living in them. That’s why the Bible says, “by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments” (1 John 2:3).

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