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3 This is THE question of questions, the most important we can ask. What happens after I die? Anything?
4 If so, what is ahead, and what will happen to me?

5 As an accompanist as well as a Christian, I have been to many more funerals than most folks. I
6 have seen one thing repeated over and over, with consistency, at wakes and funerals. It is the difference
7 in atmosphere and mood. When the deceased is a known believer, and many mourners are, there is a
8 clear undercurrent of joy beneath the grief. When there is no evident testimony for Christ, the utter
9 despair shows itself in many ways.

10 Why? The answer of course, lies in the knowledge of the believer that he or she is headed for
11 Heaven by the saving grace of Christ.

12 Mankind not only ponders the question of the soul's destiny, it has always, from the beginning,
13 worked feverishly to understand the answer. When no answer is clear, we make some up! When we
14 want to be less afraid, we make up reasons not to fear while ignoring the clear warnings of our
15 conscience, the Bible, Christ's words, and abundant evidence of a world we sense but do not yet see.
16 There are numerous false explanations:

- 17 • The Egyptians created a pantheon of named gods and an elaborate theology about
18 endless cycles of life, journey through the "underworld", and re-emergence.
- 19 • The ideas of ancestor worship maintain that dead people are still all around
- 20 • The ideas about ghosts claim that dead people are not only still around, but active
- 21 • Some claim annihilation of the soul, or nothingness
- 22 • Others teach ascendancy of the soul by stages to an enlightened merger with divinity

23 Jesus taught about hell. He warned of the urgency of avoiding it, and remarked on its fire and torment.
24 (Mark 9:44, 46, 48). (Matt. 10:28, 18:9)

25 As we have taught and as is clear, there are only two possible destinations for the soul, that is, for the
26 real, thinking, conscious person that you are. The are Heaven or Hell.

27 *He that believeth is not condemned, but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath
28 not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.--John 3:18*

29 *He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.—I John 5:12*

30 The clear, essential, direct truth is simple: with Christ you go to Heaven. Without Christ you go
31 to Hell.

32 The good news is: *To as many as received Him, to them gave he the power to become the sons of
33 God.—John 1:12*

34 *All that the Father giveth to me shall come to me, and he that cometh to me I will in no wise cast
35 out.—John 5:36*

36 *Romans 10:9: That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart
37 that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.*

38 ANYONE who decides to ask Jesus Christ for forgiveness and salvation will receive both. It is a matter
39 of choice.

40 The problem is that wicked hearts don't want to choose God. (John 3:19-21.) But men are drawn to
41 Christ by:

- 42 • The gospel (I Cor. 1:18) For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but
43 unto us which are saved it is the power of God.
44 • The Spirit of God (John 16:8-9)
45 • Christ's work (John 12:32)

46 God is perfectly justified in the fact that no sin can enter His holy presence. (Rev. 16: 5,7). He is willing to
47 make us righteous in Christ (2 Cor. 5:21).

48 What are some (by no means all) excuses that people accept as barriers to faith in Christ?

- 49 1. Their church
50 2. Their religion
51 3. Their family ties or pressures
52 4. Their cultural connection
53 5. Selfish desires for sin
54 6. Racial or ethnic beliefs

55 Christ demands a choice. It is a right-now or maybe never choice (2 Cor. 6:2). We are not assured of life.
56 (James 4:14). How can anyone ignore:

- 57 A. The sacrifice of His blood Heb. 13:12
58 B. The effectiveness of His work Rom. 3:25, I John 2:2
59 C. His Divine power Rom. 1:16
60 D. His gracious gift Rom. 6:23
61 E. His gentlemanly offer Matt. 11:28

62 It is vital if you are lost that you quit kidding yourself, pretending the choice is optional or
63 inconsequential; that you no longer accept without question whatever you have been counting on,
64 religious or otherwise; and that you consider that your knowledge of Christ demands a choice: stay on
65 your certain pathway to hell, or make a change of direction toward Jesus Christ. He promises a
66 response! Don't worry about having enough faith; just take Him at His word.

67 There will be no acceptable excuse, no second chance. (Heb. 9:27) We make decisions based on far
68 less evidence. God is interested in your honest confession of your sin to Him, now, before it is too late.

69 It is vital for us Christians to go back to the urgency of the gospel. We must put feelings, pride, and
70 our own excuses aside in our witness of Christ. Manners are always in order, but we let too much stand
71 in the way of reminding people of the need to repent toward Christ.

- 72 • We know His love. We can tell of that.
73 • We know He will save them also. We can tell them that.
74 • We ought to care that they have a chance to be saved. We can tell them that too.

75 Where are you going? The greatest question of all eternity is yours to settle. God has made it
76 possible to know Him, to be saved from sin, at unimaginable cost to Himself. To you and me, it is just a
77 simple choice.

78 *John 6:51 b: and the bread that I give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.*

79 *John 15:13: Greater love hath no man than this, that a man will lay down his life for his friends.*

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81 God will hear you NOW. You will live with your choice, one or the other, for all eternity.