

## Are YOU Prepared For Eternity?

Most people, by nature, try to plan, ahead for certain things such as retirement, vacation, children's education, life insurance, etc. Some people will try to map out their life so that, by a certain age, they will have their education completed, a job, be married and have children. They want every aspect of their life planned as much as humanly possible. But, as we all know, even our best made plans are quite often disrupted for any number of reasons. It's just a fact of life and we really cannot do much about it.

Thinking about eternity is not a thought that is popular to dwell on; however, eternity cannot and will not be ignored or avoided. Like it or not, eternity is there and we all are confronted by it. The only question that awaits an answer is this, "Are YOU Prepared For Eternity?"

Sooner, or later our physical bodies will cease to function; we call this death. The body is just a vehicle that transports the real you, an eternal being. The Bible is God's Word and in it, we are told that, "And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." {Genesis 2:7 where man was created} God created man with a free will; he had the ability to obey or disobey God and, it is quite clear what the consequence would be if He disobeyed. We read all about this in Genesis 2:15 where it says, "And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the Garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." God created Eve as a helpmeet for Adam and she listened, to the Devil, and his lies that convinced her that it was okay to eat fruit from the forbidden tree. {Genesis 3:1-6} Eve ate the forbidden fruit as did Adam and, at that very moment, because of their disobedience, sin came into the realm of humanity. At that very moment, Adam and Eve died spiritually and, as they had children, their sin nature was passed, along to the children and every human being since then. As a result, we are all born sinners by nature and from that nature, the acts of sin are committed. "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:" {Romans 5:12}

In a small pamphlet like this space does not permit all that the Bible says about sin and the NEED to be saved before it becomes eternally too late. After Adam sinned, God promised a Saviour, one who would come and pay the penalty for sin. {Genesis 3:14-15} The promised redeemer was/is Jesus Christ, who did, in fact, come and pay our sin debt. We read, "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come. But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many, not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification. For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ. Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord." {Romans 5:12-21}

Having paid our sin debt on the Cross of Calvary, what remains for us is to do is to repent of sin and, by faith alone in the shed blood of Jesus Christ, receive Him as personal Saviour. We are saved by faith and NOT works of any kind, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." {Ephesians 2:8-9} Christ said that, "I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." {Luke 13:5} **REPENTANCE** is an absolute requirement for salvation, "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:" {Acts 17:30} Our

repentance and faith in the shed blood of Jesus Christ is that which secures our salvation, "In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins." {Colossians 1:14}

God has promised that, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." {Romans 10:13} God gave His word and He never breaks a promise! If **YOU** will repent of sin, and put your faith and trust in the shed blood of Jesus, you will be forgiven, and saved, for all eternity. "And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God." {1 John 5:11-13}

Well friend, what do you say, are **YOU** prepared for eternity?

~Richard A. Ciarrocca/2017

All Scripture references are KJV