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CHOOSE LIFE

(John 3:16)

God created us all in His own image (Genesis 1:27). He also gave us the freedom to make our own choices. We would have had to involuntarily love and obey Him if He had created us as robots, but His plan at the time of creation was not to compel us (His most beloved creatures) to make choices that would be against our own will. God wants to receive genuine love back from us. He would rather have us submit to Him because we choose to do so, and not as a matter of compulsion.

God gave us freewill, but also warned us of the consequences of sin, just as He warned Adam and Eve when He told them not to eat from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil (Genesis 2:16-17). Let us examine a few of the consequences of the Gift of Freewill He gave us:

Will God let a person do whatever he wishes to do, even if it is a sin?

Yes, He will. Remember that He has been gracious to give us freewill.

Can God stop a person from sinning?

Yes, He can, through the Holy Spirit and the person's cooperation. This is one of the reasons it is important to receive the Gift of Salvation He offered us through Jesus Christ. When you do, the Holy Spirit comes to dwell in you.

2

You do not have the strength to resist sin without Him. Those who are in Christ give in to sin sometimes when they choose to follow a different path, but they are forgiven when they confess their sins to God and take steps to repent. God forgives them because He is rich in mercy, and they have the righteousness of Christ. Furthermore, God puts a person who has received Jesus Christ, right, if he continues to sin. He disciplines him as a Father would so that he will remain righteous and not end up in hell (Hebrews 12:5-8). A person who is not in Christ does not have these privileges.

What happens when a person sins, and chooses not to be forgiven by rejecting the Gift of Salvation?

The Bible says that the wages of sin is death, but the Gift of God through

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Jesus Christ is eternal life (Romans 6:23). Rejecting the Gift of Salvation to have your sins forgiven is the same as accepting Satan's invitation to spend eternity with him in the lake of fire.

Why is it dangerous to continue living one's life as it is, and not surrender to Jesus Christ?

Besides the fact that Jesus Christ is coming back soon, and unexpectedly (1 Thessalonians 5:2-3), tomorrow is promised to no one (James 4:13-15). God can call anyone back at any time. Judgment will take place after death. Sadly, there will be no more chances for salvation at that point. Sinners will then end up in hell. There are many references made to *hell* in the Bible. The ones that should get one thinking are those that state that it is a place of unbearable torment. A place, where

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there will be waiting and gnashing of teeth forever (Mark 9:43-48)! Hell is certainly not a pleasurable place to spend eternity. Choosing not to do what it takes to escape ending up there would be the greatest injustice you could ever do to yourself. It is not as complicated as you may think it is to accept the Gift of Eternal Life God lovingly offered to us all (John 3:16). Choose life through His Son, Jesus Christ today!

HOW TO RECEIVE JESUS CHRIST TODAY

The Bible says that if you confess with your mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved (Romans 10:9).

1. Admit that you are a sinner.

2. Be willing to turn from your sins.

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3. Believe in your heart that Jesus Christ died for your sins on the Cross, and rose from the dead.

4. Then bow your head and say the simple prayer of salvation below.

Dear God, I confess that I am a sinner. Please forgive me. I am truly sorry, and want to forsake my sinful lifestyle. I believe that Your Son, Jesus died for my sins, was resurrected from the dead, and is alive. I confess Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior and invite Him to reign in my heart from this day forward. Thank You, Jesus for dying for my sins so that I can be forgiven and have Eternal Life. Amen.

If you said this prayer from the bottom of your heart, we rejoice with you because you are now a child of God (John 1:12-13).

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WHAT NEXT?

It is important that you commit to a life of holiness after you get saved. Get a Bible and read it daily. All that you need to know about God, His plans for you, and how to live a life that is pleasing to Him are in there. Find a Bible-Believing Church in your neighborhood where you can be fed with sound doctrine. Start attending the church right away, and plan to attend regularly. Write to tell us about your new life in Christ, using the Contact Form on our website, and be sure to make use of other free resources there that you may find helpful. Welcome to God's family, beloved!

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