

Bible calls “the gospel” (1 Corinthians 15:1-4), and what wonderful news it is!

5. You must own your sin before God and trust Jesus Christ as the only way for your sins to be forgiven.

Do you believe you are a sinner? Do you believe that Jesus Christ died for your sins, was buried, and rose again? Do you believe that what Jesus Christ accomplished on the cross is the only way for you to be saved (John 14:6; Acts 4:12)? Then pray to God; ask for His forgiveness and for the free gift of eternal life. His promise to you is, *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved (Romans 10:13)*, and He cannot lie (Titus 1:2).

Are you certain of your eternal destiny? You can be. The answers are all in God’s holy word (John 5:39). According to the Bible, the question of where you will spend eternity does not depend on what church you do or do not attend; what good deeds you have or have not done; or what sins you have or have not committed. It depends entirely and exclusively on whether or not you choose to trust completely in Jesus Christ as your Savior. Please do not put off that decision. Take God up on His promise today!

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CERTAINTY REGARDING ETERNITY

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 5:13

One of the many reasons God has given us the Bible is so that we can be certain of what eternity holds in store for us. And it is much more simple than religion would make it out to be. Please take a moment to consider this important matter.

These are the five simple truths that you must know.

1. *You are a sinner.*

Do not allow those words to offend you. Let me explain. Though you may have lived what men and women would call a “good life,” the Bible says, *There is none that doeth good, no, not one (Romans 3:12)*. You see, God’s standard of righteousness is absolute, sinless perfection, and you and I have fallen far short (Romans 3:23). We have each violated His holy commands at some point or another (1 John 3:4), and one offense is enough to make us guilty lawbreakers in His sight (James 2:10). To deny this is so would be to call God a liar (1 John 1:10).

2. *God will not overlook your sin on the day of judgment.*

Because God is perfectly holy, our sins have separated us from Him (Isaiah 59:1-2). Because God is perfectly just, He cannot allow sin to go unpunished. The Bible says, *Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous (Psalm 1:5)*.

3. *You cannot undo the sins you have already committed.*

Church attendance, baptism, sacraments, charity—none of these nullify the fact that our sins are an offense to Almighty God. Even if we were to live out the rest of our days doing nothing but good deeds, it

would not remove our need for forgiveness. The Bible says, *Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us (Titus 3:5)*. And that leads us to our next point.

4. *God, in His love, has provided a way for you to be forgiven.*

What beautiful truth! *But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8)*. God’s Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, came to this earth and lived a perfect, sinless life (2 Corinthians 5:21). When He died on the cross, He paid the penalty for your sins—and the sin of all mankind. Three days later, He rose again. This is what the