
The Unknown God

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IS IT TRUE that you believe there is a God but that you do not know who He is? There were people in Athens almost two thousand years ago who were in the same situation – they believed there was a God but did not know Him. You can read about them in the Bible, in Acts, chapter 17, verses 22 to 34.

We see there that the Apostle Paul directed them to the true God, saying, "Him declare I unto you". He then explained some basic facts about God – that He made the world and all things; that He is Lord of heaven and earth; that He does not dwell in temples made by men; that He cannot be represented by images; and that He does not need any assistance from men since He made them and sustains them in life: "He giveth to all life, and breath, and all things."

It is also clear from these verses that God requires all people, including yourself, to seek Him. Indeed He commands you to repent of all your sins, especially in view of the fact that you will be judged by Christ, whom God raised from the dead to judge the world.

Yes, the Bible tells you that you will certainly appear before the "judgment seat of Christ" to give an account of your life. That momentous meeting is fixed and the Judge

has been appointed, for God "has appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained", that is, by Jesus Christ, Acts 17:31.

The Bible also informs us of the purpose of that final tribunal: "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad", 2 Corinthians 5:10.

Then we will hear the verdict – either a welcoming invitation or a dreadful sentence.

The invitation to godly, righteous people will be: "Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world", Matthew 25:34.

On the other hand, ungodly, guilty sinners will be banished from the presence of the Judge with this awful pronouncement, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels", Matthew 25:41.

These solemn words, directly from the mouth of Christ, describe the awesome and stark reality of what awaits every impenitent, unsaved sinner.

The only hope of your being prepared for that great Day of Judgment and of escaping being cast into that fire is by turning to Christ Himself, trusting in Him to save you from your sins. "Christ Jesus came into the world to

save sinners", 1 Timothy 1:15; that is to say, Christ undertook by His sufferings and death to bear the punishment due to sinners for their sins, to obey the Law of God on their behalf, and to put a new spirit of love and obedience within them.

If you, as a guilty, defiled sinner, turn to Christ and trust in Him, then you will be altogether secure, and He shall say to you at last, "Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world".

Indeed, you are actually commanded by God to trust in Christ, with the promise that you will be saved. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved", Acts 16:31.

Is it not time to give serious consideration to the facts about God and to what He demands of you? Only then will you begin to prepare for your appearance before "the Judge of all the earth".

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