Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

WHAT IS YOUR PERSPECTIVE OF GOD?

RLJ-1233 CHARLES THORELL APRIL 11, 2010

THE BIBLE'S PURPOSE

The Bible is a road map that helps us understand who God is and what He has done. It is a collection of 66 books by 40 authors over a period of nearly 1,500 years. It contains stories of war and peace, romance, family struggles, friends and enemies, murder, wealth, intrigue, forgiveness, love, hate, sinners, and most importantly, a Savior.

The Bible tells the story of paradise lost and the redemption that can only be found in Jesus, while detailing the human condition without partiality. It provides us with the key to understanding how God our Creator thinks and what He values.

IT'S A MATTER OF PERSPECTIVE

Let me tell you a story: One day man left home and ran straight for a while and then turned left and continued running straight until he turned left again. He continued running straight and then turned left one more time and ran toward home where he found a man in mask waiting for him. What do you make of that? Does it seem that a few of the details are missing? It's all a matter of perspective.

Likewise many people also have an incomplete understanding of God. They read certain parts of the Bible but their eyes have not been opened to God's master plan. It's all a matter of perspective.

- ❖ Atheists don't believe in the existence of God.
- Agnostics don't know if there is a God.
- Evolutionists believe that nothing created everything.
- Hindus recognize a single deity and allow the existence of other gods and goddesses as manifestations of that supreme god.
- Muslims believe in a god whom they call Allah; they acknowledge Jesus was a prophet but deny He was the Son of God.
- ❖ Roman Catholics endure a long and complicated process mixed with idolatry that has no assurance of salvation.
- Unitarian Universalists look to other religions for sources of spirituality.

Many people acknowledge the existence of a god or gods but they really don't know or understand God and have formed a false idea in their minds. **Isaiah** 55:1-13

This is why religion is so popular with people; it is man's attempt to get close to God while they ignore the simple truth found in the Bible of the Savior.

HOW GOD VIEWS THE HUMAN RACE

God created Adam and Eve in response to Satan's failed power grab. They were perfect until they rebelled and allowed sin into their lives. God loved them before they revolted and corrected them like a parent.

ROLE OF PARENTS

God intended for Adam and Eve to pass on their knowledge of God to their children so that each successive generation would know about God and serve Him. **Deuteronomy 6:1-7**

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6) Did you notice that it doesn't say the children will have a choice to reject God if their parents train them according to His instructions? But what happens if the chain is broken and the parents fail in their duty? Sin will surely come and the curse will overtake them. **Deuteronomy 5:6-10**

PASSING IT ON

God has given us power, written our names in heaven and revealed the hidden things to us. **Luke 10:1-2, 17-24**

We don't have to look to the occult (hidden) or a secret fraternal organization like the Freemasons to shed light on what has been clearly revealed in the Bible. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6) We only need to point them to Jesus, give them the correct perspective and God will take care of the rest.

Statistics show that 150,000 people die every day. How many of them had their names written in the Book of Life? Followers of Christ are called to stand in the gap and warn those who don't know better. Leonard Ravenhill said, "Many of us are hunting mice while lions devour the land."

1 Peter 5:8-11

- 8. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:
- 9. Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.
- 10. But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.
- 11. To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.