



For the unsure

Thank you for continuing to this section. Saying that prayer without meaning it would be of no value. I am glad that you did not do that. But keep thinking seriously and urgently about taking your step of faith. It is important. And as you think about doing it, keep this in perspective ... no finite person can know everything about an infinite God. You can never know 100% about Him. To take your step of faith, you need only to be sure enough intellectually to make a true commitment from your heart. Ask God to help you understand enough to believe in Jesus. Seek to know the truth. Jesus said, *“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened,”* Matthew 7:7-8.

Be persistent in your search. It is eternally important. And when you are ready, go back to the beginning of this material ... carefully and prayerfully read through it again ... and then take your step of faith. You came to this page because you were not ready to believe in Jesus. Do you know what is standing in your way? Is something real preventing you from taking that step or are you just resisting it? Unanswered questions may be obstacles to faith. Brief answers to some common questions are given below. For more detailed answers visit www.eSeeker.org.

Answers that help

What about the hypocrites? Christians should be credible examples of what they believe. Obviously, new believers should not be expected to act like mature Christians. They are works-in-progress. But sadly, there are Christians who are poor examples of the faith. And some who falsely claim to be Christian do awful things in the name of Jesus. They turn some people away from God. Jesus strongly disapproved of such hypocrites. He said, *“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like white-washed tombs which on the outside appear beautiful, but inside they are full of dead men’s bones and all uncleanness,”* Matthew 23:27. You and Jesus agree. You both disapprove of hypocrisy. Do not let the hypocrites keep you from Him.

Can I trust the Bible? The Bible claims to be God's Word, directly and indirectly, more than 2,500 times. It is the most significant book in the world. More copies of the Bible have been printed than any other book. It has been translated into more languages ... been more widely distributed ... been accepted in more cultures ... and has positively changed more lives than any other book. The Bible comes from many more old manuscripts than other books do ... the New Testament from more than 14,000 whole or fragmented ones. Modern archeology has authenticated thousands of the Bible's historical and geographical references. In addition, a vast number of Bible prophecies have been fulfilled. Over 300 Old Testament predictions about the Messiah were fulfilled in the life and death of Jesus. You can trust the Bible. *"The words of the Lord are pure words,"* Psalm 12:6.

Is Jesus the only way to God? Exclusivity in important situations is necessary. We would not want an anything-is-okay surgeon, pharmacist, airline mechanic, or pilot. *Narrowness* is not the issue. Truth is the issue. Popular opinion, comfort, and desire do not create truth. Jesus said, *"I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me,"* John 14:6. Was Jesus telling the truth or was He lying? He was telling the truth. If all religious roads lead to the true God, then God would be unfair in applying different standards to different people. The only fair way is one equal way for everyone. Other religions are unfair because they ignore the problem of sin. They offer their own varying good works standards in hopes that God will overlook sin. But God does not overlook sin. Other religions offer no solution, no payment for sin, and no forgiveness. They are unfair because they do not work. And they abandon you at the grave.

Is being good enough? Good works are important to God. *"We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works,"* Ephesians 2:10. It is important to be good. But just one sin infects us. One sin makes us guilty, James 2:10. And sin separates us from God. Improving our behavior by being good does not take away the guilt of our past sins. We have all sinned and fall short of His standard of perfection, Romans 3:23. We need the forgiveness that comes from Christ's death paying for our sins. *"Everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins,"* Acts 10:43. That forgiveness comes only through believing in Jesus. *"For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast,"* Ephesians 2:8-9.

Is Jesus God or was He just a good man? Jesus was a good man. However, He claimed equality with God in saying, *"I and the Father are one,"* John 10:30. He also claimed to do things that only God can do ... to forgive sins, give life, and judge man, Mark 2:1-12, John 6:35, 11:25-26, and 5:22-29. Jesus was more than a good man. He is God. And He used miracles to authenticate His claims. Jesus miraculously fed the 5,000 and then said He was the bread of life. He said He was the light of the world and then healed a blind man. And He said that He was the resurrection and the life and then raised Lazarus from the dead, John 6:1-35, 9:1-7, and 11:24-45. An important name for God in the Bible is *"I AM"*, Exodus 3:13-14. Jesus used that name for Himself, John 8:28, 58-59. He said, *"Unless you believe that I AM, you will die in your sins,"* John 8:24. Do not redefine Jesus as being just a man. Jesus is God.

How can miracles be possible? Miracles are events that are humanly impossible. They are possible only by divine intervention. It is logical to conclude that if God exists, miracles are possible ... and if miracles exist, then God is possible. But it is illogical to reject the possibility of miracles because one rejects the possibility of God. One miracle stands out in history That miracle is the Resurrection of Jesus. That miracle transformed the world. He could not have simply recovered after His brutal execution. He returned from the dead and appeared to many people, 1 Corinthians 15:3-8. That fact changed the cowardly disciples into bold witnesses and martyrs. And it has changed men and women throughout history. That miracle proved that Jesus is God.

What about people who have not heard about Jesus? Some people seem to have had no chance to hear about Jesus. Concern about their destiny is good ... compelling many to the mission field. Will unreached people get to heaven some other way than through Jesus? No, they will not. There is no salvation without Jesus, Acts 4:12. Unreached people are judged fairly by God's law written in their hearts. They are not judged by what they have not heard, Romans 2:11-16. However, they fail to live up to that inner standard. Their behavior is not good ... often including immorality, cruelty, idolatry, and other bad practices. Many inexcusably never seek the true God. Even without knowing His name, they know that He exists, Romans 1:18-20. They know enough to seek Him. God reveals Himself to true seekers, Jeremiah 29:13. He usually does that through human means, Romans 10:14-15. But He may do so miraculously. Concern for unreached people is good. However, we should also be concerned about ourselves ... after all, we have heard about Jesus. The Bible asks this eternally important question, "*How will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?*", Hebrews 2:3.

Why is there so much suffering? We are not robots. Men and women make choices every day. And some of those choices are not good and cause suffering. The world is poisoned by man's choice of sin. It is permeated by disease, death, and depravity. Choosing to follow false religions causes suffering now and in eternity. And man's original sin [documented in Genesis 2 & 3] resulted in God's judgment on the world and on mankind. Therefore, the world is winding down. The world suffers from natural disasters and deprivation. And man's continuing bad choices bring suffering to many people ... even to following generations. However, with free choice comes the ability to choose life with God. He said, "*I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live,*" Deuteronomy 30:19. Isn't it time for you to choose Jesus? That choice is your choice today.

If you are ready to believe in Jesus, visit
www.ReadyForEternity.org and start at the beginning.

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