

“You Think You’re The Only Ones Going To Heaven”

by Bill Crews

I have heard these words all of my life, and, from what I read, they have been used by those who don't like the truth and don't want to accept the truth for generations on end. They are addressed to those who have the honesty to accept the truth and the courage to teach the truth. They prove nothing and resolve nothing, but they serve to salve guilty consciences and to prejudice others against the truth.

Whenever anyone emphasizes what the Bible, especially the New Testament, teaches and doesn't teach; whenever anyone points out that Jesus established His church and that men should not build other churches; whenever anyone points out that the Scriptures provide us with a complete and perfect guide and men should not prepare or subscribe to their own creeds; whenever anyone has the audacity to say that only those who do the will of the Father in heaven will enter the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 7:21), only those who believe in Christ can avoid dying in their sins (John 8:24), only those who hear the gospel, believe it and are baptized are promised salvation (Mark 16:15-16), only those who obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus can escape God's vengeance and punishment (2 Thess. 1:7-9), only those who keep the Lord's commandments love Him (John 14:15), only those who become Christians, members of the Lord's church, and walk faithfully by the Lord's will are promised eternal life (1 Peter 4:16; Acts 26:28; Matthew 16:18; Colossians 1:18; Ephesians 3:20-21; Revelation 2:10; 1 John 2:17); someone is going to say, **“You think you're the only ones going to heaven.”**

I try earnestly, sincerely, and fervently to teach the truth as revealed in God's sacred book which we call, “The Bible.” I have never said, nor heard any of the members of any congregation where I have labored say, “We're the only ones going to heaven” or “Only members of this congregation are going to heaven.” I believe the Bible teaches that every one who believes and follows the truth as revealed in the Bible will enter heaven. But at the same time I believe that the Bible teaches that those who do not will not. Make of that what you may. I am not the judge. I do not determine the standard. What I think or feel or what you think or feel cannot change God's revealed truth one iota.

There are thousands of churches, all claiming to be right and pleasing to God. There are hundreds of human religious creeds, all claiming to be based upon the Scriptures. Here are some of the philosophies upon which various ones are hanging their hope of eternal life:

There is the general and popular philosophy that as long as you are **honest and sincere** and believe in what you are doing, it doesn't matter what church you belong to or whether you belong to any church, what you believe and practice in religion, or how you choose to worship and serve God, you are all right. Where does the Bible teach this?

Universalists teach that everyone is going to be saved eternally and nobody is going to be lost because God loves all, Christ died for all, salvation is offered to all, God would have all to be saved and wishes none to perish, and God has all power.

Calvinists (those who subscribe to the teachings of John Calvin) teach that God has unchangeably and unconditionally foreordained certain ones unto eternal life in heaven and all the rest unto eternal condemnation in hell. Many Protestant denominations are built upon the foundation of Calvin's five cardinal principles.

If the **Roman Catholic Church** is right, then only that church is the original and apostolic church of the Lord and salvation is found in it alone. Their pope is said to be the vicar of Christ and infallible in his official decrees. God, they teach, wants all accountable people on earth to submit to the authority of the pope.

If the **“Mormons”** are right, then you must accept Joseph Smith as a prophet of God and “the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints” as the one true church and the Book of Mormon as the inspired

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