

11th May 2008

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Reading - Luke 23 v 33, 39-46
Amos 4 v 12

Subject: Prepare to meet thy God

God has provided a way of escape but people don't want God. He has provided everlasting life if you are willing to accept what He has done. As the hymn says, "Whosoever will believe shall everlasting life receive".

The challenge is real. In the passage in Luke 23, one malefactor died prepared the other one did not

THY GOD

Our God is in the heavens

Men asked, "Where is now their God?" (Psalm 115:2) but the answer is "The Lord is king forever and ever" (Psalm 10:12); "The fool has said in his heart there is no God" (Psalm 14:1). God in heaven is the one with whom we have to do. "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen" Men are without excuse.

The bible does not prove that God exists it is based on the fact that God is.

Who is this God?

God is great (Psalm 48:1); God is good (Psalm 73:1); The great God of creation made us in His likeness (Genesis 1:26); He is Thy God because He made you - Psalm 95:6-7; The Psalmist says, "I will praise thee for I am fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:14); "His mercy is everlasting" (Psalm 100:5).

He loves you despite what you have done. His mercy is everlasting. God the creator loves you despite how short you have fallen from Gods standard. "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23) Men may ask, "Wherein He has loved us" (Malachi 1:2), but the answer is, "For God so loved the world and gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16)

TO MEET

"Him with whom we have to do" (Hebrews 4:13). We cannot avoid meeting God. "All things are naked and open before the eyes of whom we have to do". We cannot put it off. The words of wisdom from the Bible are "prepare to meet thy God" (Amos 4:12). This life is your time to prepare. "It is appointed once for men to die but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27)

"Be not deceived God is not mocked. Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap" (Galatians 6:7)

God cannot overlook sin and rebellion. It is His desire that all shall be saved and not perish. "I saw the dead small and great, the dead were judged according to there works" (Revelation 20:12). To stand before God as a sinner having never had your sins forgiven is to face the penalty of sins committed: eternal seperation from God.

"The wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23) To die with unforgiving sin is to get the due reward of our deeds. "Behold now is the accepted time, Behold now is the day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2)

Can you say I am now ready?

PREPARE

How do we prepare to meet God?

What do we need to do to enter into heaven?

His love is so great and has been demonstrated in the giving of His only begotten son the Lord Jesus Christ. He came into the world to provide a way of escape. God's Son took our place and bore the punishment for sin on Calvary's cross. "Who His own self bore our sins in His own body on the tree" (2 Peter 2:24). He was "Bruised for our iniquities" (Isaiah 53:5)

He paid the price for our sins. We prepare by believing. Salvation is provided. We either accept or reject what He has done. It is freely available. What must I do to be saved?

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31)

Are you ready?

"Prepare to meet your God".