

## THINGS YOU WILL NOT HEAR ON JUDGMENT DAY

In the Bible, you can read certain statements that one might hear on the day of judgment, such as "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (Matt. 25:34). Now, let us consider a few things you will not hear on that great day of judgment.

*It really doesn't matter what you did, just that you were sincere.* Paul said, "I verily thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth. Which thing I also did..." (Acts 26:10). He also said, "Men and brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day" (Acts 23:2). But, he was told by Ananias that he needed to be baptized, to "wash away thy sins" (Acts 22:16). No matter how sincere he had been, he had been a lost sinner.

*No you didn't need to obey the gospel, all you needed to do was to believe.* If this could be heard there, then the devils would be ushered right on in, for James writes, "Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble". The many devils, called Legion recognized Jesus to be the Son of God (Luke 8:28). Paul told the Thessalonians that the Lord would return with His mighty angels, "In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ" (II Thess. 1:7-8).

*There wasn't anything you needed to do, just calling Lord, Lord, was enough.* Jesus Himself said, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven" (Matt. 7:21).

*Hey, it's really nice here in hell, not like those preachers tried to make it out to be.* Jesus said, "And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, that having two eyes to be cast into hell fire: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched" (Mark 9:47-48).

*Oh man, I sure didn't want to end up here in heaven. I really wanted to go to hell.* Jesus said, "There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out" (Luke 13:28).

Wishing or wanting will not determine what you hear on that day, but what the Lord said and what you have done (II Cor. 5:10). *Tilis*

## TRACTS AND TRUTH

Good, scriptural tracts can be a great tool. They can be given to people who might have questions or to people you are trying to interest in studying with you. However, tracts are written by mere men rather than inspired men as wrote the Bible. That being the case, many are the tracts that one comes across that are not true to the word of God. One cannot go into many businesses without finding a little stack of religious tracts offered for the taking. Recently, I received one in the mail from an inmate. Upon questioning why he sent it, he just said that they had passed them out at one of the services he attended and he thought he would send it to me to look over. I found it to follow the pattern that most such tracts use and end in much the same way. They usually use some scripture to show that one is a sinner in need of salvation by faith in Jesus Christ to escape eternal punishment. The ending of this particular tract was as follows: "YOU MAY PRAY THIS SIMPLE PRAYER, MEANING IT WITH ALL YOUR HEART: Dear Lord, I know that I am a sinner, but I am sorry for my sins. I believe that the Lord Jesus died for me and rose again, and with all my heart I turn from my sin and receive Him as my Saviour right now. Thank you, Lord, for saving me! Amen." (tract from Fellowship Tract League)

Now, with all that said, just where in the Bible can you find where any person was urged to pray such a prayer in order to become a saved person? Since the Bible is the word of God, the New Testament the plan for salvation in Christ Jesus, it would stand to reason that somewhere in that book, one would find an example of such a conversion, if such was legitimate. The book of Acts is a history of the founding of the Lord's church and the spread of that church from Jerusalem to the uttermost parts of the world and it contains not one example of the above mode of conversion.

Without providing scriptural instructions for salvation in Christ Jesus, one can from the simple lack of command or example of conversion as per the instructions of the tract in the Bible, deduce that that is not the manner by which one is saved. It does not take a genius or Bible scholar to see the truth of that. It is the same obvious common sense that ought to convince people that a denomination that cannot be found mentioned in the Bible, cannot have God's approval. Study the word and use common sense. The right way is really clear. *Robert*