

Just Suppose

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In many people's childhood there were times for the "make believe" or as some of the kids in my era said, "play like". Perhaps you can relate. You took some time away from reality, or the real world, for a visit to the world of make believe. Some times the "play-like" activity brought a time to "suppose" what it was like to be a cowboy, policeman, race car driver (too early for astronauts) or a number of things that seemed exciting. It seems that some adults are in the "play-like" world when it comes to matters concerning the spiritual. Just suppose that there is a God, (and there is) what about those who deny His existence? Does it matter? The Bible says, "The fool hath said in his heart, *There is no God...*" (Psa. 14:1). Suppose there is not a God? What can I lose by believing there is? Will the world be a better place because of it? Of course. People who believe in the existence of the God of heaven live a moral life. Cornelius, a devout man, feared God and was a man of prayer. These traits will not hurt the country. Suppose that having believed in God all my life and there was in reality no God, I have lost nothing. But suppose that one who spent his life in disbelief and at the end of his life learns there is a God, he is a loser. All is lost.

Just suppose that baptism is for the remission of sins. Just suppose that Peter meant exactly what he said, "baptism does also now save us..." (1 Peter 3:21). Suppose for a minute that I don't believe it. However, I am a religious person and I want to be a member of some church. I am told, "baptism is not for salvation, but it is a sign to show people you have been saved." The preacher tells me I am saved by "faith alone", but if I want to take the Lord's Supper and have my name on the "church roll", I have to be baptized. Just suppose that the preacher is wrong. By the way which should be more difficult, to get to heaven or get in a church? According to many in the religious world you can go to heaven without baptism, but cannot get in the church. Just suppose that I am baptized believing I must do it in order for my sins to be forgiven, and I learn at judgment it was not necessary. I am still better for it. I have faith and I have gone the *extra mile* by being immersed. But just suppose that you cannot have your sins forgiven without baptism, all is lost. Being in a church will do no good. Being in **the Church** is what is important and that comes as a result of obeying the gospel (Acts 2:38).

Suppose you die lost? Not much fun in the land of make believe. Believe and obey God. Be baptized for the remission of sins and faithfully follow the Lord the rest of your days.

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