

What If I Am Lost?

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be very wealthy? Has it ever crossed your mind as to what it would be like to be the most intelligent person the world has ever known? Perhaps at one time or another your thoughts have centered on the idea of what it would be like to be the best-looking person on earth. No doubt all of us have thought about some of these things at one time or another in our lives, only if for the briefest of time. These questions are not important and right-thinking people would consider them to be silly. However, there is a question that deserves our utmost attention. What if I am lost?

If I am lost, I will not be alone. "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it" (Matthew 7:13). The sad fact of this situation is that there is no comfort in the fact that we will be with family and friends, some of whom we may have caused to be lost.

If I am lost, I will be lost forever. Some have boasted, "I can endure pain. So what if I am lost in hell; it's no big deal, I can put up with anything for a period of time." That's the kicker. Hell has no end. Paul said, "These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power" (2 Thess. 1:9). Many people who have no cares in this life have much to care for in the next. "Then he cried and said, `Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame" (Luke 16:24).

If I am lost it will be my fault, not God's. "The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9).

If I am lost, it will be my fault. The Bible says, "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned" (Mark 16:16). Jesus died for our sins, "Who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father" (Galatians 1:4). To the Romans Paul wrote, "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).

Why be lost when you can be saved. "And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord" (Acts 22:16).

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