

WHERE ARE YOU (SPIRITUALLY)?

Text: Genesis 3:9

Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? -- unless indeed you are disqualified. (2 Cor. 13:5).

I. INNOCENCE, THE INFANT'S REALM.

A. God created man in innocence, but with the power to choose between right & wrong, Gen. 1:31; 2:15-17

B. Every person comes into this world as innocent as Adam, but like Adam, he is endowed with the power to choose

You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, till iniquity was found in you. (Ezek 28:15).

Ezek 18:20

C. Jesus taught that in order to come into His kingdom, we must become like a little child. If a child were born in sin, totally depraved, we would have to be in that condition in order to get into His spiritual family. Of course what Jesus had in mind was that we must become humble, gentle, forgiving...

Assuredly I say to you, unless you are converted & become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. (Matt. 18:3)

D. There is no door way from Innocence directly into the Church. The Church is the realm of the redeemed. The Innocent have nothing from which to be redeemed.
2 Samuel 12:22-23

E. There IS a door way into Sin when innocence is left behind -- when a person reaches the mental capacity to be held accountable for lawlessness.

II. SIN, THE NON-CHRISTIAN'S REALM.

A. There is no door from Sin directly into Heaven.

John 8:21, 24

- B. There is an open door into Hell.
1 Thess. 1:7-9; John 3:16-18; Matt. 25:41
- C. There is an open door into the Church for the sinner who
is willing to repent & turn from his son.

Rev. 22:17

III. THE CHURCH, THE REALM OF THE REDEEMED.

Acts 20:28; Eph. 5:23, 25; Acts 2:47

- A. No door directly into Hell.
- B. An open door into Heaven. JN 14:1-3; MT 25:34; Rev 2:10
- C. An open door into Apostasy. LK 8:13; Gal 5:4;
READ HEBREWS 10:24-26

IV. APOSTASY, THE BACKSLIDER'S REALM.

READ 2 PETER 2:20-22

- A. An open door back into full fellowship of Christ & His ch.
Acts 8:18-24; James 5:19-20
- B. An open door into Hell. READ HEBREWS 6:4-6

V. HELL, THE REALM OF THE ETERNALLY LOST.

READ REVELATION 20:10, 14-15

NOTE: There is no door out of Hell. MT 25:41; LK 16:26

VI. HEAVEN, THE KINGDOM OF THE ETERNALLY SAVED.

READ I PETER 1:3-4

For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed,
we have a building from God, a house not made with hands,
eternal in the heavens. (2 Cor. 5:1).

NOTE: There will be no door way out of Heaven.

CONCLUSION: Spiritually, where are you???

Jonestown, TX, June 30, 1968

Springhill, LA, March 25, 1973

La Porte, TX, June 29, 1980

Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, September 19, 1999