

5 Keys to Eternal Life

Where will you spend eternity?

In this short article we will look at 5 keys to answering the question, "Where will you spend eternity?" Our focus will be on God's solution (the only solution) to our eternal well-being.

Key #1 - The Bad News! Due to our sin and disregard for God commands, our relationship with God has been broken and we are at risk of facing His righteous judgment, justice and condemnation. The Bible says, "There is no one who is righteous [in God's sight], not even one... For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God... It is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment." (Romans 3:10&23, Hebrews:9:27)

Key #2 - The Good News! Filled with love and compassion for us, God sent His Son into the world to pay the full penalty for our sins. On the cross, Jesus willingly became our substitute, taking upon Himself all of the judgment and condemnation we rightfully deserve. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son...Christ died for our sins...He was buried and He rose again the third day...God demonstrated His own love for us in this, while we were yet sinners Christ died for us." (John 3:16, 1 Corinthians 15:3, Romans 5:8)

Key #3 - He Is Alive! After His death and resurrection (before He returned to heaven), Jesus appeared to hundreds of eyewitnesses offering extensive and irrefutable proof that He was indeed alive. His resurrection was so obvious, even His enemies did not deny it.

"After His suffering [on the cross], He presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of 40 days...He appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time." (Acts 1:3, 1 Corinthians 15:6)

Key #4 - God's Free Gift! Because Jesus paid the full price for your sins on the cross, God offers you complete forgiveness and eternal life without cost or effort on your part. This is true no matter who you are, where you live, or your family religion. It is the gift of God's undeserved grace. We receive this gift through simple childlike faith in Jesus Christ alone. In the Bible, the word "faith" means to believe in or rely on someone other than yourself. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son that whoever believes in Him will not perish, but will have everlasting life...Whoever believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins through His name...For by grace are you saved through faith, and that not of yourselves it is the gift of God, not the result of your works." (John 3:16, Acts 10:43, Ephesians 2:8&9)

Key #5 - Just Believe! The moment that you believe that Jesus died for your sins and rose again the third day, God declares that you are no longer guilty in His sight. He forgives your sins once and for all and He pronounces that you are 'perfectly righteous' because of the righteousness of Jesus Christ which God credits to you freely by His undeserved grace. "This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God and are justified [declared righteous] freely by His grace through the redemption [the price paid] that came by Christ Jesus. God presented Him as a sacrifice of atonement through faith in His blood...Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." (Romans 3:22-25, Acts 16:31)

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This article was written by Rob Armstrong for DiscoverGod'sGrace.org

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