

“TWO DIFFERENT WORLDS”

INTRODUCTION

- I. Back in the 1940's, a popular country-western singer named Hank Williams, sang a song entitled “We Live in Two Different Worlds.”
 - A. This reminds me of the words of Jesus when He spoke of two different worlds, (1) This world, and (2) The world to come.
 - 1. Once He spoke of how when people reject His word in “this world” (life on earth), that there will be no forgiveness in “the world to come.” Matt. 12:32
 - 2. Then, Jesus spoke of the blessing of “the world come” being “eternal life” for those who follow Him faithfully “in this life.” Mark 10:29-30
 - B. Christians are people who realize that there ARE indeed two different worlds, and do something about it.
- II. Our lesson at this time is entitled “TWO DIFFERENT WORLDS”, as we consider our relationship with God.

DISCUSSION

I. 1st, let's consider LIFE IN THIS PRESENT WORLD.

- A. We come into this world by means of a physical birth, and fully come to realize that it is only temporary, living in a world itself that will someday come to an end. Matt. 24:35
- B. This world is filled with evil, pain and suffering and temptation to sin. Gal. 1:4
 - 1. Young people do not think about this as much as older people, and carry on as if the present world will last forever.
 - 2. It is easy for all of us to become so engrossed in the “cares and riches and pleasures of **this life**” that we lose sight of life in the world to come following a few years on this earth. Luke 8:14
 - 3. Most people fail to take seriously the brevity of life. Eccl. 9:2-3; Heb 9:27
- C. “This life” is the preparation time for “the world to come”, as we prepare to meet God, for that time will truly come. Amos 4:12; 2 Cor. 5:10
 - 1. Satan blinds many people to the way of salvation of the soul for eternity.
 - a. He says there is plenty of time to prepare for eternity, so enjoy life while you can.
 - b. He realizes that the longer one waits to prepare for the world to come, that his heart will become hardened in sin, and he will virtually lose all interest in going to a place called heaven.
 - c. He causes some to believe that God is too good to send their souls to hell, so just live a good life and do the best they can, and they will get to heaven.
 - 2. Satan blinds some to eternal life by causing to enjoy sin SO MUCH that they don't even **think** of something better in the future.

II. 2nd, let's consider LIFE IN THE WORLD TO COME.

- A. WE are to lay up for the world to come. Matt. 6:19-21; 1 Tim. 6:19
 - 1. In America, we pay our social security tax or establish a savings program so we will have funds available in our declining years.
 - 2. Just so, as Christians we are laying up for ourselves an eternal home in heaven.
- B. The scripture states that “the world to come” is **eternal life**, and God reveals the way to heaven. Mark 10:28-30
 - 1. While on earth, Jesus offered salvation to a few people under different situations.

- a. To one man, He told him to “keep the commandments”, for he lived under the law of Moses. Matt. 19:16-18
 - b. To another Jesus extended “salvation” to a woman who demonstrated her faith in Jesus by anointing His body. Luke 7:44-50
 - c. To another, He promised rest in paradise for the penitent thief on the cross, before His death. Luke 23:39-43 (Explain fully)
2. Jesus had the RIGHT to bless these individuals the way He saw fit, as He was with them on earth, as His new covenant, the New Testament, had not gone into effect, just as a man may give his possessions to any one he chooses before his death, at which time his will would go into effect, but AFTER his death, his written, legal “will”, his possessions will be dispensed as the will states.
 3. NOW, the “will” or New Testament of Christ **is** in effect, and salvation HAS to be carried out according to the terms of salvation as stated **in** that will. Heb. 9:17; Matt. 26:28; 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16

C. The New Testament says that the “eternal life” to be **inherited** is for God’s **children**. Gal. 4:7; Rom. 8:17; Gal. 3:26-29 (Explain fully)

CONCLUSION

I. The world to come is “eternal life.” Mark 10:30B

A. Eternal life will be **life** for those who are prepared for it, by obeying the Lord. Heb. 5:8-9; Rev. 22:14

B. This is in contrast with eternal **death** or separation from God and all things good, forever and ever. Rom. 6:23; Tit. 1:2

1. Don’t lose out on the blessing of eternity for a few possessions and pleasures on this earth. Matt. 6:33

2. This world is not our home, as Christians, as we are just passing through.

II. If you are not a child of God, or a faithful child of God in need of prayer, the invitation is extended to you at this time to lay up for yourself a treasure in heaven.

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