



WHAT IF...?

It is growing ever more popular to ridicule the Bible and those who unapologetically accept it as the Word of the only true and living God. The ACLU is ever anxious to file lawsuits. Federal judges are increasingly willing to make rulings that limit Biblical doctrine and/or practice. TV programs, movies, and "artists" ridicule with little restraint any- and everything related to their concept of Christianity.

There is no "if" about the Bible to committed Christians, but rabid anti-Christians (and even "benign" secularists) would do well to ponder soberly and occasionally (as some likely do), "What if the Bible is true?"

If the Bible is true:

- God is, and He is the Creator of the universe and of all life, including humankind (Gen. 1:1–28).

- Of all living creatures, man alone is made in the "image" of God, has a mind capable of comprehending and responding to the Divine will, and is an immortal soul/spirit (Gen. 1:26–27; 2:15–17; John 5:28–29).
- Eve's and Adam's violation of God's will constituted sin. Sin separated them from God's fellowship and brought death and ruin into the world (Gen. 3:9–24; Isa. 59:1–2; 1 John 3:4; et al.).
- All who have lived since Adam have become sinners, not by inheriting his sin or its guilt, but because all have committed sin, thus all are alienated from God (Rom. 3:10, 23).
- The judgment of God against sinners is eternal separation from God in Hell (Mat. 10:28; 2 The. 1:7–9; Rev. 20:10, 15).
- As sinners, we could not/cannot redeem ourselves or earn the favor of God so as to be saved from His righteous judgment against sin. In His grace and mercy, God provided the means of our reconciliation to Him (Eph. 2:8–9; Tit. 3:5).
- God has always required a blood offering for sin (Gen. 4:4; Heb. 9:22), but the blood of animals the patriarchs and Israel offered was insufficient and only typical (Heb. 10:1–12).
- God sent His Son, Who, by His sinless life, was qualified to offer His blood as our perfect sin-offering (John 3:16; Mat. 26:28; Eph. 1:7; 2 Cor. 5:21; Heb. 1:1–3; 9:12; 1 Pet. 3:18).
- Forgiveness of sins and hope of eternal life are through Jesus Christ and His blood alone (John 8:24; 14:6; Acts 4:11–12).
- He forgives and saves only those who believe and obey His Word (Mat. 7:21–23; Mark 16:16; John 14:15; Heb. 5:9).
- He will come again and judge all men by His Word (John 5:28–29; 12:48; Acts 17:31; 2 The. 1:7–9).
- Every soul will be in Heaven or Hell eternally (Mat. 25:46).

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