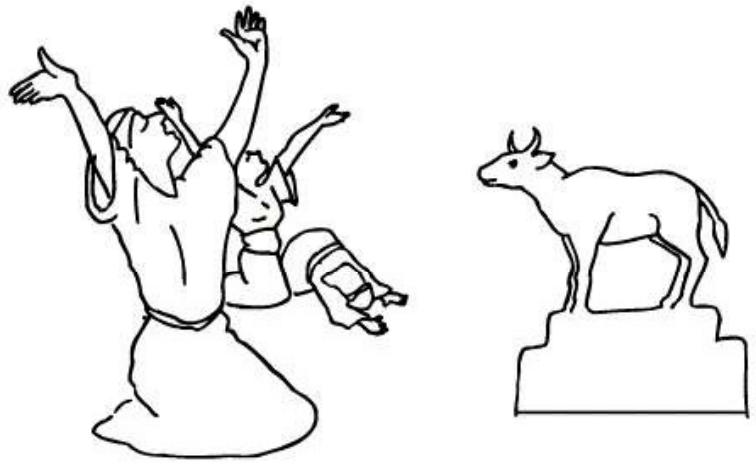


A Heathen's Fate



Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? (Psalms 2:1).

Are we to believe that God created other people in order to condemn them?” (Sister Joan Chittister as quoted by Glembocki, Vicki, “Vow of No Silence, Penn Stater, Penn State Alumni Association, University Park, Pa, January/February 2001, p. 35.)

I remember pondering as a boy, “God wouldn’t send the ‘heathen’ Africans to hell when they die. They do not know about Jesus. They have not had a chance to invite Jesus into their hearts to be their Savior. My misinformed view of African and other cultures was primarily the result of TV in the 1950’s, including Tarzan movies. What of the others around the world in South America, China, and so forth that are in the dark concerning God?

A firm belief that the Bible is the authoritative Word of God has allowed me to rethink this issue. If we begin at the beginning, we read that God created everything, including the first man and woman. The first man and woman gave rise to all civilization. Therefore, at one time all of civilization was very aware of the Creator God.

Because of sin and failure to obey God, the people of the world became very corrupt. God decided to destroy all of the living creatures in a great flood. Noah found grace. His family and pairs of living creatures were spared. All of Noah’s family knew God. All of today’s heathens are descendents of Noah’s family. Therefore, all heathens are descendents of Noah, who knew God, and chose to reject God and worship whatever else they wanted to worship.

Using the Word of God as the measuring stick (as it is God who established the rules in the first place) anyone lost has no excuse:

But God shows his anger from heaven against all sinful, evil men who push away the truth from them. For the truth about God is known to them instinctively; God has put this knowledge in their hearts. Since earliest times men have seen the earth and sky and all God made, and have known of his existence and great eternal power. So they will have no excuse [when they stand before God at Judgment Day].
Romans 1:18-20.

Buddhist, your ancestor Noah knew the living God. You rejected him. Muslim, you ignored that Jesus is LORD; he is not a prophet. Mormon, God’s Word was concluded with the Revelation of Jesus Christ- you are a cult. Jehovah’s Witness, Christian Scientist, Jesus is God. God is Just; there is only one way:

So how many of us have remained true to God? Here is what the world population believes:

Judaism	18,153,000	
Roman Catholic	1,042,501,000	
Protestant	382,374,000	
Orthodox	173,560,000	
Anglican	75,847,000	
TOTAL JUDEO-CHRISTIAN	1,692,435,000	30%
TOTAL ISLAM AND BAHA'I	1,020,114,000	18%
Hindu	751,360,000	
Buddhist	334,002,000	
Traditional Chinese	140,956,000	
Sikhism	19,853,000	
Shamanism	10,854,000	
Confucianism	6,230,000	
Jainism	3,927,000	
Shinto's	3,336,000	
TOTAL EASTERN	1,270,508,000	23%
Other "Christianity"	195,470,000	
Tribal Religions	99,736,000	
Other and new religions	142,948,000	
TOTAL OTHER	438,154,000	8%
Non-religious	912,874,000	
Atheist	241,852,000	
TOTAL NON/NO GOD	1,154,726,000	21%
GRAND TOTAL	5,575,947,000	100%

I had wondered how a third of the angels could have fallen with Satan. Well, our record is that 70% of the people on earth do not believe on the LORD Jesus. 20% of us lost faith that there is a God. And all this after 100% of the first people on earth, Adam and Eve, knew there was a living God? And then 100% again when Noah's family disembarked from the ark. Remember when Moses went to the mountain to receive the Ten Commandments, he returned to find his people worshipping a golden calf. How can we wonder why the "Heathens" are not accountable? What does God tell us?

He hath remembered His covenant forever, the word which He commanded to a thousand generations. (Psalms 105:8). If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself. (II Timothy 2:13). For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven. Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever. (Psalms 119:89,160). Know therefore that the Lord thy God, He is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love Him and keep His commandments to a thousand generations; (Deuteronomy 7:9).

Not only is it fair for the heathen to go to eternal punishment, it is fair for all of us to go to eternal punishment. But God has provided a way for us to escape from this destiny. Here is God's way as spoken by His Son Jesus Christ:

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. John 14:1-6.

But why does anyone deserve eternal punishment? *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; (Romans 3:23). For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Romans 6:23).*

What is salvation, and why through Jesus? *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9).*

I have heard so many rationalizations on how one gets to heaven- do the best you can, if you just try, as long as you believe something. Jesus said this: *Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. Matthew 7:21-23.*

If you accept God's way, then there is a place in Heaven for you. Please do not delay. Life is so uncertain. The great racing driver, Dale Earnhart, was sitting on the top of the world on the last lap of a big race. He never made it to the finish line. Make sure you do! I cannot repeat enough that everyone has the power to be accepted into Heaven, but not everyone will use it: *But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: John 1:12.*

To accept God's gift of salvation, pray, "Dear Heavenly Father, I am a sinner and I have sinned against you. I am sorry for my sins and sinful nature. I repent of my sins and accept Jesus here and now as my Savior. Jesus, save me by your blood shed for me. I now give my life to you and turn from my sins. In your Holy name I pray, Jesus, Amen."

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