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Service Times

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 A.M.
Worship: 10:30 A.M. & 5 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7 P.M.

Preacher:

Russ Earl

AM Sermon:

Satan's Plan to wreck the world
– Part 7 "Morals" (1 Cor 15:33)

PM Sermon:

Micah

Sunday AM Bible Class:

Ecclesiastes – D. Jackson

Wednesday Bible Class:

The Book of Acts 7 – V. Smith

In SEARCH of the Lord's Way

On Channel 6-2 Sundays @ 7:30 am

The Truth in Love on Channel 47

Sundays @ 8am

Oologah Internet Radio Programs

Vance' Program on Wednesdays
@ 6:15pm & Thursdays @ 6:15am

LIVE broadcast on Mondays @ 5pm

Visit www.tgrn.org to listen or visit
www.oologahradio.org for more info.

The Oologah Informer

January 17th, 2016

Human Pain & Suffering (Part 3) By Chuck Northrop

Conclusion

Consider, please, the grandeur of heaven in light of human pain and suffering. Heaven would not have the appeal it does if it were not for the infirmities of this life. When describing heaven, John said, "God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying; and there shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away" (Revelation 21:4). The "former things" are those things of this world — death, sorrow, and pain; but in heaven there is life, light, and liberty from sin, pain, and death.

Many of the Eastern religions offer reincarnation, but who would want to come back into this world of sorrows and despair—especially as a cow destined for the butcher-block! What anticipation would a "dog's life" have? Reincarnation has no attraction! However, a place of rest at the right hand of God has a tremendous appeal. Heaven is no fairy land! It is real and all men are invited, but only the faithful will receive a "crown of life" (Revelation 2:10).

Heaven, then, is for a prepared people. We prepare ourselves by obedience to the Lord and it begins with the plan of salvation. We obey the Lord's plan of salvation by believing that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Jesus said, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). Further, Jesus taught, "unless you repent you will all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3). Likewise we must confess Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God. Jesus said, "Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 10:32-33). Finally, Jesus taught that one had to be immersed in order to be saved. In Mark 16:16 Jesus said, "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned." Because this is a new beginning, one must continue in faithfulness in worship and service with the church Jesus built.

Jesus depicted the great judgment when all nations shall be gathered before Him as "a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats" (Matthew 25:32). To the faithful the Lord shall declare "Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (Matthew 25:34). However, sadly to those not living according to the standard God has established, Jesus will say, "Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared

for the devil and his angels" (Matthew 25:41).

Yes, this life holds many difficult times of pain and suffering, but this life is a preparation for the life to come. Even if our present life is destroyed, if we are faithful to God, we can say like Paul, "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" (2Corinthians 5:1).