

The Driver

A driver was once stopped by a police officer. He was a good driver and as far as he knew, he had done nothing wrong.

The police officer said, "I pulled you over because you were going 60 through a school zone. There were ten warning signs that the speed limit was 15 and you ignored them all."

Just like the driver had ten warning signs, God has given us ten clear warning signs in the Bible. They are called the Ten Commandments.

Have you ever told a lie, even so called "white" lies?

Have you ever stolen anything, no matter how small or insignificant and regardless of value or even how long ago?

Have you ever used God's name as a cuss word? That's called blasphemy and it's very serious!

Jesus said if you look at someone with lust you've already committed adultery with them in your heart. Have you ever looked at someone with lust?

If you're being totally honest right now, you've answered "yes" to the above questions. This means that by your own admission, you are a liar, a thief, a blasphemer and an adulterer at heart. This is what it means to sin. Sin is the transgression of God's holy law (1 John 3:4). Because of this you will have to face God on Judgement Day. If He judges you by the commandments, you will be found guilty. If He gives you true justice, and He will; you will spend eternity in hell with no chance of escape, because the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23a).

Does it concern you that if you died today, you would end up in hell? It should!

Fortunately, the story doesn't end here or there

The Convict

An innocent man approached a judge and volunteered to be executed in the place of a convicted murderer. The judge consented. The next day the judge told the convict he had a decision to make.

"An innocent man has been put to death in your place. If you will accept his payment for your crime, you are free to go. If you will not accept his payment, you will be executed for your crime. Which do you choose?"

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was without sin. Yet he voluntarily gave His life to pay the penalty for your crimes (sins) against God. Keep in mind that the punishment for sin is death and eternity in hell. Three days later He rose from the dead. He conquered death so that He could offer you a pardon and the gift of eternal life (Romans 6:23b).

God proved His love for you in that while you were still a sinner, He sent Jesus to die for you and take the punishment you deserve (Romans 5:8).

As a result of Jesus' death in your place, you are now faced with a choice just like the convict above:

Choice #1 - Accept His gift, not just by asking forgiveness, but also by repenting (which means to turn away from your sinful life) and putting all of your faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Choice #2 - Reject God's pardon for your sin by trusting in something or someone other than Jesus to make you acceptable in God's eyes. This choice forces you to bear the whole penalty for breaking God's law all by yourself.

Just knowing in your mind that Jesus is the Saviour isn't the same as truly believing in Him.

The Skydiver

Skydivers demonstrate their belief and trust in their parachutes when they jump from the plane. Believing the parachute exists isn't enough. If they don't put it on, it can't save them.

Followers of Jesus demonstrate their belief in Him by putting Him on like a parachute and turning away from their sinful desires (Romans 13:14). By trusting in Him, God's Spirit changes their thoughts and desires and makes them new creations (2 Cor 5:17).

Just like visiting a garage doesn't make you a mechanic, going to church every week won't make you a Christian either. Neither can it save you from the judgement to come. The only one that can save you is Jesus. You've broken God's laws and Jesus has taken your punishment. You need to acknowledge God's great love for you by admitting your sin, asking for forgiveness and turning away from your sinful life. Accept and believe in Jesus as the Saviour and Lord of your life. Put your faith and trust in Him and Him only. If you do this, God promises that you will not perish but instead you will inherit eternal life (John 3:16).

When are you going to do this? Remember, there are no guarantees in life. You really have no way of knowing when your time is up. 150,000 people die every single day. You could be next. There is nothing more important than where you will spend eternity. Are you going to risk spending eternity in hell or are you going to make the right choice? Do it today because tomorrow might be too late. Just pray to God right now. Confess that you are a sinner. Ask Him to forgive you. Ask Him for the strength and courage to follow and trust Him everyday. Mean it from your heart and when you've done this, you will pass from death into life. Read your Bible everyday and learn more about this Jesus who loves you and has given Himself