

want to do things our way, not God's way. Our selfishness deceives us into thinking we know better than God. According to the Bible, that leaves all of us in a difficult spot. The Bible makes it clear that, apart from some sort of intervention on our behalf, we are doomed. The Bible tells us that there are only two destinations after death, Heaven or Hell. "What if" we die—and we will—where will we go? Without God's help, the Bible says we will go to Hell—a place where no one in their right mind would want to be. So, how do we get out of this predicament? Again, the Bible has a clear answer. Luke 19:10, tells us that Jesus Christ came to earth for one purpose, "to seek and to save that which was lost."

Titus 3:5 describes Jesus Christ as the "mediator between God and man."

The Bible tells us that Jesus Christ left Heaven, became a man, and lived a perfect life—something none of us could do. Then, He offered Himself as a perfect sacrifice. Jesus' lifeless body was taken from the cross and sealed in a stone tomb.

Everyone assumed that that was the end of Jesus. But, three days later, to show that He was satisfied with Jesus' sacrifice, God raised Jesus from the dead. Later, Jesus returned to Heaven, where He is today.

Jesus Christ suffered and died in our place. God punished His Son for all of our selfishness, rebellion, and arrogance. He provided the divine intervention without which we are hopelessly lost.

enjoy life to its fullest. They could do anything they liked, with one proviso, they must not eat of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. "What if" they did? God told them that they would "surely die." (Genesis 1:17) Unfortunately, Adam and Eve disobeyed. As a result, immediately, they died spiritually; and, eventually, they died physically.

The Bible tells us that when Adam disobeyed, his judgement was passed on to all of his descendants—that's us. (Romans 5:12) That's why that's us. (Romans 5:12) That's why we all eventually die.

That is also why we do not need to be taught how to lie, cheat, and steal. It is part of our nature to do them. These are acts of selfishness, and selfishness is what separates us from God. We

Jesus Christ offers the only way out. That leaves only one thing for us to do. We can either accept or reject His provision. It's as simple as that.

So, how does one accept God's gift? Talk to Him. Tell Him that you recognize that you are lost. That you know you are a sinner and deserve Hell. Tell Him that you believe that Jesus paid the debt for your sin and you want to accept His gift of forgiveness. Then, thank Him for His forgiveness.

If you will do this, you will not see flashes of lightening or hear voices or bells ringing, but you can be sure there is a celebration in Heaven when God writes your name in The Book of Life.

The Bible says that, for those trusting Jesus Christ, death means "to be absent from the body, and to be present

for the unexpected "what ifs." We lock our cars and houses and guard our purse or billfold to avoid other "what ifs." "What ifs" force us to look into the future; unfortunately, many of us do not look far enough into the future. For example, after you die, where will you be? Many people never ask that "what if" because they naively assume that what happens after death is pretty much takes care of its self. What if everything in the world were perfect? What if man lived in a perfect environment where he was free to choose between right and wrong? That is exactly the situation the Bible describes for us in Genesis. God created Adam and Eve and placed them in a perfect environment. They had everything they needed to

with the Lord. (II Corinthians 5:8)

Will you accept God's gift of salvation right now?

There is one more "what if" that you should think about. What if this is your last chance to be sure that you are on your way to Heaven?



If clouds were sugar would they rain cotton candy? What if we had eyes in the back of our head? Could we watch TV while sleeping? What if one be able to afford a money tree? Except for those who work at creating new products or processes, most of us are usually more serious about our "what ifs."

We look forward to the "what ifs" that have positive consequences and try to avoid those with negative ones. We carefully select the ideal vacation spot. We deliberate about our child's education, their vocation, and who will be their mate.

We buy insurance for the "what ifs" that involve accidents, disease, and other misfortunes. We save money

# What If?



It's a game children play.

What if people were the color of the rainbow? If a father were blue and a mother were red, would their children be purple?