

God is not a Dictator

This is a conversation that took place between two friends; Joe, a Hindu and Ben, a Christian. It centred on sin, salvation and judgment.

Joe - The truth Ben is that I admire you and I equally admire your lifestyle. But I don't understand when you say I am a sinner and need God's forgiveness. You know I don't understand your concept of sin and I do not consider myself a sinner!

Ben - Joe, you know we're friends and I didn't mean to hurt you. I'll try to explain. You see, in this country there are laws. And every one citizen of this country is expected to respect the law. But when a citizen defaults the law, he becomes a criminal and is liable for punishment. Almighty God has also given us His laws and when we break them, we become sinners before Him and thus liable for divine punishment. Sin is thus a violation of God's law. You see, God is not a dictator. His kingdom functions on righteous principles and a well defined justice system.

Joe - I thought every human being has an aspect of divinity in him and cannot be called a sinner?

Ben - It is true that every human being has an aspect of divinity in him. The Bible says God made man in His own image. And in addition, that God breathed into man the breath of life and man became a living soul. But this does not vindicate us. We are still free moral agents responsible for our actions, and thus answerable to justice systems including that of God. Just as we become guilty and liable to judgment when we break human law, that is how we become guilty and liable to divine judgment when we break God's law.

Joe - Do you mean to say if I obey all of God's commands, I will not be considered a sinner but righteous?

Ben - Yes. But the sad thing is that even before you tried to obey the laws of God, you have already broken them and are already liable for punishment. And even if you try, you wouldn't succeed because not only has all humans broken God's law but all humans have a depraved nature that makes them to always do the wrong things.

Joe - What do you think? Is there no definite way out?

----cut here----

God is not a Dictator

This is a conversation that took place between two friends; Joe, a Hindu and Ben, a Christian. It centred on sin, salvation and judgment.

Joe - The truth Ben is that I admire you and I equally admire your lifestyle. But I don't understand when you say I am a sinner and need God's forgiveness. You know I don't understand your concept of sin and I do not consider myself a sinner!

Ben - Joe, you know we're friends and I didn't mean to hurt you. I'll try to explain. You see, in this country there are laws. And every one citizen of this country is expected to respect the law. But when a citizen defaults the law, he becomes a criminal and is liable for punishment. Almighty God has also given us His laws and when we break them, we become sinners before Him and thus liable for divine punishment. Sin is thus a violation of God's law. You see, God is not a dictator. His kingdom functions on righteous principles and a well defined justice system.

Joe - I thought every human being has an aspect of divinity in him and cannot be called a sinner?

Ben - It is true that every human being has an aspect of divinity in him. The Bible says God made man in His own image. And in addition, that God breathed into man the breath of life and man became a living soul. But this does not vindicate us. We are still free moral agents responsible for our actions, and thus answerable to justice systems including that of God. Just as we become guilty and liable to judgment when we break human law, that is how we become guilty and liable to divine judgment when we break God's law.

Joe - Do you mean to say if I obey all of God's commands, I will not be considered a sinner but righteous?

Ben - Yes. But the sad thing is that even before you tried to obey the laws of God, you have already broken them and are already liable for punishment. And even if you try, you wouldn't succeed because not only has all humans broken God's law but all humans have a depraved nature that makes them to always do the wrong things.

Joe - What do you think? Is there no definite way out?

Ben - There is a way out. And that is to ask for divine clemency. The Bible word for clemency is "grace." When God saw this lost state of man, He had compassion and made a way of escape through His divine Son, Jesus Christ. God sent Jesus from Heaven into this world to live a perfectly righteous lifestyle on man's behalf. In addition, Jesus accepted to suffer and be crucified on a cruel cross as a sacrifice to blot out all of our sins before God. When He resurrected three days after He was buried, and before ascending back to Heaven, He promised He would come back to receive those who have believed in Him for salvation.

True salvation can thus be found only through Jesus Christ. Yes, He is alive and saving as many souls as come to Him to be spared from God's eternal punishment. This is the salvation that frees us from the guilt of sin, delivers us from the burdensome lifestyle of sin and pain and takes us into God's eternal kingdom of glory and peace. That is why you need to receive Him now. He alone is the only true Saviour of all humanity everywhere on earth.

The Bible sums it this way: *"For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."*

Joe - But who is this Jesus? Is He a Guru, a mystic, a god...? Who really is He?

Ben - Jesus is the only begotten Son of God Almighty. It is through Jesus that God created the entire universe and all other spirit beings, including humans. It is only through belief in Jesus and authority in His name that true salvation and deliverance from fear and all forms of evil can be found. He is the highest spiritual power in the universe. In fact, Jesus is pure divinity. He represents the righteousness, glory and power of God. When you believe in Him for salvation, you inherit all these blessings that He possesses and freely gives. That is why He is your only hope.

Joe - I want to have this kind of salvation and assurance that you have. What must I do?

Ben - It is simple Joe. You simply need to pray to God in humility, asking His forgiveness for breaking His laws and doing other wrong things. Then you receive His grace that is freely given through the Lord Jesus Christ. You need to pray if possible right now in a prayer of commitment like this. It should truly come from your heart to God.

Most gracious God, I come before You this day in total repentance. I plead that You forgive all my sins and wash them away with the precious blood of Jesus. I also accept and receive Jesus into my life to be my personal Lord and Saviour. Help me to live the rest of my life to please and serve You. Thank You God for saving me. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

If you have done this in sincerity, then know God has forgiven you totally. Praise God, you are saved. What you need to do is talk to God daily in prayers, as well as obtain and study your Bible daily too, beginning preferably with the New Testament. Also get acquainted with other committed born again Christians so that they can help you to grow in your new experience. May God richly bless you.

Other Bible portions you can read include: John 3:16-18; 1John5: 11-13; Isaiah 1:18-19; Ephesians2:8-10; 1 Peter1:18-21.

Zion Vision Evangelical Publication
P.O. Box 30852 Yaounde, Cameroon
Email: znvs.salvation@yahoo.com
www.zionvision.faithweb.com

Ben - There is a way out. And that is to ask for divine clemency. The Bible word for clemency is "grace." When God saw this lost state of man, He had compassion and made a way of escape through His divine Son, Jesus Christ. God sent Jesus from Heaven into this world to live a perfectly righteous lifestyle on man's behalf. In addition, Jesus accepted to suffer and be crucified on a cruel cross as a sacrifice to blot out all of our sins before God. When He resurrected three days after He was buried, and before ascending back to Heaven, He promised He would come back to receive those who have believed in Him for salvation.

True salvation can thus be found only through Jesus Christ. Yes, He is alive and saving as many souls as come to Him to be spared from God's eternal punishment. This is the salvation that frees us from the guilt of sin, delivers us from the burdensome lifestyle of sin and pain and takes us into God's eternal kingdom of glory and peace. That is why you need to receive Him now. He alone is the only true Saviour of all humanity everywhere on earth.

The Bible sums it this way: *"For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."*

Joe - But who is this Jesus? Is He a Guru, a mystic, a god...? Who really is He?

Ben - Jesus is the only begotten Son of God Almighty. It is through Jesus that God created the entire universe and all other spirit beings, including humans. It is only through belief in Jesus and authority in His name that true salvation and deliverance from fear and all forms of evil can be found. He is the highest spiritual power in the universe. In fact, Jesus is pure divinity. He represents the righteousness, glory and power of God. When you believe in Him for salvation, you inherit all these blessings that He possesses and freely gives. That is why He is your only hope.

Joe - I want to have this kind of salvation and assurance that you have. What must I do?

Ben - It is simple Joe. You simply need to pray to God in humility, asking His forgiveness for breaking His laws and doing other wrong things. Then you receive His grace that is freely given through the Lord Jesus Christ. You need to pray if possible right now in a prayer of commitment like this. It should truly come from your heart to God.

Most gracious God, I come before You this day in total repentance. I plead that You forgive all my sins and wash them away with the precious blood of Jesus. I also accept and receive Jesus into my life to be my personal Lord and Saviour. Help me to live the rest of my life to please and serve You. Thank You God for saving me. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

If you have done this in sincerity, then know God has forgiven you totally. Praise God, you are saved. What you need to do is talk to God daily in prayers, as well as obtain and study your Bible daily too, beginning preferably with the New Testament. Also get acquainted with other committed born again Christians so that they can help you to grow in your new experience. May God richly bless you.

Other Bible portions you can read include: John 3:16-18; 1John5: 11-13; Isaiah 1:18-19; Ephesians2:8-10; 1 Peter1:18-21.

Zion Vision Evangelical Publication
P.O. Box 30852 Yaounde, Cameroon
Email: znvs.salvation@yahoo.com
www.zionvision.faithweb.com