

Payday

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At the end of each pay period, it is only normal for us to expect our paycheck. After all, it is payday, and we feel we should receive what we have earned.

Have you ever given it any thought, my friend, that God has a payday for each of us, a day when time shall be no more? Second Corinthians 5:10 speaks to us in this manner: "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."

You may be the one who has been deceived by the devil into believing you have not been so bad. After all, you are a church member or you have done many good works. If you are not saved, my friend, you are in need of salvation. Romans 3:23 tells us, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God," and God's Word tells us what the penalty of sin is: "For the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23).

If you are believing your good works will save your precious soul, you are badly mistaken, for Ephesians 2:8-9 declares: "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."

Yes, my reader friend, each one of us will receive our full pay from God at that great Judgment Day. Those of us who have repented (Acts 17:30), confessed our sins to God (1 John 1:9), been born of the Spirit of God (John 3:3), and stayed true to Him until death (Mark 13:13) will receive the reward of the righteous. But those who have rejected the Holy Spirit and have refused to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Master will be lost forever in the lake of fire where there will be no mercy, only pain and torment for the ceaseless ages of eternity (Matthew 25:41 and 46).

Young person, middle aged one, or older one, won't you consider the road you are traveling on today? The Bible teaches there are only two ways of life we can travel. One is the broad way that leads to destruction, and the other is the narrow way that leads unto life eternal. Matthew 7:13-14 states: "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."

God loves you, sinner friend, but He hates the sin in your life, and if you continue in your present condition, your sins will send you to a devil's hell.

Death is a sure thing for each of us as God's Word tells us. We read in Hebrews 9:27, "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." Just as death is certain, so is also the Judgment Day—a day when each of us will give an account to God of what kind of life we have lived. Romans 14:11-12 states: "For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God."

Friend, it is really foolish to waste your life doing the things that are contrary to God and His Word, things that bring no peace to your soul. Why continue to live in sin? God has everything to make your life happy, joyful, and complete.

If you would like to receive a righteous paycheck at the end of this life, here is the way it must be obtained. First, you must have godly sorrow for your sins (2 Corinthians 7:10). Next, you must confess your sins to God. First John 1:9 tells us, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." You must also believe that Jesus Christ died for your sins. Romans 5:8 tells us, "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Romans 10:9-10 and 13 plainly tells us how to become children of God, saying: "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. . . . For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Remember this warning, my friend, payday is coming, and it is entirely up to you as to what kind of paycheck you will receive. May God help you to make the right choice for the good of your never-dying soul.

Published by:

The Church of God, God's Acres
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Newark, OH 43055

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www.GospelTrumpeter.com