

# *What Is Your Answer?*

We live in a very fast-paced society. It seems that we are always in a hurry, having plenty of things to do, places to go, people to meet in what seems like less and less time to fit it all in.

Will you slow down for a couple of minutes to answer a question or two? You may have never been asked these before, and they may seem trivial, but they are extremely important.

Where did the mountains, rivers, and stars come from? Seriously? You have noticed their obvious order, complexity, and beauty as well as gravity, the air, water, and sunshine that we depend on daily - these could not possibly be an accident. Such things do not just happen or create themselves. So we have to conclude that someone much greater than man had to create them. Only some fantastic person could have been responsible for such mathematical and intricate design. Who is this person?

***In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth - Genesis 1:1***

The ONE who created the mountains, rivers, stars, and all that we love, enjoy and count on is God. His power is limitless. Everything He thinks, decides and does is absolutely perfect. He has communicated His endless love and responsibility for us through writing.

It is clear that He is holy and cannot overlook any wrong-doing. His character is so perfectly just that He must condemn all wrongdoing and anything and anyone who is not perfect like He is. Are you perfect? Have you ever done anything wrong? Of course. We all have. And as hard as we work at it, we cannot stop ourselves from thinking, saying or doing something wrong from time to time.

***All have sinned and come short of the glory of God - Romans 3:23***

***The wages of sin is death . . . - Romans 6:23a***

We see here that God's penalty for sin is death, and there is nothing that we can possibly do about that either. Are you working hard to make up for your sins? As hard as we try, none of us can ever do enough good. Our only hope is if someone who is perfect would volunteer to die in our place for our sins.

Great news! That is exactly what has happened!

***God demonstrated His undiminished and unfailing love to the world in the following manner: He sent His only Son, the uniquely born ONE, for the purpose and with the result that whoever might believe in Him, might not perish, but have eternal life - John 3:16***

The ONE who created the universe and all of nature out of nothing was the Son of God. He came to earth and died on a cross for us all. God punished His own Son, Jesus Christ, for our sins. Since He has paid the penalty for us all, God can offer salvation to us as a gift.

***The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord - Romans 6:23***

We cannot work for a gift. All we can do is take it. But how do we take God's gift of salvation? We simply accept what Jesus Christ did for us. We depend on His sacrifice for us rather than depending on what good things we can do. Instead of trying to save ourselves, we accept Jesus Christ's death in our place.

***For by grace are you saved, through faith, and that is not of yourselves, it is the gift of God, not of works, should any man boast - Ephesians 2:8-9***

When anyone believes in Jesus Christ, he becomes a child of God and a part of God's family. This means that he has eternal life. When his body dies, he will continue to live with God in heaven in a renewed body forever.

Do you believe this? Your answer is the most important decision you will ever make. If you don't believe in Him, then you will be trying to be good enough to be accepted by God. But all your efforts do will never be good enough.

***But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags - Isaiah 64:6 a.***

If you reject God's gift of salvation, you will be separated from Him for all eternity. Believe in Jesus Christ and live forever or reject Him and be lost for all eternity. It is really that easy. You can decide right now.

***Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but by His mercy, He saved us - Titus 3:5.***

***God demonstrated His for us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died as a sacrificial substitute for us. - Romans 4:8***

***Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved . . . Acts 16:31***