Will GOOD People Go to Heaven

Greg Kline · Matthew 19:16–22

INTRODUCTION

- That's a million-dollar question, a question we've all thought, we've all had, and we should all be ready to explain.
- The million dollar question everyone has is, will good people go to heaven? And I think there's a very easy answer for that. And the answer is yes.

1 Good People Are Only Good as Defined by God

Matthew 19:16–17; Mark 10:17; Luke 18:18

- Good people are only good as defined by God. God gets to define what's good.
- To the Hebrew, good was associated with only one, and that is God.
- Jesus says, You recognize me as a good teacher. You recognize me as God who has authority. Do what I say.
- Society makes good kind of in the middle. You're not a horrible person. You're not a great person. You're kind of just in the middle.

2 God and God Alone Is Good and Defines Good

Psalm 119:68; 2 John 9

- God and God alone is good and defines good. This is a life changing teaching.
- You are good and do good. Teach me your statutes.
- What makes something right and something wrong? God does. And so if somebody is good, they are with God.

3 Jesus Clearly Taught There Are Only Two Paths

Matthew 7:13–14; Matthew 7:21–27; Matthew 25:31–46

- There are two ways. There is the broad way that leads to destruction. There is the narrow way that leads to life.
- There are those who are wise, those who listen and do, there are those who are foolish, those who listen and do not do.
- These will go away into eternal punishment. But the righteous into eternal life.
- While society makes good a middle ground, God is good and defines that there is no middle ground.

4 What About People with Other Faiths?

Matthew 7:15–20; John 14:6; Romans 6:23

- If we're not seeking truth, we won't find it. And if we're not seeking truth, we're not seeking God.
- I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

- Can someone be saved apart from Jesus and the salvation that he offers? The answer is no.

5 Those Who Are Religiously Sincere

Acts 8:1–3; Acts 9:3–19

- Paul was incredibly religiously sincere. And by the way, the Jewish God is the Christian God.
- Saul, why are you persecuting me? And he said, Who are you, Lord? And he said, I am Jesus whom you are persecuting.
- Even having this miraculous sighting of Jesus did not mean that Saul had no obligation of submitting to the will of God.
- The fact that he wasn't consciously plagued did not mean that he was innocent and blameless.

6 Believers Who Do Not Obey

John 12:42–43; Matthew 19:17–22; Luke 10

- No one would say that believers who won't confess Jesus because they love man more than God would be saved.
- Our answer is not what we think, what we believe, or how we feel, but what our good God has decreed.
- We have to love everyone as we love ourselves. That's a difficult commandment to keep.
- Can we do some self-examination for just a few moments this morning and say, what do I lack? What do you lack?
- We don't need to just be religiously sincere. We need to be religiously righteous as God has decreed us to be.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Are we laying up treasure in heaven or treasure in this life?**

MY NOTES