

THE POWER OF GOD



for Salvation

Do you know someone...

- Who is in **heaven**?
- Who is probably in **hell**?
- Who, unless something *powerful* happens, is probably headed for **hell**?

The Great Reality

One of the great realities that the Bible gives us is that everyone is going to spend eternity either in Heaven or in Hell.

• The Truth About Heaven

- It is a place not a state of mind.
- Not in time but in eternity
- A place where God lives and reigns.
- A place of peace and reward
- The future home of everyone who believes in and receives Jesus as their Savior.
(John 14:6 & Romans 10:9)

Revelation 21:1-4

• The Truth About Hell

- It is a place not a state of mind.
- Not in time but in eternity
- A place where the Devil and his angels are condemned to spend eternity.
- A place of spiritual and physical torment
- The future destination for everyone who rejects the gift of salvation that Jesus offers.

Revelation 20:11-15

God's Expressed Desire

"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." **2 Peter 3:9 NIV**

1 Timothy 2:3-7

God Uses People to make an Eternal Difference

Jesus' last words to His followers are found in Acts 1:8 -
"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (NLT)

• The Example of Paul (Romans 1:14-16)

- **"I am a debtor..."**
 - "I have an obligation to discharge and a duty to perform and a debt to pay." *The Amplified Bible*
 - Everyone who knows Christ as Savior has an obligation to everyone who does not know Christ as Savior.
- **"I am ready..."**
 - "I am willing and eagerly ready to preach the Gospel..." *The Amplified Bible*
 - It is a matter of being prepared in how to be a witness.
 - It is a matter of being willing to be a witness.
- **"I am not ashamed of the Gospel..."**
 - Paul "had been imprisoned in Philippi, chased out of Thessalonica, smuggled out of Berea, laughed at in Athens, regarded as a fool in Corinth, and stoned in Galatia, but he remained eager to preach the gospel in Roman... Neither ridicule, criticism, nor physical persecution could curb his boldness."
 - Why? Because the "*gospel of Christ is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes.*"

• The Problem in Many Cases

- **We don't feel it's our responsibility**
 - "That's _____ job."
 - God's Perspective: **Ezekiel 3:16-21**
- **We don't feel prepared**
 - Many tools are available, but no one can make you use them if you don't want to.
 - "If God can use _____, He can use me!"
- **We are ashamed** of either God, the Message or our lives as the backdrop for the Message.

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