

GOD Talk Discussion 7
by Reverend Robert Bart

The Prize – Part 3

When we consider our eternal destiny, two distinct possibilities become apparent. One is a peaceful, Blessed, co-existence with The Merciful GOD in Paradise; and the other, a perpetual “**wailing and gnashing of teeth**” in “**the furnace of fire**”. (Mt 13: 42, 50) Paradise as The Place that GOD Will Bring to the earth after He Is Finished Separating “the sheep from the goats”. The “furnace of fire” is the same place as “the lake of fire”, which I wrote about in Part 2. It is a place of eternal separation from GOD’s Love and Mercy, and from His Peace and Joy. It is where The Lord Will Cast the Devil, and all those who follow him., Tormenting them for their evil intentions and actions. GOD Does Not Want for any of us to go there, and He Has Provided The Way for us to avoid this tragic fate, and Has Invited us into His Kingdom Of Love. (2 Pe 3: 9d, Jn 3:16-21) We accept His Invitation by allowing His HOLY SPIRIT to Lead our lives, and to Empower us to overcome the temptations of sin. After all, how would we fit into a Life in Paradise, if we weren’t able to overcome our sinful nature?

So now... seeing that GOD Is (A Holy) Spirit, we inadvertently separate ourselves from Him when we do anything which is not holy. Holiness is a spiritual condition, and we have a Spiritual Communion with GOD when we too, are holy. If we commit sin, the **only way** for us to re-establish that Communion is to confess our sin to Him and to ask for His Forgiveness. Then, we determine, with The Help of The HOLY SPIRIT, not to commit that sin any more, and to become Sanctified and Consecrated to The Lord.

God Is Imploring us to receive The Salvation of His Son’s Atoning Death, and to receive His Power so that we can overcome the temptations which would cause us to become separated from Him. He Created us for that very Purpose... to Love us and Bless us as His very Children. It is not a difficult concept to understand, especially if you have children of your own.

GOD’s Son Has already Suffered and “Paid the price” that was necessary to restore our everlasting Communion with Himself. Let’s not allow the attributes, talents and endowments which GOD Has Given us to become a hindrance to our Relationship with Him (by being high-minded or conceited). Let’s be thankful for all the indescribable Gifts which GOD Has Provided. He Loves us with A Love that cannot be measured. All **we** need to do is to Believe that He Is our Creator, and that He Loves us Dearly. By Believing in His Love (which was Evidenced by His Giving His Life for us

Through His Son JESUS), we allow Him (by His HOLY SPIRIT) to Help us become holy and perfect, as He Is. After this “Process”, whereby we are made holy, we will be ready to see our Heavenly FATHER face to Face.

In the altercation (the battle between JESUS and the devil) for your eternal destiny, **you are the referee. You decide** which Spiritual Proponent (Fighter) is allowed pre-eminence in your life; (that is, who you allow to influence your actions), and by doing so, **you** determine which One Has the victory over your Eternal Future. You can see now, that by the decisions that you make in life, it is **you** who chooses **where** you will spend eternity. I have already declared that our spirit has been Created to live forever, so your spirit **is eternal**. GOD Has Clearly Revealed His Will for our future in these scriptures... 11 "For this commandment which I command you today is not too mysterious for you, nor is it far off. 12 It is not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will ascend into heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?' 13 Nor is it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?' 14 But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it. 15 "See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, 16 in that I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, that you may live and multiply; and the Lord your God will bless you in the land which you go to possess. 17 But if your heart turns away so that you do not hear, and are drawn away, and worship other gods and serve them, 18 I announce to you today that you shall surely perish; 19 I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live; 20 that you may love the Lord your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for **He is your life** and the length of your days; (Deuteronomy 30) (bolding ours) ☺

Surely, readers, this Bible prophecy will shortly come to pass...
“The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!” (Rev 11:15d, e)

Who will win The Prize of your eternal life? The choice is yours...