

THE COMPASSIONATE CHRIST

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The reason why the Lord Jesus came to earth and why He went to the Cross was because He came to seek and save those who were lost (Matthew 18.11).

There are only two types of people in the world namely those who are saved and those who are lost.

We talk about Jesus Christ being the Saviour and so there is something He saves us from but not everyone are saved. This is the contrast:

John 3.18 Whosoever does not believe in the Son Of God is condemned.

Romans 8.1 But there is no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus.

Are you in, or are you out?

In Revelation 3.20, the Lord Jesus says, 'Behold I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears my voice and opens the door I will come in unto him.'

He also said, 'Whosoever cometh unto Me, I will not cast out'. (John 6.37).

Salvation is possible to all men and women since Acts 2 21 reads, 'Whosoever shall call upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved.'

The word whosoever means anybody.

But you have to call.

He is not willing that any should perish (2 Peter 3.9).

His will is that all men everywhere repent and come to a knowledge of all the truth (2 Timothy 3.7)

There must be repentance and a gradual acquisition of all the truth.

It is not a popular teaching but the Lord Jesus taught about hell, the place of eternal punishment. Nowhere is this more clear than in Matthew 13 verses 24 to 41. It is a place of torment and separation from God and from which there is no escape.

Hence the Scripture says, 'How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?' (Hebrews 2.3.).

Sadly, most of us want to go our own way, a way of our own choosing, but this broad way leads to destruction said the Lord in Matthew 7.13. Isaiah 53.6 says that everyone turns to his or her own way and yet God had laid on Him (The Lord Jesus) the iniquity of us all.

The will of God is that everyone be saved. His will is not the establishment of churches, denominations, bishops, priests, ecclesiastical law and practice but that all men be saved. It is not the church or the sacraments that save. It is Christ.

But not all people are saved.

We read in the Gospels that the Lord Jesus was moved with compassion when He saw a group since they were like sheep without a shepherd (Matthew 9.6).

Look at the millions of people in the world who do not have Christ as Saviour. There are 700 million Hindus and 500 million Buddhists who do not even have a god!

I believe if they have never heard the Gospel then the Lord will do what is right (Genesis 18.25).

Come to the shores of Britain. The majority of people are not Christians and do not care about eternal life. This country is becoming more secular and anti-God

The question is asked, How many who go to Church are saved and really Christians?

We live in days when those who do go to church may think that they have done their duty and that is it for the rest of the week.

We also have clergyman and church people who are definitely not Christian.

But Christ is compassionate and His will is that people be saved so that, when this life is over, they can have eternal life.

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(These are notes of an address give to Anglicans In March 2001)