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Daily Devotional, Wednesday, November 8, 2017 - Loved but Lost

NOVEMBER 08TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

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John 3:16-19

Through faith in Jesus, we move from our lost condition to adoption into God's family. Unless we trust in Christ, we face permanent alienation from the heavenly Father. On judgment day, each person's eternal destiny will be determined, based on that individual's spiritual state. Members of God's family will live in heaven with Him. But those who remain blind to divine truth, which is found only in Jesus, will be sent away to live in eternal torment (Revelation 20:12-15).

Many people struggle to reconcile this teaching with the concept of a loving God. They reason that love would not condemn anyone to torment. The truth is, the Father desires reconciliation with man—not separation. His love for us motivated Him to provide all we need to receive forgiveness and thereby be reconciled to Him. It is man's choice to refuse or accept God's provision of Jesus as the remedy to the sin problem. An unsaved person can't blame God for his eternal state; his suffering will be due to his own rebellion against the Lord.

A second common objection says, "Love would accept people on the basis of their moral lives and good deeds." This argument assumes that God ignores sin and bases His decision about heaven on behavior. But since He is holy and just, He won't allow sin to go unpunished. Because of His great love, however, He provided a way for our sin debt to be paid—through

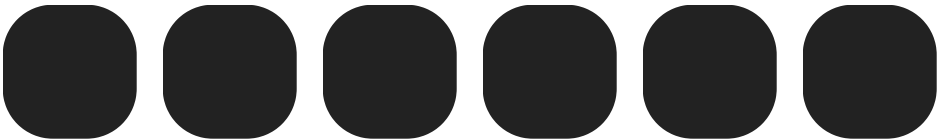
Jesus’ atoning death.

God shows no favoritism. He extends love toward the whole lost world and invites everyone to come to Him through faith in His Son Jesus Christ.

LAST UPDATED ON NOVEMBER 08TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

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