

# Unsearchable Riches of Christ

Ephesians 3:8-9

Psalms 36:7-12

Romans 8:12-17

## WARNING!

### God Is Who He Says He Is

- God is who He says He and not who people think He is.
- God is Creator. The universe and all that is in it is His. (Job 41:11; Psalm 50:12; Proverbs 16:4; Romans 11:36; Revelation 4:11)
- God is Sovereign - He does whatever He pleases, whenever He pleases, always as He pleases, with whatever He pleases, and however He pleases. (Psalm 115:3; 135:6; Isaiah 24:27; 46:9-11; Job 23:13; Proverbs 19:21; Daniel 4:35)
- God is Almighty. Nothing can stop Him from doing His pleasure. (Job 42:2; Genesis 17:1; 2 Cor 6:18; Revelation 1:8; 4:8; 11:17; 19:6, 15)
- God is all-knowing and all-seeing. Everything lays naked before Him. (Heb 4:13; 1 Sam 16:7; Psalm 139:11-12; Prov 15:3, 11; Psalm 147:5; Isaiah 40:28; Romans 11:33)
- God is the Sustainer. He gives to all life, breath, and all things. (Acts 17:25; Job 12:10; Isaiah 42:5; James 4:13-16)
- God is our Judge, Lawgiver, and King. (Isaiah 33:22)
  - King. (Psalm 44:4; 74:12; Revelation 19:16)
  - Lawgiver. (Deuteronomy 33:2; James 4:12; Romans 7:12)
    - ★ God and God alone determines what sin is!
    - ★ Sin is what God says. Not what I think or what the world says.
  - Judge. He is an inflexible judge. He cannot and will not overlook any sin. (Genesis 18:25; Hebrews 4:13; Psalm 50:6; 75:7; 98:9; 2 Cor 5:10)

### Is God Serious About YOUR Sin?

- Anything not done in accordance with God's **written** Law is sin. Sin is lawlessness. Those who practice lawlessness are condemned to hell. (1 John 3:4; Matthew 7:23; 13:41)



- (Ezekiel 18:4) The soul that sins dies - eternal death.
- (Romans 6:23) The wages of sin is death - eternal death.
- (1 Corinthians 6:9-10) Those who will not inherit the kingdom of heaven. (Galatians 5:19-21; Revelation 21:8; 22:15)
- (Revelation 20:15) Sinners will be cast into the lake of fire. (Matthew 25:41; Mark 9:43-48)
- (2 Thess 1:7-8) God will take vengeance on His enemies - those who do not take Him seriously. (Deut 32:35, 41; Nahum 1:2; Hebrews 10:30-31; Jude 7)
- God hates those who do wickedness - sin. (Psalm 5:5; 11:5)
- Because God is HOLY He will repay each and every sin. God overlooks NO sin.

### An Unbeliever's Eternal Future (Ephesians 2:1-3)

- Everyone born into this world is . . .
  - ✗ born dead in trespasses and sins.
  - ✗ a slave to the world system.
  - ✗ a slave to Satan.
  - ✗ a slave to their own lusts and desires.
  - ✗ are *by nature* born children of God's wrath.
- (Romans 3:9-18) There is **none**, NOT ONE, . . .
  - ✗ who is righteous.
  - ✗ who understands God and His ways. (1 Corinthians 2:14)
  - ✗ who seeks God.
  - ✗ who is profitable.
  - ✗ who does anything good.
  - ✗ who fears God.
- The WRATH of God right now abides on all unbelievers. (John 3:36; Psalm 2:12; Romans 1:18)
- Those who do not take God absolutely seriously will spend all of eternity suffering God's wrath. (Rev 20:15; Matt 25:41; Mark 9:43-48)
- **GOD IS SERIOUS.**

### The ONLY Hope (Ephesians 2:4-10; Romans 10:9-10)

- (Eph 2:4) **BUT GOD.** God is our ONLY hope!
- God is RICH IN MERCY and one needs God's abundant mercy to be saved. Mercy is NOT earned. Mercy is at the complete discretion of the Judge. Mercy does not ignore sin. All sin must be punished.
- ONLY BECAUSE of HIS GREAT LOVE which He loved us does God save us. His love is NOT based on anything we do or who we are.
- Those who understand this love submit to Jesus Christ, not as their personal saviour but, as their LORD. **MEDITATE!** Are you submitting to Christ as LORD daily? Are you living by His commandments? (1 John 2:3-4; 5:1-3;

John 14:15, 21, 23-24; 15:10, 13-14). If you are not submitting to Christ as LORD then He is not your Saviour and you are still in your sins.

• **GOD IS SERIOUS.**

- To those who submit to Christ as Lord then . . .

**A Believer's Unsearchable Riches in Christ** (Ephesians 3:8-9)

- Believers are made "children of God" (John 1:13; 3:1-8; James 1:8)
- If "children of God" then we are HEIRS of GOD and JOINT HEIRS with Christ! (Romans 8:12-17).
- (Ephesians 1:3-14) In Christ, believers receive . . .
  - (v. 3) Every spiritual blessing. (See 2 Peter 1:3-4)
  - (v. 4) Chosen by God to holy and without blame.
  - (v. 5) Adopted as children according to the good pleasure of His will.
  - (v. 6) Acceptance by God.
  - (v. 7) Purchased by the blood of Christ.
  - (v. 7) Forgiveness of sin. (Isaiah 43:25)
  - (v. 8) Wisdom and prudence.
  - (vv. 13-14) Sealed with His Spirit.
- Here are just some of the aspects of our inheritance as children of God:
  - A city built by God. (Hebrews 11:13-16)
  - A mansion prepared for us by Christ. (John 14:1-6)
  - A feast/banquet in our honor with Christ serving! (Luke 12:37)
  - A place where there is no more pain, sickness, death, sin, temptation, etc. (Revelation 21:3-5)
  - New glorified bodies. (1 Cor 15:42-44; Philippians 3:20-21)
  - A seat on Christ's throne. (Revelation 3:21)
  - Fulness of joy and pleasures. (Psalm 16:11; 36:7-10)
  - God Himself! (Psalm 73:25-26; Lamentations 3:24)
- Some of Christ's riches that we receive NOW . . .
  - God's goodness and forbearance and longsuffering. (Romans 2:4)
  - God's abundant mercy and His great love. (Ephesians 2:4-5; 1 Peter 1:3)
  - His riches of His glory! (Romans 3:16; John 17:22; 2 Cor 3:18; 2 Thess 2:13-14)
  - "all things to enjoy" - 1 Timothy 6:17
  - His assurance. (Colossians 2:2; Philippians 1:6)
  - His Word. (Colossians 3:16)
  - Made **complete** in Christ. (Colossians 2:10)

**ALL THESE ARE FOR THOSE WHO TAKE  
GOD SERIOUSLY AT HIS WORD!**

**What Is Your Part?** (Mark 1:14-15)

- **REPENT** - not an invitation but a command; present tense - "keep on repenting". First, acknowledge your sin and then **forsake** it. (See Proverbs 28:13; Isaiah 55:7) Sin is lawlessness. Sin is not taking God's Law serious. (1 John 3:4) All sin is sin against God. (Psalm 51:4)
  - What is biblical repentance? Turning away from living life the way you think is right and turning to living life in accordance with God's **written** Word. Anything less is not Biblical repentance.
- **BELIEVE** - not an invitation but a command; present tense - "keep on believing".
  - **BELIEVE GOD!** (Genesis 15:6; Romans 4:3-6, 20-25; James 2:23)
  - ★ IF YOU BELIEVE GOD THEN YOU WILL DO HIS WILL/WORD AS HE HAS REVEALED IN HIS **WRITTEN** WORD.

**A Gate and A Way** (Matthew 7:13-14; **Luke 13:24**)

- The gate is narrow. You must forsake all. (Luke 14:33)
- Salvation does not end at the gate. The gate is only the entrance.
- It is the WAY that leads to eternal life. Those who do not walk the way do not get to life!!
- What is THE WAY? It is God's will. God's will is His Word.
- THE WAY is a life of **pursuing** . . .
  - Holy living in the fear of God. (Hebrews 12:14; 2 Corinthians 7:1)
  - Peace with all men, especially your brothers and sisters. (Hebrews 12:14; Romans 14:19; 1 Peter 3:11)
  - Agape love for our brothers and sisters and our enemies. (1 Corinthians 14:1; Matthew 5:44)
  - Those things that edify one another. (Romans 14:19; 15:2; Eph 4:29)
  - The good for all. (1 Thessalonians 5:15)
  - Righteousness (1 Timothy 6:11; Matthew 5:6; 6:33; Rom 10:3)
  - Godliness (1 Timothy 6:11; 1 Timothy 4:7-8; Titus 2:12)
  - Faith (1 Timothy 6:11; Luke 17:5; Acts 16:5)
  - Endurance/Perseverance/Patience (1 Timothy 6:11; **Matt 10:22**; 13:21; 24:13; Mark 13:13)
  - Gentleness (1 Timothy 6:11; Ephesians 4:2; Philippians 4:5)
- The WAY is deny self, taking up your cross daily, and following Christ. (Luke 9:23)
- **ONLY** those who follow/obey Christ have eternal life. (John 10:27-29; Hebrews 5:9; 1 Peter 4:17; 2 Thess 2:8; 1 John 2:3-4; Matthew 7:21-23)

**Are You on the Way?**