

What If?

Introduction

1. **What if** God does exist?
2. **What if** the Bible really is His inspired Word?
3. **What if** my soul will survive the death of the body?
4. **What if** God really intends to punish the disobedient?
5. **What if** God does reward the obedient?
6. **What if** Hell is just as real as Heaven?
7. **What if** Jesus really is the Son of God?
8. **What if** Jesus did die for my sins?
9. **What if** Jesus actually arose from the dead?
10. **What if** Jesus does come again?

What if all these things are true and I am lost?

1. **I cannot blame God**
 - A. **He made every provision for my salvation.**
John 3:16
Titus 2:11-14

Romans 5:6-8 For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that **while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**

2. I cannot blame Jesus Christ

A. Jesus came into this world to save all the sinners.

1 Timothy 1:15 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world **to save sinners**, of whom I am chief.

- 1) It was prophesied that Jesus would die a cruel death by crucifixion – paying the penalty for our sins.**

Isaiah 53:1-12

B. Amazingly, He did it willingly - He came with that mission in mind!

Philippians 2:5-11

C. He left us with facts that must be believed and commandments which must be obeyed – in order to become a recipient of the blessings which He promised:

1 Corinthians 15:1-8

I MUST Realize

1. God wants everyone to be saved!

A. We have learned that we are saved by the gospel (1 Cor 15:1-8). When and how am I saved by the gospel?

Acts 18:8 Then Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, **believed on the Lord** with all his household. And many of the Corinthians, **hearing, believed and were baptized**.

- 1) This is in keeping with the **"great commission"** that was given by Jesus just before His return to the Father's right hand. (Matthew 28:18-20)

2. **I Must Realize:** That I am saved only by obeying the Word of Jesus

A. Jesus said:

John 14:15 If you love me, keep my commandments.

Hebrews 5:9 And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him,

B. What must I do?

Hebrews 11:6

Acts 17:30

Romans 10:10

Acts 2:38

Acts 22:16

Mark 16:16

1 Peter 3:21

3. **I Must Realize:** That all the spiritual blessings that I am to receive are only found in Jesus Christ

Ephesians 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

A. How do I come into the spiritual condition referred to as being “in Christ?”

1) Thankfully, the inspired apostle Paul answers that question for us:

Romans 6:2-6

a) There is no promise of the blessings found “in Christ” for those who have not:

1. Died to sin
2. Been buried in baptism
3. Arisen to walk in **NEWNESS** of life

What If – I Change and Obey?

Romans 6:17-18 But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

1. **At the point I come into the saved relationship “in Christ,” I am numbered among the saved in the church, the kingdom of Christ**
Colossians 1:13-14
Acts 2:40-41, 47

A. When I am added to His body, the church, through baptism, then and only then will I be saved.

1 Corinthians 12:13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body — whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free — and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.

Ephesians 5:23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.

2. **When Jesus comes again, I can have comfort that I will forever be with Him!**
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Conclusion

1. **God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit has made my salvation possible:**
 - A. **Possible by Christ in the one body**
 - B. **Possible by His shed blood purchased by the gospel**
2. **What if I am lost?**
 - A. **I can only blame myself!**
3. **What if I am saved?**
 - A. **I can know this by my love, trust and faithfulness in the doctrine of Jesus Christ that I chose to obey!**
2 Timothy 4:7-8

