IF I AM LOST

INTRODUCTION:

1. I am talking about being LOST eternally in HELL.
2. Being lost in hell is the most terrible thought one can dwell on.
3. And yet, it is not an impossible fact for any of us.
4. At the end of this life, judgment will be meted out to every man.
   (1) All of us will stand before Christ -- Acts 17:31; Rom. 14: 11 - 12; Matt. 25:31 - 33
   (2) Judgment is one of the appointments we will all keep -- Heb. 9:27
   (3) We will be judged according to our works of faith -- Rev. 20: 12 - 13; II Cor. 5:10; Matt. 7: 21 - 23; James 2:22; Luke 17:10
   (4) According as a man has lived, so shall his sentence be -- II Cor. 5:10; Matt. 25:46

I. IF I DIE IN MY SINS WITHOUT CHRIST, THERE WILL BE NO SECOND CHANCE TO PREPARE TO MEET GOD.

1. Jesus said if we die in our sins we cannot go to heaven -- John 8: 21
2. Jesus said if we believe not in Him we would die in our sins -- John 8:24
   (1) To believe in Him is to be obedient to Him-- Heb. 5: 8, 9; John 14:15
3. To be without Christ means that one is without:
   (1) All spiritual blessings -- Eph. 1:3
   (2) Salvation -- Acts 4:12
   (3) Hope -- John 14: 6; I Tim. 1:1
   (4) Life -- John 14:6; 6:35; 4:14
   (5) The forgiveness of sins -- Eph. 1:7

II. IF I AM LOST, I WILL BE LOST FOREVER !

1. It will be eternal punishment --no mercy, no hope.
   (1) "*Everlasting fire*" -- Matt. 25:41
   (2) "*Everlasting punishment*" -- Matt. 25:46
   (3) " *The fire is not quenched*" -- Mark 9:46
   (4) "*Tormented day and night forever and ever*" --Rev. 20: 10
   (5) "*Everlasting destruction*" -- II Thess. 1:9
2. The punishment will be as long as the joys of heaven -- Matt. 25:46

II. IF I AM LOST IT WILL BE MY OWN FAULT!

1. God made man a free-will agent; a creature of choice.
   (1) Joshua 24:15
   (2) Matt. 11: 28 - 30
   (3) Deut. 30: 15, 19

2. God made man responsible for his acts -- Rom. 14:12; II Cor. 5:10
    (1) His acts -- Rev. 20: 12, 13; Eccl. 12:14
    (2) His words -- Matt. 12: 37
    (3) His thoughts -- Matt. 5:28

IV. IF I AM LOST, IT WILL NOT BE GOD'S FAULT

1. He has not predestined certain ones to be lost.
2. He loves all of mankind -- John 3:16; I John 4:12
3. He would have all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth -- I Tim. 2:4
    (1) Christ sent men to preach to all the world -- Mark 16: 15 - 16
4. His grace has appeared to all men -- Tit. 2: 11 - 12; Acts 20:24
5. He now commands all men everywhere to repent -- Acts 17: 30
6. He is not willing that any should perish -- II Pet. 3:9

V. IF I AM LOST, IT WILL NOT BE CHRIST'S FAULT

1. He came to seek and save the lost -- Luke 19:10; Rom. 5: 8, 9
2. He "*gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity*" -- Tit. 2:14
3. He "*gave his life a ransom for many*" -- Matt. 20:28
4. He "*tasted death for every man*" -- Heb. 2:9
5. He died for the unjust -- II Pet. 3:18
6. He purchased the church with His own blood -- Acts 20:28
7. He built the church -- Matt. 16:18
8. He invites ALL -- Matt. 11: 28 - 30

VI. IF I AM LOST IT WILL NOT BE THE HOLY SPIRIT'S FAULT

1. He guided the apostles into all truth -- John 16:13; 14:26
2. The apostles and prophets wrote "all truth" down and we have it in the New Testament -- II Tim. 3: 16 - 17; Eph. 3:5
3. The Holy Spirit is grieved if our soul is lost -- Eph. 4:30
4. The Holy Spirit invites -- Rev. 22:17

VII. IF I AM LOST IT WILL NOT BE THE FAULT OF THE CHURCH

1. It supports the truth -- I Tim. 3:15
2. It invites -- Rev. 22:17

CONCLUSION

1. If I am lost, I must come to the conclusion that I AM TO BLAME!
2. God, Christ, the Holy Spirit and the church have done their part.
3. I must do my part -- I must obey the gospel.

4. If I am lost these are the kind of people I must be with throughout eternity:

   (1) The unbelievers -- Mark 16: 16; John 8:24

   (2) The worldly -- Gal. 5: 19 - 21

   (3) The neglectors-- Heb. 2: 1 - 4

   (4) Lukewarm church members -- Rev. 3:16

   (5) All who do not obey the gospel -- II Thess. 1: 8, 9

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