

# Article 10: Response and Eternal Destiny

## **We believe that God commands everyone everywhere**

- Acts 17:30 – “<sup>30</sup> The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent,”
- Acts 20:20 – “<sup>20</sup> how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house,”

## **To believe the gospel**

- Mk. 1:15 – “<sup>15</sup> and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.””
- John 6:29 – “<sup>29</sup> Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.””
- John 8:24 – “<sup>24</sup> I told you that you would die in your sins, for unless you believe that I am he you will die in your sins.””
- John 11:26 – “<sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?””
- John 14:1 – “<sup>1</sup> “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.”
- John 20:31 – “<sup>31</sup> but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”
- Acts 16:31 – “<sup>31</sup> And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.””
- Rom. 3:22 – “<sup>22</sup> the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction:”

- Rom. 10:14 – “<sup>14</sup> How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?”
- Gal. 3:22 – “<sup>22</sup> But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.”
- 1 Tim. 1:16 – “<sup>16</sup> But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life.”
- 1 Pet. 1:8 – “<sup>8</sup> Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory,”
- 1 Jn. 3:23 – “<sup>23</sup> And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.”

### **by turning to Him in repentance**

- Isa. 55:6-7 – “<sup>6</sup> “Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; <sup>7</sup> let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.”
- Lk. 24:47 – “<sup>47</sup> and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.”
- Acts 2:37-38 – “<sup>37</sup> Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?””

- Acts 3:19 – “<sup>19</sup> Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out,”
- Acts 14:15 – “<sup>15</sup> “Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them.”
- Acts 17:30 – “<sup>30</sup> The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent,”
- Acts 20:21 – “<sup>21</sup> testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.”
- Acts 26:17-18 – “<sup>17</sup> delivering you from your people and from the Gentiles—to whom I am sending you <sup>18</sup> to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.’”
- Rom. 2:4 – “<sup>4</sup> Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God’s kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?”
- 2 Cor. 7:9-10 – “<sup>9</sup> As it is, I rejoice, not because you were grieved, but because you were grieved into repenting. For you felt a godly grief, so that you suffered no loss through us. <sup>10</sup> For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.”

### **and receiving the Lord Jesus Christ.**

- Jn. 1:12 – “<sup>12</sup> But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man,

but of God.”

## **We believe that God will raise the dead bodily**

- Isa. 26:19 – “<sup>19</sup> Your dead shall live; their bodies shall rise. You who dwell in the dust, awake and sing for joy! For your dew is a dew of light, and the earth will give birth to the dead.”
- Dan. 12:2 – “<sup>2</sup> And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.”
- 1 Cor. 15 – [Whole Chapter](#)
- 1 Thess. 4:13-18 – “<sup>13</sup> But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup> For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. <sup>15</sup> For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. <sup>16</sup> For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup> Therefore encourage one another with these words.”
- Rev. 20:13 – “<sup>13</sup> And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done.”

## **And judge the world,**

- Ecc. 12:14 – “<sup>14</sup> For God will bring every deed into judgment, with

every secret thing, whether good or evil.”

- Matt. 12:36 – “<sup>36</sup> I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak,”
- Matt. 26:31-32 – “<sup>31</sup> Then Jesus said to them, “You will all fall away because of me this night. For it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ <sup>32</sup> But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.””
- Acts 17:31 – “<sup>31</sup> because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.””
- Rom. 14:10 – “<sup>10</sup> Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God;”
- 2 Cor. 5:10 – “<sup>10</sup> For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.”
- 2 Tim. 4:1 – “<sup>1</sup> I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom:”
- Rev. 20:12 – “<sup>12</sup> And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done.”

### **assigning the unbeliever to condemnation and eternal conscious punishment,**

- Matt. 25:46 – “<sup>46</sup> And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.””

- Lk. 16:26 – “<sup>26</sup> And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.”
- 2 Thess. 1:9 – “<sup>9</sup> They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might,”
- Rev. 14:11 – “<sup>11</sup> And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever, and they have no rest, day or night, these worshipers of the beast and its image, and whoever receives the mark of its name.”
- Rev. 21:6-8 – “<sup>6</sup> And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. <sup>7</sup> The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son. <sup>8</sup> But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death.”
- Rev. 22:14-15 – “<sup>14</sup> Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates. <sup>15</sup> Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and the sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.”

**and the believer to eternal blessedness and joy with the Lord,**

- Matt. 25:34 – “<sup>34</sup> Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.’”
- Matt. 25:46 – “<sup>46</sup> And these will go away into eternal punishment,

but the righteous into eternal life.””

- Jn. 14:2 – “<sup>2</sup> In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?”
- Rev. 21:1-3 – “<sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.”

### **in the new heaven and the new earth,**

- Isa. 65:17 – “<sup>17</sup> “For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind.”
- Isa. 66:22 – “<sup>22</sup> “For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the Lord, so shall your offspring and your name remain.”
- Rom. 8:19-21 – “<sup>19</sup> For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God.”
- Heb. 12:26-27 – “<sup>26</sup> At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” <sup>27</sup> This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of things that are shaken—that is, things that have been made—in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain.”
- 2 Pet. 3:13 – “<sup>13</sup> But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.”
- Rev. 21:1 – “<sup>1</sup> Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.”
- Rev. 22:3 – “<sup>3</sup> No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will

worship him.”

**to the praise of His glorious grace.**

- Eph. 1:6 – “<sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.”
- Eph. 1:12 – “<sup>12</sup>so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory.”

**Amen.**