

YOU KNOW YOU ARE RIGHT?

■ A sailor speaking to a passenger on one of the Great Lakes steamer a few years ago said, "There are about 1500 religions in the world; how do you know you're right?"

"How does your Captain know he's right when he wants to steer a straight course for port, but owing to a heavy fog he can't see the harbor lights?" I asked in reply.

"Why, he goes by the chart and compass."

"Just so, and on this one vital point as to how a man can be just before God, and know that he is sure of eternal salvation, we may know that we are absolutely right. God has not left us to find our own course across the sea of time without a chart to guide us. The Word of God is a lamp to our feet and a light for our path, Without it we would grope in darkness, like a ship that has lost its rudder on a starless night. It is both a revelation from God and a revelation of God, showing us our true condition as sinners before Him, and His great love in sending 'His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life' (John 3:16)."

There are many shades of "religious beliefs" in this poor storm-tossed sea, but we must set them all aside as worthless and as the ways of men, which Scripture says are the ways of death (Proverbs 16:25). The Lord Jesus Christ is the Way, the Truth, and the Life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Him (John 14:6). His death upon the cross has opened the way for sinners to come to God, and this is the only way; there is no other.

We may differ on other points of greater or less importance, but we must agree on this main issue, that "the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin" (I John 1:7), if we expect to anchor in the

haven of eternal peace.

Faith believes what God says, and what God requires, and receives the blessing. The captain of a steamer once told me that he did not know why he pulled his ship from what seemed to be the right course, when a heavy fog prevented his sighting an island in Lake Superior; but that action saved his vessel from being wrecked, and I suggested that God is the Preserver of all men, specially of those that believe (I Timothy 4:10). But he thought he was on the right course, and had he remained there, seeking to "reason it out" with himself and his mates, it would have resulted in the loss of the ship and probably of all its precious crew.

It is not a question of "opinion," dear reader, but what saith the Scriptures? That Chart is accurate; it has never led any astray; never caused any to make shipwreck of their lives, but has brought life, peace, joy and happiness to countless thousands. Look it over, read it, believe it, and you'll not be troubled with the question, "Who is right?"

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36).

GOOD NEWS PUBLISHERS, Westchester, III. 1701
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