

THREE STEPS TO HEAVEN

Jhn 14:1-6

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Many things come today with instructions that are given step by step. (child able to follow)
- B. Yet many times adults can't put things together, Why? They won't read and follow the instructions
- C. Spiritual instructions are found in the Bible. There are three basic steps to get us to heaven.
- D. There are, however, many parts to each step and must be followed to reach the desired goal, heaven.

DISCUSSION:

I. FIRST STEP: PUT OFF SELF (OUT OF SELF possibly the hardest step)

- A. In putting off self or stepping out of self, one must:
 - 1. Deny self Matt 16:24
 - 2. Give up self 2Cor 8:5
 - 3. Put off the old man Col 3:5-9
 - 4. Forsake all and follow Christ Matt 19:27-29
- B. In putting off self or stepping out of self, one must not:
 - 1. Trust self Prov 3:5,6
 - 2. Look to self Jer 10:23
 - 3. Glorify self Matt 5:16
 - 4. Put welfare of self, first Matt 6:33
- C. Many are unwilling to do this, note Bible examples
 - 1. Rich young ruler Matt 19:22
 - 2. Chief priest Jhn 11:47,48
 - 3. Felix Acts 24:25
 - 4. Agrippa Acts 26:28

II. SECOND STEP: PUT ON CHRIST (INTO CHRIST) Gal 3:27

- A. How does one put on Christ or get into Christ
 - 1. Be willing to hear his word Rom 10:17
 - 2. Have faith in Him Mk 16:16; Heb 11:6
 - 3. Be willing to turn from your sin Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30
 - 4. Confess your faith in Christ Rom 10:10; Matt 10:32
 - 5. Be baptized into Christ Rom 6:3,4; 1Pet 3:21; Gal 3:27
- B. When one puts on Christ or gets in Christ:
 - 1. He is a new creature 2Cor 5:17
 - 2. He becomes victorious, triumphs 2Cor 2:14

- 3. He is free from condemnation Rom 8:1
- 4. Enjoys all spiritual blessings Eph 1:3
- C. The first part is what man does in response to God's commands. The second part is what God does for man, as a result of Man's putting on Christ

III. THIRD STEP: DIE IN CHRIST OR STEP INTO GLORY

- A. One must die or be transformed Heb 9:27
 - 1. Flesh and blood cannot inherit kingdom 1Cor 15:50
 - 2. At time of death or transformation one must be in Christ Rev 14:13
- B. After death or transformation, one must go through the judgment
 - 1. All will be judged Rom 14:10
 - 2. All give account Rom 14:12
 - 3. Those found to be in Christ (righteous) receive eternal life Matt 25:46

CONCLUSION:

- A. Instructions from God must be followed to the letter Jas 2:10
- B. In some things we may get by without following the instructions as they are given step by step, we might even be able to skip a step and still reach the desired goal
- C. However, this is not true of God's instructions. We are not smart enough to make it by our self. We cannot devise our own plan to reach the desired goal. Jer 10:23
- D. If you have not taken the first two steps, you can rest assured you will never complete the last one into Glory and be with God forever.
- E. Christ prepared a place for us, but we must follow his directions to arrive at the place prepared for us.