

# What Will You Do With Jesus?

*By Ron Boatwright*

As Jesus was standing before Pilate, "Pilate said to them, 'What then shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?'" (Matthew 27:22). Every person who has ever lived has to answer this same question. The answer to this question will determine the eternal destiny of either Heaven or Hell for every living soul when this life is over.

Jesus says, "He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him, the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day" (John 12:48). The vast majority of the world will reject Jesus (Matthew 7:13-14) because they do not believe Him (John 8:24). Included in this majority is the denominational world who choose to do things their own way. They have come up with their own plans of salvation, their own forms of worship, and their own churches. Even by the names they call themselves they have rejected Jesus. They do their own will and not the will of God. Jesus says, "Not everyone who says to Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven" (Matthew 7:21). They call Him their Lord and claim to know Him, but they do not keep His commandments, but their own. God's word says, "He who says, I know Him, and does not keep His commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him" (1 John 2:4).

There are many people who reject Jesus because they are ashamed of Him. But Jesus says, "For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels" (Mark 8:38). One who is ashamed of Jesus who gave His life for us will be eternally lost.

There are people who say they believe in Jesus but will not obey Him. "Nevertheless even among the chief rulers many believed on Him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess Him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue; for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God" (John 12:42-43). There are many people like this today.

Some brethren will follow Jesus for a while but will become unfaithful and reject Him. "From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. Then Jesus said to the twelve, 'Do you also want to go away?' But Simon Peter answered Him, 'Lord to whom shall we go? You

have the words of eternal life" (John 6:66-68). A child of God who falls away and becomes unfaithful to the Lord is likened to "A dog returns to his own vomit, and a sow, having been washed, to her wallowing in the mire" (2 Peter 2:22). The Hebrew writer asks, "Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?" (Hebrews 10:29). If one continues to be unfaithful and does not repent, "there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment" (Hebrews 10:26-27).

To be pleasing to the Lord so we can go to Heaven we must "be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord" (1 Corinthians 15:58). Jesus has promised us, "Be faithful until death and I will give you the crown of life" (Revelation 2:10). Lets "be even more diligent to make your call and election sure" (2 Peter 1:10).