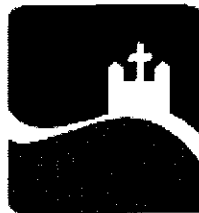


# Good people go to heaven



A common belief: we may not be sure about heaven, but if it is real then we are certain it is full of good people like us.

## 1. Good ? by whose standards ?

### Our own ?

The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it? 10 "I the LORD search the heart and examine the mind, to reward a person according to their conduct, according to what their deeds deserve."

**Jeremiah 17:9-10.**

### God's ?

As it is written: "There is no-one righteous, not even one; 11 there is no-one who understands, no-one who seeks God. 12 All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no-one who does good, not even one "

... all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, **Romans 3:10-12 and 23**

### Surely a 50% pass mark is enough ?

## 2. How will we deal with sin ?

### We can't undo the past

### We can't negotiate with a righteous God

Commission - we do what we ought not to do

Omission - we fail to do what we ought to do

Thoughts & Motives - Lust / Adultery Anger / Murder

### 3. Do good people go to heaven ?

**NO - perfect people could, but we are not perfect**

### 4. The case of the Terrorist who IS IN HEAVEN NOW

There was a written notice above ( Jesus ), which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS. 39 One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!" 40 But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? 41 We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." 42 Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." 43 Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, **today you will be with me in paradise**".

**Luke 23:38-43**

**What makes the difference ?**

### 5. GOOD NEWS:

**Good people don't go to heaven -  
FORGIVEN people do**

Jesus' life, death and resurrection  
flings heaven's gates wide open to sinners like us

God the waiting, watching, searching father  
welcomes sinners home Luke 15