

They will. All those who God decides are responsible to Him will be raised and judged. ***"I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day"*** (John 11:24). For ***"We will all stand before God's judgement seat"*** (Romans 14:10).

6. Will the Kingdom of God come on earth?

Yes, it will. God ***"is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone he wishes"***. Mankind has abused God's world, so God ***"will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed"*** (Daniel 4:32; 2:44). Jesus will be king, reigning from Jerusalem, ***"the city of the Great King"*** (Psalm 2:6; Matthew 5:35).

7. What is the Kingdom of God?

God has promised a time of great blessing for the earth. Jesus will return from heaven, and give everlasting life to his faithful from all ages. They will help him rule the world. It will be a time of peace, plenty, justice and joy, when people will learn of God's ways. ***"The law will go out from Zion, the word of the Lord from Jerusalem"*** (Isaiah 2:3).

8. How can I be in God's Kingdom?

You must believe in God and keep His commandments. These include accepting that you are a sinner and need the Saviour, Jesus Christ. You must wash away your sins by being baptized as an adult, when you know what you are doing. You must accept and follow the teaching of Jesus. ***"Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you***

the crown of life" (Revelation 2:10; Romans 6).

God has promised that all His faithful will live with Him for ever. Jesus will reign ***"until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death"***. Then, even Jesus ***will be subject to God, so that "God may be all in all"*** (1 Corinthians 15:25-28).

Nothing else in life is as worthy of your attention as the matters raised by this leaflet. Nothing else can equal the joy of living for ever with God. God invites you to follow Jesus, so that you may belong to Him in the day ***"when I make up my treasured possession"*** (Malachi 3:17).

In one short leaflet, we cannot look at every important aspect of Bible teaching. Our hope is that you will agree that what we have said is sound, according to the Bible. Please accept our invitation to look carefully with us at Bible teaching. Other leaflets will give fuller answers to the questions we have considered. They will

Please tell us if you would like to know more about Bible teaching and the beliefs of Christadelphians. Would you like:

- Other leaflets in this series?
- A booklet *Who are the Christadelphians?*
- A monthly magazine *Glad Tidings?*
- A Postal Correspondence Course?

Ask your nearest Christadelphians or write to:

CHRISTADELPHIAN BIBLE MISSION
c/o 404 SHAFTMOOR LANE
BIRMINGHAM B28 8SZ, UK

What Do Christadelphians

When you have read this leaflet you will know the answers to these questions:

1. Is the Bible the Word of God?
2. Is Jesus Christ the Son of God?
3. Is Jesus the Saviour of the world?
4. Is Jesus coming back to the earth?
5. Will the dead be raised for judgement?
6. Will the Kingdom of God come on earth?
7. What is the Kingdom of God?
8. How can I be in God's Kingdom?

Believe?

The Christadelphians. "Brethren in Christ", are a worldwide community whose beliefs are firmly rooted in Bible teaching. "Isn't that true of all Christians?" you may ask. Sadly, the

answer is “No”. The teaching of many groups has been taken from Greek thought and other sources, rather than the Bible. Christadelphians teach that we must look at the whole Bible message to understand it. We must read it carefully and ask questions.

SEE WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS!

It is all too easy to take a few words, often out of context, and make of them what we will. For example, some people believe that when they die, they have an immortal soul inside them which goes to heaven. Let us ask some questions about that idea by going directly to the Bible. All quotations are from the New International Version.

(a) God made man “a living being” (Genesis 2:7). Does it say that man was made an ‘ever-living being’? It does not.

(b) We shall see that resurrection from the dead is the great Christian hope. This is because when we die, we really are dead. Yes, every bit of us. **“It is not the dead who praise the Lord”** (Psalm 115:17). Does it say that the soul of the dead will praise the Lord in heaven? It does not.

(c) God is going to send Jesus Christ back to the earth. “This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back” (Acts 1:11). Why should Jesus come back if those who have died are already in heaven?

(d) Jesus is coming back to raise the dead. “I will raise him up at the last day” (John 6:40). Why should Jesus

raise dead bodies if the ‘soul’ is already enjoying life in heaven?

(e) Jesus will judge men and women when he returns. “We must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ” (2 Corinthians 5:10). How can men and women already be in heaven, if Jesus has not yet returned to judge them?

Jesus himself clearly tells us **“For the Son of man is going to come in his Father’s glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what he has done”** (Matthew 16:27). Here Jesus tells us that first he comes in glory, then he judges. As he has not yet come in glory, how can he have already rewarded anyone?

(f) The Apostle Paul confirms this view of the future, when he tells us that Jesus, who he “eagerly awaits” as a Saviour, **“will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body”** (Philippians 3:21). His hope is for *resurrection* and having an *immortal body* like Jesus, who could be seen and handled after his own resurrection.

(g) Paul also says that Jesus “will judge the living and the dead” (2 Timothy 4:1). Why should *living* people ever be judged, if we go to heaven when we die? If that was true, only dead people would ever be judged. Dead people, who God deems responsible for judgement, from Adam onwards, will be judged when Jesus returns. So also will responsible people who are *alive* when he comes to set up God’s Kingdom on earth.

INTERLOCKING DOCTRINES

Can you see how all these aspects of Bible teaching make sense when we draw them together?

The brief answers to the questions asked at the beginning of this leaflet support and add to the Bible ideas we have outlined.

1. Is the Bible the Word of God?

Yes. Jesus himself accepted its teaching. **“Beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he explained to them ...”** (Luke 24:27). Jesus believed all the Old Testament. The Bible was written under the guidance of God’s Holy Spirit because **“All scripture is God-breathed”** (2 Timothy 3:16).

2. Is Jesus Christ the Son of God?

He is. God Himself said, **“This is my Son, whom I love”** (Matthew 3:17). Notice that the Bible never calls Jesus “God the Son”. Jesus said, **“For the Father is greater than I”** (John 14:28).

3. Is Jesus the Saviour of the world?

The Bible makes clear that Jesus was “without sin”. Because of his sinless life, we, who are sinners and deserve only death, can be saved. We must have faith and keep his commandments. Only Jesus can save us, for **“Salvation is found in no-one else”** (Acts 4:12).

4. Is Jesus coming back to the earth?

Yes. The Bible says so in many places. **“He comes in his Father’s glory”** (Mark 8:38).

5. Will the dead be raised for judgement?