

How Good is Good Enough?

Andy Stanley

I. Introduction.

- A. Most people believe that there is a relationship between the quality of life a person has now and where a person ends up in the afterlife.
- B. We need to be challenged about our views of heaven and who goes there.

II. Four reasons why the “good people go to heaven” system seems good.

- A. It appears to be fair.
- B. It appears to be what the Bible teaches on the surface.
- C. Many will go to heaven because on average most are not like the worst people.
- D. If people really believed this view then society would be better off.

III. Problems with the “good people go to heaven” system.

- A. There is no clear standard by which one can be measured, but the Bible does have a standard by which we are measured. (Romans 3)
 - 1. The Bible has a perfect standard, but nobody will ever be this good.
 - 2. The Ten Commandments were not given so that we can get to heaven.
- B. There is no way to measure our progress.
- C. If this system is true than Jesus is a liar. (Luke 23)
 - 1. The thief on the cross was forgiven despite having no chance to do good.
 - 2. Good people do not go to heaven.
 - 3. A person can know that he is going to heaven because Jesus died for our sins.

Application questions:

- 1. How would respond to a person who claims that good people go to heaven?

- 2. Why is the standard that most people propose for heaven not good enough?

3. What does the thief on the cross tell us about the requirements for heaven? Explain.
