

The Way to Paradise

A. W. Tozer

I. "Who has believed our report?" (John 12:38)

A. The report.

1. What God is saying to mankind is that He loves and values our human nature.

a. God loves humanity, humans, and human nature because of its likeness to Himself, which was in the beginning of creation.

b. God took human nature to Himself (Jesus), perpetually and eternally.

1) God took the human nature into the presence of God - human nature is received, embraced, and enthroned in heaven presently.

2) Jesus took human nature through the Virgin birth.

3) The Incarnation was important because of the propitiation.

a) God has removed the flaming sword guarding paradise through Christ's blood.

b) Human nature is reconciled.

i. By union with the new nature and Christ the individual is saved.

ii. The individual is born again, or regenerated.

iii. Man is generated (creation), degeneration (the Fall), and regeneration (God getting individuals generated again).

iv. We become partakers in the divine nature.

2. The new nature.

a. Jesus Christ takes us to himself, and our human nature no longer belongs to hell.

b. A man will go to hell because you belong there not because of God's vengeance.

1) He will go there by natural rights.

2) But those who are ready for eternal life will go there.

3) The life we live after we die is permanent and endless.

c. To be in this new nature means to be obedient to what Jesus asks of us.

1) Personal example of a student who relapsed in his faith and was restored.

2) The Son of God is given judgment over mankind because He is the Son of Man.

a) The Son of God is the right judge because He knows our griefs, temptations, heartaches and pains, unlike an angel.

b) Every son of man will be confronted by the Son of Man.

3) The Judge can be your loving Savior even now.

a) If you accept Him, He becomes your advocate and not your judge.

Application questions.

1. What is God's response to humans and the human nature? On what conditions does this response rest?

2. Why is Christ's human nature so essential concerning our salvation? How is he both rightly judge and redeemer?

3. What impacted you the most about this message? What steps can you take to make these truths a staple of your daily life?
