

BANNER THE SURE WORD

By Jonnie Hutchison

A LIFE WITHOUT GOD

Do you need God in your life? A great many people are answering no to that question. As a matter of fact, many would tell you that having God in their lives would be too restrictive and an unnecessary burden. Having God in one's life requires the exercise of self-control, refraining from the pleasures of sin and putting God's will above one's own will. However, choosing not to have God in one's life has consequences.

If you choose to live your life without God you will live your life without the benefits of His love. "God is love" (1 John 4:8). God loves every person and has demonstrated His love in the giving of Jesus Christ as a sacrifice for the sins of the world (John 3:16; Romans 5:8-9). God even loves those who decide to live their lives without Him. But those who make that choice will not receive the benefits of God's love which includes the forgiveness of sin and the hope of eternal life in heaven. Yes, if you choose to live your life without God you are choosing to live it without the benefits of God's love.

If you choose to live your life without God you are choosing to live your life without His divine help and guidance God has given us His divine will in the Bible to guide us in the path of life. The prophet Jeremiah was inspired to write, "O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself; it is not in man who walks to direct his own steps" (Jer. 10:23). Humanism says that man is completely self-sufficient and does not need the God of the Bible. Spiritually speaking without accepting the help and guidance of God's Word in our lives we have no real sense of direction and we become hopelessly lost. While men often fail their fellow man, God will never "leave us or forsake us" but will guide us through the negative issues of life. Yet, if you choose to live your life without God you will live it without His divine help and guidance.

If you choose to live your life without God you will live your life without hope. Hope is described in the Bible as "the anchor of the soul both sure and steadfast" (Hebrews 6:19). The hope of the Christian is the fulfillment of the promise of eternal life in heaven with God (1 John 2:25). Only those who choose to have God in their lives possess this hope. If one rejects God he has only eternal hopelessness and regrets in his future (Matthew 25:46).

The truth is that all of us need God in our lives for without Him there is no love, no help and no hope. May we help you to discover how you can have God in your life? Contact us at the Green Plain church of Christ, 3980 Murray Paris Road, Hazel, KY 42049.