

Second Meeting**Why Can't People Meet God?**

Salvation is found in one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.

Acts 4:12

People are unhappy because they have gone away from God. Life apart from God bring much misery. Then, why can't people meet God?

1. It is because people have gone away from God.

- 1) Their spirits are dead (Eph. 2:1).
- 2) Spiritual death means that God's
 - (1) In the beginning man was with God's spirit (Ge 1:27).
 - (2) After the fall, God's spirit left and so man's spirit became a dead spirit. Therefore unless there are continual blood offerings, man is immediately cursed (Cain).
 - (3) When God's spirit left, Satan's spirit came to control man's spirit (1 Cor 2:12)
- 3) People became ignorant of God's will because their knowledge and wisdom have become darkened (2 Thess 2:12-11).

2. People are striving to meet God.

- 1) Because only people have spirits, only people instinctively try to find God.
- 2) Some people think that if they are sincere, they can meet God, but they are wrong.
- 3) Some people think this can be done by religion, and so they diligently follow all the rules (Mt. 23:23-28).
- 4) Some people try to find God with philosophy, but they fail and become even more empty (Col 2:8-9).
- 5) Buddha said the following: When Jesus comes, my enlightened teachings will become like a lamp without oil (Buddha lived ____ years before Christ).
- 6) Because people don't know what the original sin is (People cannot meet God because they don't know that they have the original sin).

3. The person who has not received salvation cannot meet God.

- 1) Without receiving salvation, people cannot know God.
- 2) Without being born again, people cannot see God (Jn. 3:3-5).
- 3) Salvation means freedom from Satan's hands.
- 4) Salvation means coming out of the bondage of sin.
- 5) Salvation means freedom from the power of hell.
- 6) Hell is where Satan's children go (Mt. 25:41)
- 7) Heaven is where God's children go.

4. As a dead person cannot move, so also a spiritually dead soul's efforts are useless.

- 1) A unsaved person's efforts only produces external change.
- 2) Even though the effort may be noble/good, it is not worthy of salvation.
- 3) There is nothing on earth (e. g., money, good works) good enough to get to heaven.

5. Why are people's efforts unable to get salvation?

- 1) Human effort cannot give life to a spirit.
- 2) Other people's help cannot give life to a spirit.
- 3) There is no one on earth to defeat Satan (Acts 4:12).
- 4) Salvation is God's grace (Eph. 2:8-9).