

## GOING SOMEWHERE

It's too late now. I'm just too old to start riding motorcycles, but I surely dreamed about it a lot when I was a kid and, to be honest, when I see motorcyclists riding out in the country I'm still apt to be a bit envious.

When we were children dad used to hitch up the horse on Saturday afternoons to take us out riding in a surrey. It seems to me that we enjoyed the countryside much more in those days than we do now, cooped up in automobiles.

It's the same with a motorcycle. You get closer to nature; you're out *in* it more—and you can go so far on so little money.

True, we auto drivers sometimes get annoyed with the cyclists who compete with us out on the road, but who's to say *they* don't feel the same about us and wish they had that whole beautiful big road to themselves!

It's funny how attached a person can get to a motorcycle once the bug has bitten him. The hill climbing events and other races with their thrills, chills and spills, and most of all those rides out in the country, with all that good fresh air and beautiful scenery!

Well, somehow all this just wasn't for me, and I'm sure it's best that way, but actually,

whether in a plane, train or auto; whether on a motorcycle, a bicycle or even standing still, we're all *going somewhere*. You and I and all of us are steadily and surely approaching the end of the road here on earth. And then what?

Cain was driven from the presence of the Lord and said: "*My punishment is greater than I can bear*" (Gen. 4:13). And according to the Bible all those who ignore God in this life will be forever cast out of His presence, to be "punished with everlasting destruction" (II Thes. 1:9).

But on the other hand St. Paul said: "...to me...to die is gain....To be with Christ...is far better" (Phil. 1:21-23).

Was this because Paul was so much better than others? By no means; he had been the chief of sinners, Christ's bitterest enemy on earth, but one day, convicted of his sins, he had come to know Christ and to trust Him as his Savior. Now he could rejoice in salvation by grace through Christ who had died for his sins.

Listen to his own testimony in I Timothy 1:13-16:

**"[I] was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.**

**“And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.**

***“This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.***

***“Howbeit, for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on Him to life everlasting.”***

Since the “chief of sinners” is in heaven today by grace, through faith in Christ, there is no reason why we may not trust in Christ and be sure of heaven too. But we can have this assurance *only* by faith in Christ, who died for our sins. To put it bluntly, it's heaven by Christ or hell without Him. This is the clear and emphatic teaching of Scripture. Which will you choose? Why not make it “heaven by Christ?”

**“BELIEVE ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND THOU SHALT BE SAVED” (Acts 16:31).**

—C. R. Stam

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