

Why would He do this if sin has no consequences?

Do you believe your existence ends at death, and that you will face no eternal verdict?

Are you certain of that?

**ARE DEATH & TAXES**

THE ONLY CERTAINTIES?



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(editing by Kathy Boynton)

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“Nothing is certain but death and taxes!” Does that sound familiar? This statement is often used by someone trying to dismiss the possibility of being certain about something. For example, someone who scoffs at the certainty of Scripture might say, “Nothing is certain but death and taxes.” Ironically, this thought is usually expressed with an air of certainty. But, logically, if death and taxes are the only certain things, nothing else can be certain. This includes statements which would deny other certainties.

In fact, Scripture declares the certainty of a final judgment with eternal consequences.

*“And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.”*  
(Hebrews 9:27-28)

Scripture indicates that there are two drastically different consequences from this final judgment. Each is unending.

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*Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.”* (John 3:36)

Notice that the desirable outcome is unending life for those redeemed by Christ. Similarly, the frightening outcome is also unending. It is reserved for those who ignore or reject their need of Christ’s redemptive sacrifice for sinners.

*“Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:”* (Matthew 25:41)

Once, an Air Force colonel and I were co-workers on a project. One day he said to me, “I believe that once you’re dead, you’re dead, and that’s all there is.” In other words, he didn’t believe there was any judgment or afterlife to face after his death.

The Bible tells us, God the Son, Jesus Christ, died, and rose again, to pay the penalty for His people’s sins.

*“For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.”*  
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