Destination Unknown

Where are you going

n the unlikely event you were to die in your sleep tonight, where would you wake up? Are you in a place spiritually where you have full assurance of eternal life?

A man named Huxley, having finished another series of public attacks against Christians, was in a hurry to catch a train taking him to the next city. He left the hotel and jumped into the taxi. Assuming the hotel doorman had told the driver his destination, he said,

"Hurry, I'm almost late. Drive fast!"

He settled back and closed his eyes to rest for a couple of moments.

The taxi rushed through the city. Before long, Huxley glanced out the window and frowned as he realized they were going west, away from the sun, not toward it. Leaning forward he shouted,

"Do you know where you are going?"

Without looking back the driver retorted,

"No sir, but I am going very fast!"

This story amusingly depicts the condition many find themselves in, going nowhere, fast, and not even realizing it. Peter exhorted, "Save yourselves from this untoward generation" (Acts 2:40). This refers to being rescued from racing aimlessly through life.

"For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, **TO THE UNKNOWN GOD.** Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you" (Acts 17:23). The city of Athens had more idols than the rest of Greece combined, an estimated 30,000 statues. Here they pursued any new doctrine available. They treated religion like a market where they could pick what they wanted. These people conformed (instead of being transformed), were gullible and religious; yet still did not know God. Athenians prided themselves in having a monopoly on wisdom. However they were, "Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth" (2 Timothy 3:7). Paul's aim was to bring them to knowledge of the truth and of the only living, true God.

In many countries there is an abundance of various churches and religions. People use religious terms in everyday speech. Signboards and bumper stickers proclaim biblical knowledge (1 Timothy 2:4; 3:7). However, do they have an experience with God, or is He the unknown God to many?

Are you looking for something that will change your destiny and supply you with a complete guarantee of salvation? Return to (and obey) the original message preached by the Apostle Peter on the Day of Pentecost. This was when the church was established. Honest seekers asked, "What shall we do?" (Acts 2:37).

Peter's response (Acts 2:38) included three things.

- 1. Repent or turn away from your sins and sinful ways.
- 2. Be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.
- 3. Receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

Paul understood well the situation at Athens for he had also suffered from misguided direction and devotion. He had persecuted the church, held coats while others stoned Stephen, and locked church members in prison. One day his life changed while moving fast on the Road to Damascus. The Lord caught his attention by knocking him down and blinding him. That encounter changed his destiny. What will it take to change yours?

For more information and other lessons taken from "Acts: God's Training Manual for Today's Church" write: Portable Bible Schools International, 8855 Dunn Road, Hazelwood, Mo., U.S.A., 63042 Or e-mail: AfricaAflame@aol.com