

Thankfully, there is a solution. God Himself, Jesus Christ, came to this earth to pay the penalty for our sins by dying on the cross. You have a crucial but simple decision to make, **"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved"** (ACTS 16:31). By turning from your sins and placing simple faith in the One who suffered for your sins, you can ensure that your eternal destiny will be Heaven.

The Winning Goal When the doctor makes the diagnosis of a heart problem and recommends treatment, the patient has two options: reject or accept the treatment. It is unwise to refuse the treatment.

My friend, you have the advantage now. You are, to use a football term, *'in possession of the ball'*. Will you score the ultimate goal by accepting God's only recommended treatment?

All Bible verses are taken from the New King James Version.

GOSPELDISPLAYED.COM

For a free Bible, call +1 416 281 0616.

The **Heart** Checkup



Rising from one of the poorest slums of Buenos Aires, Diego Maradona led Argentina to win the FIFA World Cup in 1986. Nicknamed El Pibe de Oro (*"The Golden Boy"*), Maradona became revered around the world and was voted alongside Pelé as the greatest football player of the 20th century. Sadly, he died of heart failure at the age of 60.

Over the years, many football players have died due to heart conditions. It is not surprising that some football associations now require mandatory testing to ensure there are no underlying heart conditions.

What Do You Believe? If you remember your last visit to the doctor, there were likely plenty of diagnostic questions about allergies, medications, and your past medical history directed at you. A doctor needs to ask these crucial questions to determine your health and, if needed, prescribe a treatment.

That's just your physical heart. What about your spiritual heart – the real you? The state of that determines your eternal destiny. Death, an unpleasant but inevitable fact, is not the end of us. There is life after death, and where you spend it can be decided at this very moment. The two options are: with God in Heaven or without God in Hell.

Here are some diagnostic questions for your self-reflection. ***Am I sure where I'll***

be when I die? Am I ready to meet God? Am I a sinner? Do I have peace with God? Am I forgiven?



While these questions are personal and uncomfortable, it is important for you to consider them honestly. No one likes to think about death, but we all must be prepared for it. God's diagnosis of the problem is: **"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked"** (JEREMIAH 17:9). If you look at the state of things in the world, you are likely to agree that there is considerable moral depravity.

What Is Sin? We are prone to point fingers at our leaders, governments, and society. But the Bible points a finger at you and me. In Romans 3:23, it says, **"All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."** To most of us who are law-abiding citizens, this comes as a shock, but in God's view, unthankfulness, foolish thoughts, lying, cheating, hating another person, and not believing in God are all sins. Therefore, we are all sinners.