

ANGELO'S STORY

“FROM THE GUTTER-MOST
TO UTTER-MOST”



My name is Angelo Goussis. I was born and raised in Australia of Greek Orthodox descent. Even though we were very religious, I was a selfish, spoilt brat who developed into a proud, angry and short-fused man who was always in fights and troubles. As I came into my teenage years, I decided to try everything this deceptive world had to offer, but only became frustrated and empty. I even tried marriage, but that ended in an ugly divorce. I was now fed up with life and even contemplated suicide.

I met a man on the street one day who gave me a little booklet about Jesus, but I threw it away thinking that I was already a Christian. Then, my brother-in-law started going to a church with our co-worker Chris and said that he was “born again”. My sister followed in his steps which greatly upset my family. At one point I even threatened to burn Chris’ house down with his family in it. Instead of Chris backing down, he started to give me Gospel materials too! He gave me a chick tract called “This Was Your Life”. The messages that I read were speaking to my soul, but I didn’t tell Chris.

I then met and married the love of my life, Tina. One day, Chris and his family bumped into us and invited us to come to their church. I refused the invitation, but Tina wanted to go and persuaded me to join her. The church was so different from what I was used to – there were no icons, no candles and no priest. I was uncomfortable through the whole service, but when the preacher started to speak I was finished. It seemed like he knew my whole life story. As he spoke about a God who loved me enough to die for me on Calvary’s cross to

save me from my sin and the wrath to come, my heart was moved and I began to cry. For the first time I knew I had sinned against a Holy God and deserved hell for my sin.

I can't remember the exact date or time but I vividly remember a definite point in my life, late in 1998. I knew beyond a shadow of any doubt that it was now or never. I got on my knees by the side of my bed before I went to sleep and I bowed my head and my heart to God Almighty and for the first time swallowed my pride. I told God in the best way that I knew that I was so sorry for living my life my way for so long and sinning against Him. I cried out from a sincere heart from the depths of my soul and asked the Lord to save me from sin. I was crying like a little boy that had just found his loving father. That moment the burning weight of sin and its shame and guilt was lifted off my shoulders. Peace and joy flooded my soul as I was born again.

My wife said that she prayed and accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior. However, as our family began to persecute us because of our change of religion and our lives began to change, my wife started to ask me to tone it down; but I could not do that, so she decided to leave me. If I made the choice to tone it down or rid myself of salvation I would have saved my marriage, but I could not stop speaking about my Jesus and telling others about the Gospel. As a human-being I had never felt so much pain physically, emotionally and spiritually after coming home and finding my wife had packed-up and gone.

I was in a spiritual coma for about two years, backslidden, out of church and angry with God. I turned my back on God and ran as far away as I could. I tried to fit back into the world but the Holy Spirit of God bothered me and saw to it that I would be miserable in my rebellious condition. I lost the joy of God's Salvation, and felt like I was slowly going insane. One day I watched "The Passion of Christ". When I walked out of the cinema I met some Bible believing Christians giving out Gospel tracts. I spoke to a dear brother who encouraged me to get back into fellowship with God and His people, but I thought that if I returned to church my wife would never come back. Finally I got tired of running from God and knew that I had to repent and trust Him. I went back to church and rededicated my life to God. Now I want to tell the whole world about the wonderful love of my God who saved me from the gutter-most to the uttermost.

Read the full version of Angelo's story at www.eternal.org.au

Have you ever thought about your Eternal Future? Does your Eternal Soul matter to you? If it does matter, you must know these fact from the Word of God...

A. DEATH IS CERTAIN

Hebrews 9:27 “And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:”

- Many people live their life without giving any thought to the afterlife. They live carelessly as if they are never going to die. A simple look at the local graveyard clearly demonstrates that death is just around the corner and will be knocking on your door one day. The question is: “Where Will YOU Spend Eternity”

B. JUDGMENT WILL COME

Hebrews 9:27 “...but after this the judgment:”

- The whole world has broken God’s Law – the Ten Commandments; after death everyone will stand before the Judge. The hammer will fall on those that are found in their sins on judgement day and have not fully trusted in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

Romans 3:23 “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”

- Have you ever lied before? If you have you are a liar. Have you ever stolen anything before? If you have then you are a thief. Have you ever looked upon someone with a lustful desire? If you have, you are an adulterer in heart.

Matthew 5:27-28 “Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: **vs 28**. But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.”

Luke 13:3 “I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.”

- If you were standing in the courts of Heaven and were to be judged by God’s law, would you be innocent or guilty? – You would be guilty, of course, because you have broken God’s law.

Hebrews 13:4 “Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers (fornicators) and adulterers God will judge.”

- Please read on and see God’s plan of Salvation - The purpose of Jesus Christ’s death on a Cross. It is against God’s will to see you die in your sin. God desires to save you from your sin and to place you in a relationship with Christ Jesus.

C. HEAVEN IS BETTER

2 Peter 3:9 “The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”

- God’s desire is for every person in the world to be with Him in Heaven. He desires a relationship with them. God loved the world so much He did not want to see anyone go to Hell and perish, including you. The reason people die and go to Hell is because they reject the gift of God – Jesus Christ dying in their place. God became a man to die for you on the Cross. You are a sinner, guilty of breaking the law, but God took your place and became sin (a criminal) for you that you may be free from the judgment to come and that you can be made right with God in His eyes; and, furthermore, so your relationship with God can be restored. Jesus came to give life. Life without God is not life at all. Life with God is Heaven.

2 Corinthians 5:21 “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.”

John 3:36 “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.”

- If you choose not to believe, trust and depend on God with your life then you stand condemned. Remember that you were created *by* the Creator and *for* the Creator. Life was given to you by God, and life was intended to be spent with God.

Colossians 1:16 “...all things were created by him, and for him:”

D. HELL DOES EXIST

Romans 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

- Every crime has a penalty. If you break the government’s laws, you will pay the price, whether it is a traffic fine, community service, imprisonment, or the death sentence. In the same way, God has a penalty for sin which is death – not only the physical death but also the spiritual death, separation from God forever in a place called Hell.

Revelations 20:14-15 “And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. **Vs 15** And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”

- If Hell does not exist, why did Jesus die on the Cross? Because the penalty for sin is death. The sufferings of Christ prove that God had to judge sin.
- Jesus died for sin, so that you do not have to die in your sin.

Hope you can make the right decision like Angelo - Repent & Trust Christ