



**FELLOWSHIP OF
CHRISTIAN ATHLETES
BASEBALL**

YOGI BERRA AND THE SALVATION PLAN

"Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world." (Matt 25:34).

Yogi Berra was a MLB catcher for 19 years (1946-1965), most of that time with the New York Yankees. Yogi excelled on the field. Here are a few of his career achievements:

- * 18 All Star Games
- * 3 Time League MVP
- * 13 Time World Series Champion
- * Went an entire season (88 games) without an error at catcher
- * MLB Hall of Famer

All of this from a guy that was mistaken for a clubhouse attendant when he showed up for his first professional practice.

Unfortunately, despite his on field achievements, Yogi may be most famous for his unusual sayings. Frankly, he is so famous for unusual sayings, that it is hard to tell now which statements he actually did make. Nevertheless, here are a few of the sayings that are commonly attributed to him:

- * "You can observe a lot just by watching."
- * "When you come to a fork in the road, take it."
- * "It ain't over, 'til it's over."
- * "90% of baseball is mental. The other half is physical."
- * "If you don't know where you are going, you'll wind up somewhere else."

The last saying is the one I want to focus on today. *"If you don't know where you are going, you'll wind up somewhere else."* Pretty profound when you think about it. So, how does this statement relate to Biblical truth?

According to the Bible, there are only two places we can go when our time on this earth comes to an end -- heaven or hell. Jesus tells us in Matthew 25:31-46, that when the Lord returns, He will separate the world into two categories -- those who accepted Jesus as their Savior and those who did not. To the Believers, he will say, *"Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world."* (Matt 25:34). To those who did not accept him, He will say, *"Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels."* (Matt 25:41).

Again, Jesus says there are only two options when our time on earth ends. Heaven or hell. "If you don't know where you are going, you'll wind up somewhere else." This saying can illustrate an important Biblical truth. The verses we just looked at tell us that if you have not accepted Jesus Christ as your Savior, you will not be going to heaven. That's the simple truth. Now, there are a lot of people out there who think they are going to heaven because they are a good person, or because they go to church, or because they were baptized. This is not how the Bible says you obtain salvation. The Bible says, to be saved, we need forgiveness for our sin and that can only be obtained through accepting Jesus Christ as our personal savior. (Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; John 3:16) The Bible teaches that this is the only way to heaven. (John 14:6; John 3:14-15).

"If you don't know where you're going, you'll wind up somewhere else." If you aren't 100% certain that Jesus is your personal Savior, then don't leave here today without asking a coach about how you do that. You want to be in heaven at the end. Don't wind up somewhere else -- accept Jesus as your Savior today.

Challenge: "If you don't know where you're going, you'll wind up somewhere else." If you aren't 100% certain that Jesus is your personal Savior, then don't leave wait any longer. You want to be in heaven at the end. Don't wind up somewhere else -- accept Jesus as your Savior today.

Reading This Week: Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; John 14:6; John 3:14-15

Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank you for what you did for me on the Cross. I don't want to wait any longer. I want to honor your sacrifice for me and accept you as my Lord and Savior.

-- Matt Carlson – FCA Power 15u (Fairfax), Head Coach