- 1. Slide
 - a. Have you ever wondered, "Who Wins in the End?"
- 2. Slide
 - a. I mean, we're really asking an ultimate question.
 - b. When it is all said and done, will there be more people in Hell or more people in Heaven?
 - c. This is the question we are going to try and ask in this presentation.
- 3. Slide
 - a. It all comes from a book by Don Richardson called, "Heaven Wins."
- 4. Slide
 - a. Now in answer that question, there are three option.
 - i. The first is that Hell wins.
 - ii. This means that there will be more people in Hell than there will be in Heaven.
- 5. Slide
 - a. Now there is a second option. There will be an equal number of people in Hell than there will be in Heaven.
- 6. Slide
 - a. And of course, there is a third option. There will be more people in Heaven than there will be in Hell.
- 7. Slide
 - a. What we're really asking about is a qualitative victory and a qualitative victory.
- 8. Slide
 - a. In other words, does God the qualitative victory (we are holy, and therefore get to go to Heaven), but...
 - b. We lose the quantitative victory, there are more people in Hell then there are in Heaven.
- 9. Slide
 - a. Before we even begin, let me ask you this question.
 - i. How would it make you feel is there were far more people in Hell than in Heaven?
 - ii. (Wait for your audience to respond and see what they say.)
- 10. Slide
 - a. Let me ask you another question about this same option.
 - i. How would it make you feel about God?
 - ii. Would you feel better about Him? Poorly about Him?
 - iii. (Wait for your audience to respond and see what they say.)
- 11. Slide
 - a. Okay, now lets flip it around. Let's assume there are far more people in Heaven than in Hell.
 - i. How does this make you feel?
 - ii. (Wait for their reply.)
- 12. Slide
 - a. How would it make you feel about God?
 - i. (Wait for them to respond.)

- 13. Slide
 - a. As you can tell, answering this question affects how you view God.
 - b. It will also affect how your worship God.
 - i. If you see Him getting "beaten up by Satan", meaning Satan won more people to himself, that doesn't make God look very good.
 - ii. But if you see Him winning a huge victory over Satan, that would make God look very good in our eyes.
- 14. Slide
 - a. In order to answer this question, there are three factors that we need to consider.
- 15. Slide
 - a. These factors are:
 - i. Number one, can a person who has never heard the name Jesus go to Heaven?
 - 1. In other words, what about a tribal person in the middle of Africa who has never heard the name of Jesus? Can that person go to Heaven?
 - ii. Number two, how many people are believers today?
 - 1. So, what are the current statistics?
 - iii. And finally number three, when a baby dies, does it go to Heaven or Hell?
- 16. Slide
 - a. Each of these has a Scripture that goes with it.
- 17. Slide
 - a. Here is Romans 10:9
 - i. (Read the text.)
- 18. Slide
 - a. Here is Matthew 7:13
 - i. (Read the text.)
- 19. Slide
 - a. And finally, here is Psalm 51:5.
 - i. (Read the text.)
- 20. Slide
 - a. Romans 10:9 goes with question #1; Can a person who has never heard the name of Jesus go to Heaven?
- 21. Slide
 - a. Matthew 7:13 goes with question #2: How many people are believers today?
- 22. Slide
 - a. Psalm 51:5 goes with question #3: When a baby dies, does it go to Heaven or Hell?
- 23. Slide
 - a. Now, before we even begin, and in light of those verses, what do you think the percentages are going to be?

- i. Do you think there will be more people in Heaven, Hell or will it be equal?
- ii. (Make them make a guess.)

24. Slide

- a. Let's look at the first one, Romans 10:9.
 - i. (Read the text once again.)

25. Slide

a. Can a tribal person who has never heard the name Jesus call upon His name?

26. Slide

- a. Now let's think through Romans 10:9.
- b. If they haven't heard the name Jesus, how can they declare it with their mouth?
- c. The answer is, they can't.
- d. Therefore Romans 10:9 seems to be telling us that a person in the middle of Africa who has never heard the name Jesus cannot be saved.

27. Slide

- a. But I want you to be aware of what Romans 10:9 does not say.
 - i. (Read the text.)
- b. It does not say, "This is the only way you can be saved." What does that mean?

28. Slide

- a. Paul is basically saying, "This is a *preferred* way, but not the *only* way" that you can be saved.
- b. How do we know this?
 - i. We know it because of what it does not say, we just read that.
 - ii. But there is another reason. We find it a few verses down.

29. Slide

- a. Look at Romans 10:17,18.
 - i. (Read the text.)
- b. Look at the bold words, "Their voice has gone out into all the earth, their words to the end of the world."
- c. What is Paul referencing here?

30. Slide

- a. He is referencing something found in Psalm 19:1.
 - i. (Read the text.)
- b. In other words, if you go out at night and look up and see the stars, those stars are declaring the word of God.

31. Slide

- a. This is something theologians will call "General Revelation."
- b. It is revelation that every person on the face of the earth has because every person can see stars.

32. Slide

a. In other parts of the scriptures, general revelation is also seeing rain and having a joyful heart.

- i. So, because we can see the stars and because we experience rain and because we have joy in our hearts, we must know that there is a God.
- b. But along with general revelation, theologians also speak of special or specific revelation.
 - i. Specific revelation is the hearing of God's word. This is what happens when missionaries go out into all the world to tell other people about God. They are giving specific revelation.

33. Slide

- a. Most theologians will tell you that general revelation will not save anyone.
- b. In other words, just because they see the stars or experience rain or joy in their hearts, it means that they know there is a God, but that cannot call upon that God for salvation.
- c. They are guilty of their sin and will go to Hell unless someone gives them specific revelation and tells them about Jesus.
- d. Then they can "declare with their mouth that Jesus is Lord" and be saved.

34. Slide

- a. But here is what we need to ask.
- b. Are there any verses in the Bible that indicate that General Revelation can save?
- c. I believe the answer is yes!

35. Slide

- a. Let's look at Psalm 50:1 and 3.
 - i. (Read the text.)
- b. Now, what is happening here?
- c. In verse 1 we see that God is summons the earth. That means everyone. Every man, woman and child. He is bringing about a completely judgment on humanity.
- d. But what does He use to judge them? Is it the law? Is it God's Word—specific revelation?
- e. No. He summons the Heavens and the earth. He is using general revelation to judge the earth.
- f. If you believe that general revelation cannot save—in other words, that a tribal man in Africa who has never heard the name Jesus cannot be saved—you would assume that the result is that they entire planet of people will be destined to Hell.
- g. Let's see what the answer is!

- a. (Read the text.)
- b. There are two key things here.
 - i. First, they are consecrated. Consecrated means; faithful, kind, godly, holy one, saint, pious.
 - 1. He is calling faithful, kind, godly, holy ones to Himself.

- 2. This is why in the King James version it says, "Gather to Me my Saints!"
- ii. The second thing to notice is that they have made a covenant to God by sacrifice. Covenants to God are very important.
- iii. Therefore God is saying that there are people all over the world who are His children. They have come to know Him through general revelation.
- iv. So the answer is "yes," there is Scripture which indicates that general revelation can bring a person to a saving knowledge of God without having heard the name of Jesus.

37. Slide

a. Again, what we are learning is that God is trying to tell us that specific revelation is God's preferred way, but He does use a secondary way, general revelation as well.

38. Slide

a. Are there examples in the Bible of general revelation saved people?

39. Slide

- a. Yes! Our first one is Job!
 - i. (Read each of the bullet points.)
- b. He sounds like a holy, godly, pious, faithful servant of God.
- c. I believe we will see Job in Heaven!

40. Slide

- a. Melchizedek is another person who was saved through what we believe to be general revelation because specific revelation didn't even exist!
- b. (Read bullet points.)

41. Slide

- a. How many come to know the Lord through general revelation?
- b. There is no exact number or percentage given in the Bible. But Don Richardson, the author of the book that we are learning from, has a guess based on his research.

42. Slide

- a. Don would say that approximately 4% of the world is made up of Job types or Melchizedek types.
- b. That means 4% of people from around the world, whether they are Muslim, Buddhist, Hindus or tribal people in the middle of no where that have never heard the name of Jesus, are God's holy, pious, faithful saints.

43. Slide

- a. So lets move on to question #2.
- b. How many people are believers today?
- c. From this verse it seems to be a very small number.

44. Slide

a. There are actually people who spend their entire lives researching these statistics.

- b. And if you were to look at all of the major religions, you would find the following:
 - i. (Read the statistics.)
- c. But out of these Christians, how many are truly saved?

45. Slide

- a. Experts would tell us that 10.7% have entered through the "narrow gate."
- b. In other words, we've only reached one out of every ten people on the face of the earth.

46. Slide

- a. So if you were to combine these with those who have come to know the Lord through general revelation, we are now at 14.7%.
- b. It seems to look as if we are on the losing team.

47. Slide

- a. So lets now take a look at our third scripture, Psalm 51:5
- b. The question is seeks to address is, "When a baby dies, does it go to Heaven or Hell?"

48. Slide

- a. There are two major positions theologians take in answering this question.
- b. The first asks.
 - i. How can a holy God have a relationship with anyone that is sinful?
 - 1. Remember, Psalm 51:5 tells us that we are sinful at birth, therefore God can't have a relationship with us because of our sin.
 - ii. This is what I'll refer to as "Position A"
- c. The second position says,
 - i. Before a child reaches the "age of accountability," God is going to give grace and mercy.
 - ii. This is what I'll refer to as "Position B."

49. Slide

- a. Let's start with "Position A."
- b. Let's look at Romans 5:12.
 - i. (Read the text.)
- c. The one man that sin entered through was Adam. Because Adam sin, that sinned has been passed on down to all of us. This is why we have what theologians call "an adamic nature."
- d. Because of that nature, all have sinned, and therefore all have died. Death came to all people—even babies.

50. Slide

- a. This agrees with Romans 3:23.
 - i. (Read the text.)

- a. Isaiah 59:2 tells us what happens as a result of our sin.
 - i. (Read the text.)

b. Because of our sin, we are separated from God. He has hidden his face from us.

52. Slide

a. Therefore, Position A tells us that even babies do not go to Heaven. The harsh way of saying it is that when babies die, they are going to Hell. Why? Because they are sinful and separated from God.

53. Slide

- a. So if Position A holds true, our final answer is that roughly 14 percent of all humans go to Heaven.
- b. God wins the qualitative victory, but not the quantitative victory.
- c. But there is "Position B."

54. Slide

- a. "Position B" tells us that there is something called the "Age of Accountability."
- b. Now what is this all about?

55. Slide

- a. We begin to find our answer in Isaiah 7:15, 16.
 - i. (Read the text.)
- b. This verse is telling us that there comes a time when a child knows the difference between what is right and what is wrong.
- c. In other words, they are accountable for their actions.
- d. Why is this so important?

56. Slide

- a. Because in Matthew 4:17 Jesus' primary message was "repent."
 - i. (Read the text.)

57. Slide

- a. Now, in order to be able to repent, we have to be able to choose between what is right and what is wrong.
- b. And in order for that to happen, you have the know the difference between what is right and what is wrong.

58. Slide

- a. Since there comes an age when a child does know the difference, here is the key question.
- b. Will God hold a child accountable before the know the difference between right and wrong?

59. Slide

- a. There are two verses which seem to say "No." God will give grace and mercy to that child and take them to Heaven.
- b. What are they?

- a. The first one is found in Romans 7:9
 - i. (Read the text.)
- b. What did Paul mean by the words "I was alive?"
- c. Did he mean "Physically alive?"

- i. That wouldn't make sense, because he was writing the letter as an adult. That is a natural assumption that doesn't need to be addressed.
- ii. So what is he saying?

61. Slide

- a. He is saying that he was spiritually alive.
- b. In other words, there was a time before Paul knew the difference between right and wrong, when he was spiritually alive.
- c. He was somehow enjoying a relationship with God.
- d. This is verified by what Romans 3:23 does NOT say.

62. Slide

- a. Notice it does not say, "For all have a sinful nature and fall short of the glory of God."
- b. It does say, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."
- c. It is sinning, not having a sinful nature, that causes us to fall short.
- d. And the only time that you sin is when you know the difference between right and wrong.

63. Slide

a. (Read the text.)

64. Slide

a. The second verse that backs up "Position B" is found when King David's son died. He said these words:

65. Slide

- a. (Read the text.)
- b. What does David mean, I will go with him?
- c. David meant that he was going to go to Heaven and that he would see his son there in Heaven.
- d. David was clearing saying that he believed that children go to Heaven when they died.

66. Slide

- a. So we have an answer to our original verse. Even though children are sinful from birth, they still go to Heaven if they die before that age of accountability.
- b. What is that age? No one knows. And it is probably different for each person, and certainly for each culture.
- c. But children who die under that age do go to Heaven.

67. Slide

- a. So, in order to find out whether God wins the quantitative victory, we need to ask the question, "What percent of humanity dies prematurely?"
- b. Now there are different ways that people—even those conceived in the womb—can die.

- a. You can have miscarriages.
 - i. (Read the text.)
- b. You can have still borns.

- i. (Read the text.)
- c. You can have abortions.
 - i. (Read the text.)
- d. You can have infant mortality.
 - i. (Read the text.)
- e. You can have child mortality.
 - i. (Read the text.)

69. Slide

- a. Conservative estimates by scientists and researchers say:
 - i. (Read the slide.)
- b. If you were to total all of those up, that would be 80%.

70. Slide

a. So 80% makes up conceptions and children who die under the age of five.

71. Slide

- a. This means that 94.7% of humanity make it to Heaven.
- b. And only around 5% go to Hell.

72. Slide

- a. God wins both the qualitative victory as well as the quantitative victory.
- b. Now lets stop right here. How does that make you feel?
 - i. (Let your audience respond to that question.)

73. Slide

a. All of this comes from the book, *Heaven Wins* by Don Richardson.

74. Slide

a. Okay, now name one things new you learned or that you were excited about!