

BEYOND THE GREAT DIVIDE
The Hope We Need, The Choice We Face

October 2026

Dear Reader,

The images of flooding along the Nepal-Tibet border shocked the world. On August 26, a sudden and terrifying wall of water rushed at high speed through the deep river gorges of the Himalayas. Heavy with mud, ice, and debris, the torrent swept away buildings and homes for many miles downstream. Even now, more than a month after this tragedy, the search continues for those who are still missing. It is truly heartbreaking.

Yet even in the middle of such destruction, there is hope. Help continues to pour in from international organizations and churches. Temporary bridges have been built to span the divide between the two countries, makeshift hospitals have been established, and lifesaving aid is being distributed to people in need.

As I reflect on this tragedy, my thoughts turn to another kind of divide—one that is spiritual rather than natural, but has even deeper implications for our lives. It might be difficult to imagine at first, but if you keep reading, you'll understand what I mean.

You see, the Bible says that we've all sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). Realizing that sin creates a wide divide between us and a holy, loving God should leave us heartbroken. It should prompt us to ask ourselves: How could we ever make things right with Him? The humbling truth is that nothing we do on our own can bridge that gap—but God can.

Out of His incredible love, God stepped in to restore our relationship with Him. He opened the way for us by sending His Son, Jesus. It is a gift we can never earn through good deeds, so none of us can take credit for it (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Jesus came to earth to reveal His Father's love and to call us to repentance, forgiveness, reconciliation, and peace with God. He demonstrated God's character through His compassion, teaching, and miracles, and ultimately gave His life on the cross for sinners. The simple truth is that no one comes to the Father except through Him (John 14:6).

Yet, while Jesus offers profound peace with God, He also made a bold, shocking statement: He didn't come to bring peace on earth but rather division. This line is drawn between those who believe and those who don't. And, unfortunately, it often cuts directly through our closest relationships—our families, friends, neighbors, and co-workers (Luke 12:51–53). A true commitment to God fundamentally changes how we live, and those around us may not always understand or accept it.

So walking this path demands total surrender, perseverance, and costly loyalty. But ultimately, the blessings of following Him outweigh any adversity we face in life.

One of the most well-known verses in the New Testament tells us why:

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” – John 3:16

God's love has made a way across the great divide. But His invitation requires a response. The question, then, is not simply whether we are religious or moral, or whether we have tried hard enough to be good. The question is what we will do with Jesus.

This ultimately brings us to the heart of the matter: What lies beyond the great divide?

Scripture gives us a sobering picture of what lies ahead for those who reject Christ. It speaks of judgment (Acts 17:31), eternal punishment and separation from the presence of the Lord (2 Thessalonians 1:7–9). These are difficult words, but they are words we should not ignore.

Yet Jesus Himself gives a glorious promise:

“Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes Him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life.” – John 5:24

This brings into sharp focus the reality that, beyond this life, there are eternal consequences to the choice each person makes concerning Jesus.

For those who already believe, may this promise encourage us to remain faithful to Him, whatever difficulties or divisions we may encounter in this life. And for those who do not yet believe, may these words invite you to consider Jesus with an open heart. He calls us to repentance—to turn from sin and toward God—and to place our lives in His hands.

So, as we look beyond the great divide, may we not only grieve the divisions and destruction we see in this world, but also consider the eternal hope God has placed before us in Jesus. Truly, there is no greater hope than this.

In His amazing love,

Beth♥