



"From the cowardice that shrinks from new truth, from the laziness that is content with half truths, from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth, O, God of Truth, deliver us."

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CONCERNING HEAVEN AND HELL

I speak as one who believes that Jesus is the Christ the Son of God and the Saviour of the world as seen in the inspired Word of God, the Bible. What I believe is not important. What the Lord and His apostles have said is the only objective truth that I believe is true.

Emotions, rationale and subjective thinking or teachings of men carry no weight with a Christian who holds the above truths. If one doubts that Jesus is the Christ, and the only Saviour, or that the Bible is not an all-sufficient rule of what one believes or practices the following thoughts will carry no weight. Their subjective feelings or emotions or past teachings will trump the following things I am saying.

This is a true saying and worthy of all acceptance that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. His death on the cross is what paid the price for our sins. If there is another way to be saved then his death was a worthless and unnecessary death. He either paid the price or he did not.

The world religions worship men who sought truth, sought the way and sought life. They are dead and buried and therefore offer no hope to their worshippers of a glorious resurrection to life, as Jesus who arose from the dead does. Jesus on the other hand said "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life and that no man could come to the Father but by Me." **John 14:26** I do not believe that Jesus is a liar. Do you?

Jesus said "Except a man be born again he can not enter into the kingdom," and again, "Except a man be born of the water and the Spirit he can not enter into the Kingdom of God!" Do you believe that He lied or was mistaken? Is there another way?

The Bible says, "For God so loved the world that he gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world THROUGH HIM MIGHT BE SAVED."

Was His Son's death not needed? We are then told: "He that believeth on him is not condemned; but he that believeth not is CONDEMNED ALREADY BECAUSE HE HATH NOT BELIEVED IN THE NAME OF THE ONLY BEGOTTEN OF GOD."

Men then are lost without Christ. God, as Sovereign Lord, has every right to make this decision, and faith accepts this fact. God is Holy and the penalty of sin must be paid. The penalty is death. Jesus paid it for us and if we will not accept His payment as our payment, then we must die and be separated from God for all eternity. This is my understanding of God's Word.

As for Hell, Jesus is the One who spoke about it. In fact, all that we know about Hell is what Jesus told us. He spoke more about Hell than He did about Heaven.

Matthew 5:29, 10:28, 23:33 are His words and I cannot believe in Him and not believe in the place that He has revealed to us. He left it to His apostles and prophets to reveal who else is going there.

John, the one men call, "the Apostle of Love," says that no murderer has eternal life. John also reveals who is going to be in Hell.

Revelation 21:8: "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death."

Revelation 22:14-15: "14 Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the

tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. 15 For without *are* dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.”

Paul gives a list of people not going to enter Heaven. **1 Corinthians 6:9-11**: “9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, 10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.”

He also lists a whole catalog of lost people in **Romans 1:29-32**: “29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, 30 Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, 31 Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: 32 Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.”

Peter likewise warns of the wicked men’s plight. **2 Peter 3:7**: “But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.”

Jesus also spoke of hypocrites who were going there. **Matthew 24:51**

So if believers are hypocrites they will be exposed when God judges the hearts of men, as only He can do.

Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people. How foolish God would be to populate Heaven with unconverted and unsanctified people. He charged His angels with folly and cast them out of Heaven. He invites those who will be born again to enter.

Even murderers, fornicators, adulterers, homosexuals or any other kind of sinner can repent and be born again and be saved. His grace forgives those who accept Him. “ To as many who receive Him, He gives the power or authority to become the sons of God.” **John 1:12**

Heaven will be a family reunion and the children of the devil will not be invited in. Nothing unclean or maketh a lie shall enter there. **Revelation 21:8, 22:11-12**

God is not a fool Who would allow universal salvation and contaminate His home. It is the home of the redeemed and those who do not believe on His Son are already condemned.

As a preacher of the Good News, I want to invite everyone to the marriage banquet. The offer is to all, no matter what anyone is or has done. To go to Hell, a man has to step on the death of God’s Son on the cross. Unbelief is all that is necessary to go to Hell.

The Bible promises that if anyone seeks, he shall find, and if he knocks, he opens and if he asks he receives. Even the utmost heathen who has never even heard of Jesus can forsake his idols and ask the creator, God, for help and God will see to it that a person who knows the truth will be sent to Him.

The Bible is full of those who were seeking God and they found Him because God sent a truth-bearer to reveal His Will for their Life. The Eunuch, Lydia, Saul, Cornelius are examples of this truth. Seekers find, so there is not an excuse that they never heard. As a herald for the King, I can only promise Salvation to whom my King promised it.

He said, “He that believeth and is immersed (*baptizo*) shall be saved and he that believeth not shall be damned.” **Mark 16:16**

If I promise or infer that others are saved I am not a faithful herald. I would be a usurper of my King’s authority. He did not promise it to those who were sprinkled (*rantizo*) or *echeo* (poured) but to those who were *baptizo* (immersed).

I refuse to usurp His authority and play God. I cannot make the decision whom He should save and whom should be lost. Because I love God and love my fellow man I will herald just exactly what He has said. I am a herald, not a judge.

If Hitler and Stalin made deathbed confessions of their sins and begged God to forgive them, and did not obey the Gospel, then I am not going to assume a mere “ I am sorry ” is of any merit.

They procrastinated too long and did not accept the offer God made of forgiveness. They did not obey

the Gospel and I believe I am correct in my belief they will suffer the vengeance of eternal fire.

2 Thessalonians 1:5-10: "5 *Which is* a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer: 6 Seeing *it is* a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; 7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 8 **In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;** 10 When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day."

Believing the words of Jesus and His spokesmen in the Word, I do not assume that anyone is saved without being born again of the water and the Spirit. If one is not buried with Christ in baptism, they cannot be raised to newness of life.

Romans 6:1-8: "1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? 2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? 3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4 **Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.** 5 **For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:** 6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with *him*, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. 7 For he that is dead is freed from sin. 8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:"

If this seems too narrow for you, I remind you that Jesus said there would be few who find the narrow road and the narrow gate to eternal life. The road to destruction, by the mouth of our Lord, is broad. That is because so many travel it.

I trust that this helps you realize why I do not believe Heaven is universal. It is against the wisdom of God, the Holiness of God, and the Word of Christ Himself. I cannot face the judge of all if I preached what people wanted to hear. Paul said "For do I now

persuade men or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ." **Galatians 1:10**

Hopefully you will see where I am coming from in this matter. My opinion is worthless. Let God be true and every man a liar. It is my conviction that I love my fellow man and believers more if I tell them what the Lord has taught than the man who makes everyone feel safe when they are not.

A doctor that knows the cure for a deadly disease and will not tell it but only gives a placebo is an evil man. A preacher, who knows what the Lord says and does not preach the message that can save, is an evil man. The best thing you can do for your children is to teach them to love truth and obey it and accept God's Wisdom as King of the universe.

I have not told you my ideas. I have spoken what God has said and Jesus tells us that His words will judge us in the last days. You can always count on me to tell you what Jesus and the apostles have said, rather than my subjective thinking.