

A Designated Place

Dennis D. Helton

HELL A DESIGNATED PLACE

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DEDICATION This work is dedicated to my faithful wife, Christine, of 60 years. Dennis D. Helton January 2023

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CHAPTER 1 HELL – AN EVERLASTING FIRE A Literal Place

"Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into **everlasting fire**, prepared for the devil and his angels." **Matthew 25:41**

Getting right to the point, Hell is a literal place where lost people go upon death.

The damnation of Hell is the fire of God's anger fastening upon a sinner. Jesus had more to say about Hell than any other speaker or writer in the Bible. How it be that Jesus can Christ. who taught SO authoritatively importance love and the of forgiveness, could speak such words as these? Since He is the Creator (Colossians 1:16), the coming Judge (John 5:22), and the only man who has died and risen eternally or permanently from the dead (2 Corinthians 5:14-15), we would do well to believe and heed his warnings. Jesus knows whereof He speaks.

Deniers Of Hell-Fire:

At the outset, let the reader beware that there are well known and respected national preachers that question a Hell that has fire and some even deny that there is a literal place called Hell. Some of these religionists will be named later in this writing.

(NOTE: For some time, this writer has observed the shallowness and lack of spiritual discernment of many well-known "so-called" preachers.)

CHAPTER 2

WHERE DO THE DEAD GO?

Only Two Places

The Bible teaches that there are only two places that the dead go to upon death, **Heaven or Hell**.

Heaven

Heaven is a place of light, holiness, bliss, and glory.

Revelation 21:4 "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."

Isaiah 11:6-9 "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. **7** And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. **8** And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. **9** They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea."

Hell

Hell is a place of darkness, pain, agony, and horror.

Mark 9:47-48 "... to be cast into hell fire: 48 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched."

The saved go to Heaven and the unsaved go to Hell. Both are designated permanent abodes (Hell is cast into <u>the lake of fire</u> – **Revelation 20:13-14**).

"And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. 14 <u>And death and</u> <u>hell were cast into the lake of</u> <u>fire.</u> This is the second death."

There is probably no other doctrine deplored and denied more than the teaching of a literal Hell. Death is the end of all **joy** for the *lost*. Death is the end of all **grief** for the *saved*. Only the individuals themselves, and they alone, can make the choice of their eternal dwelling place.

Of course, there are false teachings concerning life after death. Some teach that there is a middleground (limbo state; neutral zone) between Heaven and Hell such as a "so called" **purgatory** while many others teach various forms of **reincarnation**. The Bible does not teach either of these.

Purgatory

Purgatory is a <u>man-made</u> fabricated intermediate place of cleansing or purging of sin.)

Reincarnation

Reincarnation is a false philosophy of paganism that teaches that we pay for [atone] our own sins by self-improvement through **many** lives, based on karmic law. Karmic law says that if we do evil in this life, we pay for it in the next life. However, we can slowly perfect ourselves through multiple lives and eventually **everyone** will reach the goal of perfection, salvation, or liberation.)

Christ is the Judge and the final high court. Jesus plainly stated that unbelievers were of their father, the devil. Neither are the devil's children spiritual brethren to God's children. is no appeal after death.

CHAPTER 3

ARE ALL PEOPLE THE CHILDREN OF GOD?

The Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man is not an accurate description. We are all children of God only in the sense of creation or the natural birth. The unsaved are not children of God in the sense of the new creation until they become born again. **2 Peter 1:4:**

> "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."

We become children of God by re-creation (2 Corinthians 5:17) called the new birth (spiritual birth) that Jesus said was absolutely imperative. (**John** 3:3, 5, 7; 2 **Corinthians** 5:17**; Titus** 3:5).

2 Corinthians 5:17 *"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."*

John 3:3 "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:5 "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." John 3:7 "Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again."

Titus 3:5 "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;"

It is very significant that Jesus spoke the words of the necessity of being "born again" to a highly religious but unsaved man (Nicodemus of **John** 3:3-7). The unsaved are brethren only in the sense that we all are physical descendants of Adam and Eve and are all of one blood **Acts 17:26**:

Acts 17:26 "And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;"

Unbelievers

Jesus plainly stated that unbelievers were of their father, the devil. Neither are the devil's children spiritual brethren to God's children. **John 8:44:**

"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."

Perhaps the unsaved person may say, "I haven't made up my mind yet." If a sinner has heard the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ only once and has not accepted God's provision for his guilt of sin, he has made a choice already (simply by rejecting Jesus Christ). The Bible says that a person that has not believed in Jesus is condemned already. John 3:18:

"...but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God"

God often delays the punishment of sin for a while, but it is laid up in store till the measure be full and the day of divine patience is over. **Job 21:28-30:**

28 "For ye say, Where is the house of the prince? and where are the dwelling places of the wicked? 29 Have ye not asked them that go by the way? and do ye not know their tokens, 30 That the wicked is reserved to the day of destruction? they shall be brought forth to the day of wrath."

Ecclesiastes 8:11

"Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil."

Is Salvation a Gradual Process?

Salvation is instantaneous (not progressive). By hearing the Word of God and being drawn and convicted of sin by the Holy Spirit, a sinner acting in repentance and by faith is supernaturally birthed into God's family in a moment of time. A sinner has innumerable opportunities to be saved: 365 days each year; 16 waking-hours each day; 60 minutes each hour; etc. It only takes a moment in time to be born again by the Spirit of God. There will be no secondchances nor excuses for the lost sinner before the Great White Throne judgment bar of God (Revelation 20:11).

Instantaneous New Birth

The new birth or being "born again" is not a gradual process but is a very brief supernatural act of God. **1 Peter 3:18:**

"For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:"

The new-born child of God does have need of gradually growing "in" grace but not a need of growing "into" grace> I Peter 2:2:

"As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:"

One website stated it like this:

"Do we "doubt" our Salvation? HE has set Eternity in our hearts (Ecclesiastes 3:11). We want to believe but we doubt we know how. You have instilled in your heart a passion for more? Do you want an understanding of something beyond your mind? It is a special unsatisfiable that needs part of you understanding beyond this world, it is SPIRITUAL understanding. Do you find yourself "hating" sin (this is good, you are beginning to hate the things GOD hates)? Do you search for WHO JESUS IS and why HE died for our sins? Have you prayed (no matter how feeble it may seem) to know GOD? Have

you repented your sins and begin to read about GOD'S promises (no matter how uncompromisable they may seem) and been encouraged just a little as you find they are True? Is your desire for Truth beyond anything else within your inner most Being? Are you beginning to know that JESUS not only lived on this earth but because of all of the Prophecies verifying (some written 600 years before it happened) HIS dying for our sins you are beginning to KNOW this is True? Are you beginning to Trust something greater than yourself and discovering this is GOD? Are you absolutely astounded that JESUS was raised from the dead (as verified by more than 500 witnesses, to help you in vour unbelief) which confirms GOD'S Scriptures? Have you ever done something you did not really want to do (Faith begins) and later found out it brought JOY beyond this world? Have you prayed this prayer, Psalm 119:169, "Let my cry come near before THEE, O'LORD: give me understanding according to THY WORD ... " Have you found you are more discerning of right and wrong? The SPIRIT is in you and you want not only to follow JESUS but you want to be like HIM! Did you repent and ask GOD to forgive you and know you are forgiven, did you tell HIM you know JESUS is HIS SON, did you tell HIM you know JESUS rose from the dead? Then there is no reason to doubt because salvation is immediate, understanding is gradual. (Salvation is Immediate, Understanding is Gradual! - PURPOSE FOR YOU, accessed, 1/13/23)