## Hell; Jesus Warns Us The Most...

Posted on November 10, 2011 by billrandles

And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. (Matthew 10:28)

It has been dawning on me lately that there are many within the confessing church who have already forsaken the biblical teaching on hellfire, and Divine judgment. The heavy message of a God of wrath, who utterly hates all that is evil, false, and degraded doesn't fit the new "kinder and gentler" humanistic church-growth model adopted by so many.

The popularity of recent heretical books such as Love Wins, by Rob Bell, as well as the rarity of actual teaching on the fate of the wicked even among many evangelical churches have convinced me that this defection is real.

It is almost as though the idea of Divine wrath that underlies the traditional christian teaching on perdition, is seen as a primitive throwback, and somehow beneath the more evolved modern concept of God.

The new and improved evangelicals, (some calling themselves "emergents") are not only rejecting Hell, but they are repudiating some of the very attributes of the God of the Bible.

This is precisely the meaning of the second commandment's prohibition against forming our own preferred image of God, rather than worshipping God as He has revealed himself to be. People don't really reject Hell, they reject God as He has revealed himself to be; Holy, Sovereign, Majestic, Righteous, a a God of wrath against sin as well as a God of mercy.

But most of what we know that is biblical and accurate about hell and judgment comes from the teaching of Jesus himself! He is the one who warns humanity in the starkest terms of the wrath that is coming. More than Peter, Paul, James, Jude or any one else, Jesus warns us of the danger of Hell fire.

How fitting that it is the Saviour and the only Mediator who should be entrusted with this revelation from God.

After all, Peter, Paul, James, Jude, as well as you and I, all fully deserve to go to hell. Jesus alone lived a fully God honoring human life, as the Son of Man. And at the prime of his life He made the offering to God that makes it possible for us all to avoid it.

Furthermore, Jesus, is the one who will actually decide the eternal fate of every human being. Therefore it seems apt that to him also is committed the fullest revelation of the reality and liability of perdition. In scripture we behold him compassionately pleading to all who will listen not to go to hell!

To Jesus, "trivial" sins such as anger, name calling, and mental adultery are so terrible that it would be better (if

possible) to maim oneself to avoid them than to indulge them all the way to hell!

And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell. And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell. (Matthew 5:29-30)

Obviously self-mutilation is not the cure of sin, but Jesus is teaching a complete and radical resistance towards indwelling sin, particularly of thought(Eye), deed(Hand), and direction(feet). Those who escape Hell, are at war with indwelling sin!

Jesus also speaks in stark terms about the horrifying level of regret and remorse experienced by those cast out into outer darkness;

But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.(Matthew 8:12)

Notice too his constant warning to the "children of the Kingdom", in other words the ones who assume they are sure to go to heaven, as though it were some kind of birthright, rather than an indescribable privilege, a precious gift of mercy.

Once again it is Jesus who warned that the end of the age would see a great judgment, a separation of "wheat and tares" and that the Hell would be as a "furnace of fire";

As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.(Matthew 13:40-42)

One of the most frightening images is that of Hell being the place where the "worm dieth not, and the fire is never quenched",

And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.(Mark 8:47-48)

Notice the urgency of Jesus! His concern that we seriously resist evil, as if all or any of us are in danger of hell fire! I believe that Jesus is the faithful witness to the Truth, the only sure account of eternal reality, He warned more of Hell than he spoke of heaven!

To hear modern preachers and theologians speak of it, you would almost think Jesus didn't believe in hell. But look at this small sampling from the gospels! This isn't Dante's inferno, or some angry fundamentalist, or a medieval monk, these are the words of the Son of God!

It is Jesus who tells us that Hell wasn't really intended for people, it was made for the devil and his angels...

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)

But we shouldn't assume people won't be going there, because in this context Jesus himself is the one sending people there, no doubt sadly, but surely. Though Hell was made for the Devil and his angels, those who side with the Devil in his rebellion against God, must go there.

Jesus again is the one who specifically warned us of the ultimate disaster, that any should "die in his sin";

I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.(John 8:24)

The worst thing that could happen to anyone, is that the should die in their sin! To die unforgiven, is to face the full liability for a life of unbroken resistance to God, the Infinite, Holy, Personal King of the universe.

Keith Green the psalmist/evangelist once wrote a song called "Alter Call" which said,

Most people don't find out till It's too late, That someone has to pay the price. You can pay it yourself (hah) or Let someone else, But who would be that nice, To pay a debt that isn't his, oh I Know someone like that, And he's your best friend, he Really is, he really loves you. Most people don't find out till Their half dead, that they need another life. You say you've heard everything That's ever been said **About The Way, The Truth, The** Life. You say you've heard lot of Preaching all before, so many times, But did you ever open up your

Door, give Him a chance to prove Himself?

I hope you find out before it's Too late, that there's nobody else You know it's breaking His heart, The longer you wait, Cause you've only been lying to

Well He's real you know!

Yourself
Cause no one believes a thing you
Say – NOT EVEN YOU!
You know you're gonna find out
That He's the way,
No matter which way you choose,
But I pray you find out by His
Love for you.

Jesus is the one who spoke more on Hell than anyone else, and who did what needed to be dome to save us from Hell, by giving his life to Gd as an offering, a substitute who bore the penalty due us, that God's wrath might be satisfied. Jesus loves you, flee the wrath to come! Come to him for forgiveness and new life before its too late!

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## 62 Responses to Hell; Jesus Warns Us The Most...



## Al House says:

November 11, 2011 at 12:27 am

Dear Pastor Bill,

I am very thankful for your blog. I was brought up in Southern Baptist work and i am thankful for that. At the same time, I absorbed the unscriptural doctrine "Once saved, always saved" from my denomination. Since my late teens (I'm 59 now) I knew that the warnings in Hebrews were saying something important that I really did not understand, but I was still reading God's Word with Southern Baptist glasses on at that point. I took those glasses off a few years ago and WOW! It seems the whole NT is full of admonitions and warnings with regard to the absolute necessity of continuing in faith (by God's grace!). I don't think I have convinced even one of my SB friends to reject "OSAS" as an unbiblical doctrine. I think that many have a mom or dad or uncle or brother or sister that made a profession of faith as a young person and never produced any spiritual fruit or graces and they really WANT "OSAS" to be true so they can believe that the relative or loved one was really saved after all. If all those warnings and admonitions don't really mean what they so clearly say, why would the Spirit waste so many words on the subject? There are probably 25 to 50 million christians just in the US who are still clinging to this unbiblical teaching. Either the Bible is wrong, or we MUST (by God's grace!) continue in faith! Thanks for your encouragement. Al

Reply



Could OSAS be true since He said that none can pluck out anyone who is in His Hand?

Reply



## **billrandles** says:

November 13, 2011 at 2:18 am

Glynn I really pray that my articles don't lend themselves to misinterpretation that would be hurtful to anyone's faith, Jesus' love is forever, He is faithful and "Able to keep us from stumbling, and to make us to stand blameless before his Father with great joy..." (See Jude) all of his promises are "Yes and Amen" to