QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD
JEREMIAH 15:16
THEME: Doctrine of Hell – What Saves Us From Hell (and what does not) (4 of 6)

When sharing the gospel, nothing seems to spark a good debate more than Hebrews 9:27 –***"And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment,"***. Invariably, there is a knee jerk response from the listener which goes something like this - **"I don't think it is fair that some good and decent person who does good works all his life goes to Hell while some lazy, hypocrite of a Christian gets to go to heaven."**

There are many views on what saves us from Hell. Four of the more common are:
Good works – it is assumed here that no one who devotes himself to good works should be sent to the fires of Hell. This would not only be unfair, but only an evil deity would do such a thing.
Avoidance of depraved acts – it is assumed that only those who do the most depraved acts of violence and inhumanity would deserve the fate of Hell. To avoid Hell, then, one must only refrain from sinking to such a level. Hell is reserved for those to whom our emotional response is, "If there is a Hell then surely he is there."
Time (purgatory and annialationists) – payment of the debt delivers us from Hell. In this scenario only a sadistic God would torture someone for eternity. Once the payment is made the person is either annihilated or given entrance into heaven.
Devotion to a religion / god – anyone who is truly devoted to their religion or god in a well meaning and sincere manner is surely delivered from Hell. Again, only an evil and sadistic God would allow people to follow a religion with sincere hearts only to be sent to Hell for choosing the wrong one.

These all have their roots in a sense of self-evident justice to which most if not all, whether Christian or non-Christian, seem to cling. However, the stark reality is that what we believe about Hell, God and who He sends there is of little or no consequence. God is not what we believe, rather we believe what God is as revealed in His holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word. In the same vein, God does not do what we believe, rather we believe what God does as revealed in this selfsame holy Word of God. By a word of faith, God will not release someone from Hell, God will not forgive the sins of those who have died apart from a saving knowledge of Christ, nor will He, based on our faith, forgive the sins of others. God, Hell, and who is or is not spending eternity in Hell is neither determined nor influenced by our belief system, no matter how strongly held. It is determined by God's good and holy will which is revealed to us in His holy, eternal, inerrant written Word.

In this day, Hell is not only being questioned by many pastors and Christian educators who should know better but is also being played down in the Christian education of our children. This is extremely disappointing. If you read the biographies of great Christians such as Martin Luther or Charles Wesley, the very real fear of hell that was instilled upon them in their childhood by both their parents and the church was instrumental in their receiving Christ. All the great spiritual awakenings in the U.K. and U.S.A. have been accompanied by very clear presentation of the eternity in Hell which faces all unbelievers. It is the fear of Hell which brought one of our own children to Christ. This child at an early age as a tornado came roaring through our town, cried out, "I don't want to die and go to Hell, pray with me now to receive Christ." We early in our children's lives taught them clearly that to receive Christ was not only to go to Heaven, but it was also to not go to Hell. What an affront to God the Father and an insult to God the Holy Spirit and a devaluing of God the Son for parents to decide that the subject of Hell is too unsettling and too harsh for their children.

These devotionals may be used in a number of ways. They may be done daily as a devotional guide. The verses may be used as a Bible study guide and then the Quiet Times passed out as follow-up to a Sunday School or mid-week study. They may be used as a Bible study, being done in a small group setting or as discussion preparation, or they may be used for your own personal Bible study. However the Lord leads, it is my earnest desire that they will draw you closer to God through a fuller understanding of what it means to be "saved". Being saved from a meaningless life is nice, but an understanding of our being saved from an eternity of burning in the fires of Hell leads to one and only one application – a life of service based on the gratitude which only comes from a full understanding of our salvation.

Rev. John S. Mahon
Grace Community Int.
April, 2011 – Lusaka, Zambia

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QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Doctrine of Hell – What Saves Us From Hell (and what does not)? (3 of 6)

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: John 3:18 & 19

According to this passage how can I avoid the wrath of God and be saved from going to Hell (and what is of no use)?

Simply believing we (or another) should not go to Hell makes no difference. God does not act on this matter based on our beliefs but rather in accordance to His Word. What does the Word of God say about this issue?

How will this reality affect your prayers of praise and thanksgiving? Your humility? Your witnessing?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: John 3:36

According to this passage how can I avoid the wrath of God and be saved from going to Hell (and what is of no use)?

Simply believing we (or another) should not go to Hell makes no difference. God does not act on this matter based on our beliefs but rather in accordance to His Word. What does the Word of God say about this issue?

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: John 5:19 – 32

According to this passage how can I avoid the wrath of God and be saved from going to Hell (and what is of no use)?

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QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Doctrine of Hell – What Saves Us From Hell (and what does not)?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: John 10:1 – 18

According to this passage how can I avoid the wrath of God and be saved from going to Hell (and what is of no use)?

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Romans 5:8 – 10

According to this passage how can I avoid the wrath of God and be saved from going to Hell (and what is of no use)?

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Romans 10:9 – 13

According to this passage how can I avoid the wrath of God and be saved from going to Hell (and what is of no use)?

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QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Doctrine of Hell – What Saves Us From Hell (and what does not)?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Ephesians 1:13

According to this passage how can I avoid the wrath of God and be saved from going to Hell (and what is of no use)?

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Ephesians 2:1 – 9

According to this passage how can I avoid the wrath of God and be saved from going to Hell (and what is of no use)?

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: I Timothy 2:3 – 6

According to this passage how can I avoid the wrath of God and be saved from going to Hell (and what is of no use)?

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QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Doctrine of Hell – What Saves Us From Hell (and what does not)?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: II Timothy 1:9

According to this passage how can I avoid the wrath of God and be saved from going to Hell (and what is of no use)?

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Titus 3:5

According to this passage how can I avoid the wrath of God and be saved from going to Hell (and what is of no use)?

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How will this reality affect your prayers of praise and thanksgiving? Your humility? Your witnessing?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Hebrews 9:24 – 28

According to this passage how can I avoid the wrath of God and be saved from going to Hell (and what is of no use)?

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QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Doctrine of Hell – What Saves Us From Hell (and what does not)?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Revelation 20:15; Revelation 21:27

According to this passage how can I avoid the wrath of God and be saved from going to Hell (and what is of no use)?

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: I Peter 1:1 - 5

According to this passage how can I avoid the wrath of God and be saved from going to Hell (and what is of no use)?

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: I Peter 2:24; Isaiah 53:1 – 12

According to this passage how can I avoid the wrath of God and be saved from going to Hell (and what is of no use)?

Simply believing we (or another) should not go to Hell makes no difference. God does not act on this matter based on our beliefs but rather in accordance to His Word. What does the Word of God say about this issue?

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QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: Doctrine of Hell – What Saves Us From Hell (and what does not)?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Acts 4:12

According to this passage how can I avoid the wrath of God and be saved from going to Hell (and what is of no use)?

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How will this reality affect your prayers of praise and thanksgiving? Your humility? Your witnessing?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: II Peter 3:1 – 15

According to this passage how can I avoid the wrath of God and be saved from going to Hell (and what is of no use)?

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Thessalonians 5:9

According to this passage how can I avoid the wrath of God and be saved from going to Hell (and what is of no use)?

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