

ETERNITY WILL BE SPENT SOMEWHERE

Psalm 103:15-18

Introduction: Our generation has tried to change the world and the laws which govern it by way of knowledge, science, inventions, philosophy and simple materialistic thinking. Much has been accomplished in bettering mankind in some ways, but nothing has been accomplished in ending death for sooner or later every person born on this earth will die, no matter what. *"It is appointed unto men once to die..."* reads God's Word. All of us have heard sirens, have attended funerals, visited graveyards and have seen loved ones die. Thousands get into their cars each year never to get out of them alive. No matter the safety precautions, insurance policies, laws preventing this and that, death is still just around the corner. Health conditions end the lives of thousands of people every day even with great medical steps, death still happens.

From the moment of birth, death is at the door of every human being. Death is scary for it happens to everyone and nobody knows what lies beyond. Well, those who are not Christians don't know, but Christians know what awaits them upon death.

I. GOD'S WORD HAS MUCH TO SAY ABOUT DEATH

1. First of all there are two deaths every human being dies.
 - There is the physical death, the death of the human body.
 - Then there is the spiritual death which is an eternal death.
2. God's Word teaches that human souls are immortal.
 - The part of man that thinks, feels, dreams, the personality, etc., will never die.
 - The soul of a person lives on forever in one of two places: Heaven or Hell.
3. The place of Hell is not a very pleasant one however God's Word has as much to say about Hell as it does any other subject.

II. PEOPLE HAVE ADDED THEIR OWN THOUGHTS ABOUT DEATH

1. Some people believe and teach that eventually everyone will be saved and that the words "eternal and everlasting" don't really mean "forever."
2. Then there are some who believe and teach that when a person dies, that's it! Existence is over, they are annihilated by God. Nothing remains whatsoever.
3. There are those who believe and teach that the unsaved who die will be given a second chance to change their minds and believe in God's Son.
4. However, the Word of God states:
 - *"...I am tormented in this flame.."*
 - *"Whosoever shall say, thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.."*
 - *"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..."*

- *"So shall it be at the end of the world; the angels shall come forth and sever the wicked from among the just, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire; and there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.."*
- *"Then shall he say unto them on the left hand, depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.."*
- *"But he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.."*
- *"In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ; who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his power."*
- *"And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the Book of Life, was cast into the lake of fire."*
- *"But the fearful and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murders 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."*

III. THE QUESTION IS ASKED, "WILL A LOVING GOD SEND A PERSON TO HELL?"

1. The answer is YES! But not willingly. It is man who condemns himself by his refusal to accept God's way of salvation.
2. God offers to all people a way of escape, a way of salvation.
3. People, in their blindness, stupidity, stubbornness, egotism and love for sinful pleasure refuse God's simple method of escaping the horrible pains of the second death and hell.
4. It is a stupid person who visits the doctor, is prescribed a medicine that will cure the person's ailment, but that person refuses to take the prescribed cure. Who is to blame for that person's continued sickness and eventual death?
5. God has prescribed the remedy for the sickness every human being has and that prescribed remedy is personal faith and commitment to God's Son, Jesus. If any person deliberately refuses it, then that person must and will suffer the consequences.
6. People will prepare for everything life presents except for death. People educate themselves, go into a profession, have careers, marry, have children, plan for retirement years, but have no plans for death.
7. Death is something that is certain and people think it will happen to everybody except themselves.

IV. THERE IS A BRIGHT SIDE TO DEATH AS DESCRIBED IN GOD'S WORD

1. Hell is promised for the unbeliever but also there is a promised place for the believer, the Christian.
2. Jesus said, *"...in my Father's house are many mansions (rooms). If it were not so, I would have told you, and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself that where I am, there ye may be also.."*

3. God's Word teaches that Heaven will be a place of beauty with streets of gold, jewels, pearls, precious things and that it will be a great time of reunion.
4. God's Word teaches that Heaven will be a place of great understanding and knowledge of things that were not understood here on earth.
5. God's Word also teaches that the soul of a person will be reunited with his/her changed body and that everybody will know everybody, there will be no strangers there.
6. Contrary to man's limited "scientific" thinking and reasoning, God will have no trouble gathering a person's earthly remains, even if turned into ashes, and restoring them to a perfect, spotless new body.

CONCLUSION:

1. God's Word says that there are two places every human being could spend all eternity after his/her earthly life is done, heaven and hell.
2. God has prepared the way for every human being to spend all eternity in the beautiful place called heaven and whether to go there or not is left up to every person to choose.
3. There are many things people can do, make, change, invent, but when it comes to eternity, people can do absolutely nothing but God can.
4. Every human being you see, including YOU, will one day end his/her life on this earth and his/her soul will be sent to either Heaven or Hell, depending upon what has been decided about Jesus.
5. YOU will die, where will you spend eternity?