

FIVE MINUTES IN HELL

Luke 16:24

Introduction: It is not God's desire that anyone go to hell, but there will be people there. Hell was created by God for Satan and the angels who rebelled with Satan.

The Bible is the record of God's dealings with mankind to keep him out of hell and to get him into heaven. Have you ever thought about what your attitude might be like if you had to spend five (5) minutes in hell? It is a fact that most Christians never think about anybody else's destination or spiritual welfare. In other words, total indifference! What do you think we would learn if we had to spend five (5) minutes in hell?

I. WE WOULD LEARN THAT HELL IS A REAL PLACE

1. Hell is not a myth, a make believe place, a bad dream nor the creation of some fiction writer.
2. Hell was real to the Son of God to the extent that He (Jesus) died on a cross to save mankind from it.
3. Hell was real to the rich man Jesus talked about.
 - The rich man was aware of his surroundings.
 - He described what he saw and felt.
 - He remembered.
 - He discovered that he was in a hopeless situation.
 - He was concerned that his brothers did not join him in hell.

II. WE WOULD BE AROUSED FROM OUR STATE OF COMPLACENCY

1. The Church is not some protest society, protesting against nuclear power, gays, alcohol, abortion, etc. (although protest is needed).
2. The Church is not a mutual congratulation society (I'm safe, so I don't care and will do as I want).
3. The Church is God's Rescue Organization (so to speak), charged with the responsibility of reaching people with the gospel and teaching the saved about God's plans.
4. The Church doesn't really believe that people are going to hell by the way the Church acts.

III. WE WOULD RECOGNIZE THE VALUE OF BEING LIKE CHRIST IN OUR CONDUCT

1. The most effective sermons ever preached are not those uttered from a pulpit, but everyday life.
2. People will not believe about Jesus unless they see that He does make a difference in one's life.
Does Jesus really make a difference in your life? Does it show?
3. Others must be on our minds all the time. Our conduct must be such that it attracts others to Christ.

IV. WE WOULD TAKE ON A NEW ATTITUDE ABOUT SPIRITUAL GROWTH

1. Prayer would take on a new meaning as we realized what our mission really was.
2. Bible study would become a big must, so that we might be more prepared to help others come to know Jesus and ourselves to live more like Jesus.
3. We would have a deeper love for our Church and be totally loyal to it, realizing it is God's only organization and means of reaching the lost.

CONCLUSION:

1. People do not go to hell because of God's plan.
2. People do not go to hell because their sins are too great for God to save them.
3. People go to hell because they do not believe in Jesus Christ!
4. God does not want anybody to go to hell. He has done everything He can to keep people out.
5. It is our responsibility to do our job and reach every person with the Gospel.
6. Have YOU accepted God's gift of eternal life?