

Voice of Baptists

"The Voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God."
Isaiah 40:3

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THE HORRORS OF HELL

By F. W. Lambert
Westmoreland, Tenn.

"Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched."

Mark 9:44

As I bring you this message, I realize there are many who disagree with what I am saying. But when Christ was here on earth and taught his eternal truths, there were many who disagreed with him, but that did not stop him nor discourage him in his teachings. I purpose to give you nothing but the plain, positive teachings of God's word, and I sincerely hope you will be just as honest in receiving it as I am in giving it. I do not love this subject, but it is God's word and I cannot be an honest minister of God unless I give it to you. I would also have you consider that sin is deceitful and bewitching. Sin is from the greatest deceiver, Satan, and it is exceedingly deceitful. Listen to Hebrews 3:13, "But exhort one another daily, while it is called today, lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin." Sin will kiss the soul and pretend to delight the soul, and yet betray the soul forever. Sin will smile upon us that it may betray us into the hands of the devil, as Delilah smiled upon Samson and then betrayed him into the hands of the Philistines. Sin so bewitches the soul that it makes the soul call evil good, and good evil, put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter, put darkness for light, and light for darkness. When your soul is so bewitched with sin, benumbed because of sin, it will stand out against God, even to death. May the spirit of the living God break the heart and show what a fool you are running on into hell. It seems that some sinners that I know and hear about are like the man who was told by his doctor that except he restrain himself from his drunkenness, and uncleanness, he would lose his eyes. This man, being so deceived by sin, answered "Then farewell, sweet light. I would

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UNITY

By Harold Carver
Buena Vista, Tenn.

"BEHOLD, HOW GOOD AND HOW PLEASANT IT IS FOR BRETHREN TO DWELL TOGETHER IN UNITY!"

PSALMS 133:1

Perhaps as never before in history God's people need to apply the words of this brief Psalm to their lives, families, Christian associations, and Church relationships. In this age we seldom pass a week that we do not hear one of God's children criticizing a brother or sister. Unfortunately, the maladies of murmuring, quarreling and devouring one another is not limited solely to individual and personal relationships, but is spread throughout the family of God. We hear brother criticize brother, minister criticize minister, minister criticize Church, Church criticize minister, and one Church criticize another Church.

This conduct on the part of Christians has, in too many cases, destroyed the "UNITY" between brethren, ministers, and Churches. Not only are brethren commended to dwell together in unity but are commanded to promote each other's welfare. Christians should strive for the relationship between brethren, to dwell even as one, as having one heart, one soul, and one interest. This is not only good and pleasant for the brethren but is in itself agreeable to the will of God, the conformity of earth to heaven. Unity between brethren is pleasant and pleasing to God.

David continues to explain that unity "is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; as the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the Mountains of Zion." The sacred consecrating oil as it was poured upon

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OLD UNION BAPTIST MINISTERS SCHOOL



March 25-27

Dear Churches:

A wonderful fellowship and study time for God's servants has been scheduled at Old Union Baptist Church for this, the ninth year in succession. Would you like to help? Why not send your pastor and all ministers in your church to this year's session? The tuition is \$20 per person, which includes free lunches and compensates the teachers for their expenses.

For further information, you should write to: Elder Paul Bryson, Route 9, Box 84, Bowling Green, Ky. 42101.

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LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

"We really enjoy getting the "Voice of Baptists." We can read it in just a short time and enjoy every column that is in it."

Mr. & Mrs. Delbert Howard
Indianapolis, Ind.

"We have received and enjoyed the paper, "Voice of Baptists" for a long time."

Mr. & Mrs. Johnnie Culbreath
Lafayette, Tenn.

"Want to tell you how I enjoy the "Voice of Baptists." I think it is doing a wonderful work. I hear lots of comments about how others enjoy the paper. There is a man at the building where I work who receives the paper. His name is William Scruggs. He likes the articles very much. Just keep up the good work."

Charles C. Hicks
Detroit, Mich.

"May the Lord continue to bless the "Voice of Baptists." Enjoy reading all the good articles each month. We are praying that the paper continues to reach those who are lost and will be a blessing to those already saved. Again, thank you, and may God richly bless you."

Arvella Stapleton
Toledo, Ohio

"We have just recently read a "Voice of Baptists," and would like to be

on your mailing list. We belong to the missionary Baptist church at Polk, Missouri."

Calvin Jones

Goodson, Missouri

"Thanks for sending the "Voice of Baptists" paper. I really get a blessing from reading it."

Lillie Trull

Bruceton, Tenn.

Sorry we cannot use all your letters as they arrive. In due time they will appear in the same order as received.

HORRORS OF HELL

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rather lose my eyes than leave my sins." So it is with many sinners. They had rather lose God, Christ, his heaven, and their soul, than part with sin. Hell is not only a state, but it is a real place. It is just as real as the city of Lafayette. Just as real as you are. Just as real as the sun that shines. Just as real as day and night. Just as real as food you eat and the clothes you wear. Just as real as the house in which you live.

There are three words in the Bible which are translated "hell". They are as follows: "SHEOL" which means the unseen state. Hebrew "HADES" which means the unseen state. Greek "GEHENNA" which means place of burning (the Valley of Hinnom is used to describe the eternal burnings.) This word is used eleven times in the New Testament.

When Jonathan Edwards preached that sermon on "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God", he said, "It would be dreadful to suffer this fierceness and wrath of Almighty God for just one moment. But you must suffer it to all eternity. There will be no end to this exquisite, horrible misery. When you look forward, you shall see a long forever, as boundless duration before you which will swallow up your thoughts. You will know certainly that you must wear out long ages, millions of millions of ages, in wrestling and conflicting with this all-mighty merciless vengeance, and then when you have so done, when so many ages have actually been spent by you in this manner, you will know that all this is but a point to what remains. So that your punishment will indeed be infinite. O, who can express what the state of a soul in such circumstances is! All that we can possibly say about it, gives but a very feeble, faint representation of it. It is inexpressible and inconceivable. These

were the words of Edwards on the subject of an everlasting hell.

Summing it all up, we may say that hell is all the loss of all that is good, whether physical or spiritual, and the misery of an evil conscience banished from God and the society of the holy, and dwelling under God's positive curse forever. In eternity, every individual will have an environment suited to its character. God is a God of justice. The man who lives a wicked and sinful life and dies without repentance, or without being born again, if such an one should go to heaven, he would be unhappy, for he would be in an environment contrary to his character. Therefore, in order that each one may have an environment suited to his character there must be a hell that there may be a separation of the evil and the good. Practically all the No-hell advocates tell us that the word "hell" in the Bible means the grave. We have a group in our country, now, called Jehovah Witnesses, who teach that for a doctrine. But let us examine some passages and see if that is really what the Bible teaches! In Deuteronomy 32:22, we are told that "hell" is a place of burning. Is the grave a place of burning? Do men burn in the grave? Certainly not.

Next, in 2 Samuel 22:6, we are told that "hell" has sorrow. Does the grave have sorrow? Certainly not! Thirdly, in Psalms 9:17, we are told that "hell" is a place into which the wicked nations shall go. Now if this means the grave, do not the righteous go there also?

4) In Psalms 55:15, we are told that "hell" is a place into which folks may go alive. We are told by at least three passages of scripture that some did go into hell alive. In Matthew 25:41 we read, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." Revelation 19:20, "And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both (notice, "these both") were cast alive into a lake of fire burning (notice - "a lake of fire burning") with brimstone. This is a clear-cut case of men going into a "lake of fire burning with brimstone", and the Bible says "for ever and ever." Men do not burn in the grave, but they do burn and will burn in hell for ever and ever.

5) Isaiah 14:9-11 and Ezekiel 32:21 tell us that "hell" is a place which can be moved to meet those who come to it, whose inmates can talk to those who come. Can the grave be moved to meet

the dead which are being buried there? Do the inmates of the graveyard rise to greet the newcomers? Certainly not! Even those who say there is no hell, can see the folly of such teaching as this.

6) In Daniel 12:2, we are told of a place to which some are going which will be a place of "shame and everlasting contempt." Will those who go to the grave have "shame and everlasting contempt" there? Certainly not.

7) In Matthew 5:22, we are told "hell" is a place of fire. This is the same kind of fire that came to the city of Sodom when it was destroyed. Sodom was destroyed by fire and brimstone and so will the wicked be punished with fire and brimstone in hell. That does not sound like a grave to me. As men in this life must have jails, prisons, and various places of detention to put those who break the law, so God in his infinite wisdom must have a prison-house for sinners - a penitentiary for the unsaved dead. In the Bible this place is called "hell". And sinners can never get out. Charles Spurgeon wrote about hell, he said this, "Our lost friends are lost forever. We recollect that there is no shadow of hope for them. When the iron gate of hell is once closed, upon them, it shall never be unbarred again to give them free exit. When once shut up within the walls of sweltering flame which girdle the fiery gulf, there is no possibility of flight.

We recollect that they have forever stamped there upon their chains. "Forever" carved in deep lines of despair upon their hearts. It is the hell of hell that everything lasts forever. Here time wears away our grief, and blunts the keen edge of our sorrow, but there time never mitigates the woe. Hell grows more hellish as eternity marches on with its mighty paces. The abyss becomes more dense and fiery. The sufferers more ghastly and wretched, as years, if there be such sad variety in that fixed state, roll their everlasting rounds. Here the sympathy of loving kindness in the midst of suffering or sickness can alleviate our pain; but there the tortured ghosts are sport for friends, and the mutual upbraidings and reproaches of fellow sinners give fresh sins to torment too dreaded to be endured. Here, too, when nature's last palliative shall fail, to die may be a happy release. A man can count the weary hours till death shall give him rest. But, oh remember, there is no death in hell. I mean by that they shall forever be there. If death could go there, all the damned would fall down and worship him, every tongue would sing, and every heart would praise. Each cavern then

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TEST YOUR BIBLE KNOWLEDGE

Check each statement that you think is in the Bible.

- ____ 1. "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush."
- ____ 2. "The hoary head is a crown of glory."
- ____ 3. "A burned child dreads the fire."
- ____ 4. "A hint to the wise is sufficient."
- ____ 5. "He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding."
- ____ 6. "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."
- ____ 7. "A stitch in time saves nine."
- ____ 8. "Of the making of many books there is no end."
- ____ 9. "Charity covers a multitude of sins."
- ____ 10. "He that is soon angry dealeth foolishly."
- ____ 11. "As the twig is bent so shall it grow."
- ____ 12. "Beggars should not be choosers."
- ____ 13. "Think twice before you speak."
- ____ 14. "Procrastination is the thief of time."
- ____ 15. "Drink waters out of thine own cistern, and running waters out of thine own well."
- ____ 16. "Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people."
- ____ 17. "Every generation shall grow weaker and wiser."
- ____ 18. "Every tub must stand on its own bottom."
- ____ 19. "It is wise to choose the lesser of two evils."
- ____ 20. "In the multitude of counselors there is safety."
- ____ 21. "A house divided against itself cannot stand."
- ____ 22. "As a man thinketh in his heart so is he."
- ____ 23. "Money is the root of all evil."
- ____ 24. "Once in grace always in grace."
- ____ 25. "He that loveth pleasure shall be a poor man."
- ____ 26. "A merry heart doeth good like medicine."
- ____ 27. "A man that hath friends must show himself friendly."
- ____ 28. "Our sins are buried in the sea of God's forgetfulness."

- ____ 29. "The unpardonable sin."
 - ____ 30. "What is to be will be."
 - ____ 31. "He that gathereth in summer is a wise son; but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame."
 - ____ 32. "The liberal soul shall be made fat."
 - ____ 33. "Great men are not always wise."
 - ____ 34. "Spare the rod and spoil the child."
 - ____ 35. "Charity begins at home."
 - ____ 36. "Heart-felt religion."
 - ____ 37. "Haste makes waste."
 - ____ 38. "There is no new thing under heaven."
 - ____ 39. "Hope deferred maketh the heart sick."
 - ____ 40. "The time will come when you can't tell winter from summer only by the budding of the trees."
- Answers on the next page.

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the top of the head would stream down through the beard even to the lower fringe of his long vesture. The consecration of the high priest was a type of unity.

The dew of Hermon descended to the lower heights, and thence to the plains so that the whole land was blessed thereby. The descending of the dew of Hermon illustrates unity.

Now, the grace of unity is in this respect like the holy oil and the dew; it is a blessing for all and everyone. We also must note David's introduction to this brief Psalm. "BEHOLD"! As if to say, "all may see it, and see how blessed and pleasant a thing it is". But how can those around us observe unity when much they hear is gossip, backbiting, criticizing, murmuring, and complaining? The fact is they will not see any blessed and pleasant good. God is not pleased and will not fellowship this behavior.

When a strife arose between the herdmen of Abram's cattle and the herdmen of Lot's cattle, Abram said unto Lot, "Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we be brethren". The Christian family of today could surely use some of this reasoning. In the days immediately preceding the descent of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, the Church all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication. One of the greatest revivals in history took place and many lost souls were saved. The Church of today could surely use some of this reasoning. No doubt, greater love and unity and less bickering would lead to greater revivals.

The unity of the brethren must return. We have a common Father, and

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THE HORRORS OF HELL

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would echo with a shout of triumph, till all was still, and silence broad where terrors reigned. But no, the terrible reality is this, "the worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched." My friend, hell is an everlasting place, and when a man dies and goes there, he's going to burn forever, according to the pages of God's blessed word. The place is as everlasting as heaven. Hell is a place into which both soul and body may be cast. Matthew 5:29, 30. Does the soul go to the grave? Here's the answer, Ecclesiastes 12:7, "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it." This does not teach that all of man goes to the grave. It certainly does teach that man has a two-fold nature-body and spirit. The body goes to the grave. The spirit does not go to the grave. God has a place prepared for the soul or spirit of man. Unserved souls dwell in hell with the rich man; saved souls go to be with Jesus. Acts 7:59 Also Matthew 10:28 teaches us that soul and body will be cast into hell. Hell is called a furnace of fire. Do you know what a furnace is? Do you need to have someone explain to you what a furnace is? If you can understand what a furnace at a mill is, why is it that when you look in God's word and read about a furnace of fire you try to mystify it and say it does not mean what it says? Why not let God's word mean what it says? Why not take God at his word? Why try to explain it away? Matthew 13:41 & 42, the fires of hell are called "everlasting fire". Matthew 18:8 calls them "eternal fire". Here are two words which describe this fire - eternal and everlasting, both mean the same. When one ends the other will end.

In hell sinners are separated from God. No stretch of the imagination could lead us to believe that God can have fellowship with sin. He is holy. He is pure! If men will refuse his fellowship here, then they cannot have it there. A sinner who cannot enjoy a prayer-meeting in this life surely would not be able to delight himself with the Lord in heaven or in hell. So in hell there must be separation from God. In this life even the unsaved rest at ease with comforts of God's blessings about them, God sends the rain and the sun on both the just and the unjust, and the unsaved men partake of his bounties. Many are the favors that God gives to men in order to show himself to them. God's nature is enjoyed. His creation points to the fact that he wants men to serve him, "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament sheweth his handywork." Psalms

19:1 Every tree is a finger pointing to God. The steeples on every church, the tolling of every church bell, the singing of every hymn, the sound of every prayer, reminds men of God.

Hell is called "everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord." 2 Thessalonians 1:8, 9 The punishment which the wicked receives will be everlasting destruction. The word "destroy" means to pull down, overturn, lay waste. Not one single time did it say destruction meant annihilation. It does not mean that. Neither does it mean that the wicked are finally going to come into favor with God, but means just exactly what it says, that those "who know not God" shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power. No more opportunity for life, no remedy; no redemption: everlasting destruction. Hell is called "eternal fire". Jude 7 Listen, suffering the vengeance of "eternal fire". Eternity has no end. Neither does the punishment of hell have an end. It is punishment on and on. How long? **Forever and forever!** Hell is called the bottomless pit. Rev. 20:3 Can you understand what a pit without a bottom would mean? Just think, a place where you may continue to go down, down, down forever and ever, and never find bottom or end of it. It is called a lake of fire. Do you know what a lake is? Certainly, any ten-year-old child knows that. Hell is called the second death. Rev. 14 It is called blackness of darkness forever. Jude 13 It is called "torment forever and forever". Rev. 20. It is called everlasting punishment. In Luke 16:19-31 is a case of a man in hell. Please turn to it and read it. Let us notice it briefly. This man in hell could talk (verse 24). He talked to Abraham. Can a dead man in a grave talk? He could hear. He heard Abraham. Can a dead man in a grave hear? He could feel (verse 24). He said, "I am tormented in this flame." He could taste (verse 24). He called for water. He had not forgotten how water tasted. He knew water would cool a thirsty hot tongue. Abraham said, "Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things." He was perfectly conscious of his condition and the condition of his brothers when he died and left them here on earth. He wanted Abraham to send Lazarus to preach, to them. He knew he was in hell. He knew he could not get out, so did not ask for that. If there is no hell, why did not Abraham say to him, "son, just wait a little while and you will come out alright?" for there is no eternal hell, and all folks will be saved some day, so just

be patient?" No, no, this man knew he was in hell and he knew his brothers were coming down there, too, unless they were warned not to come. Sinners, unless you turn to God you are going there, too. This poor rich man became intensely missionary in spirit when he saw his awful condition in hell. But it was too late for him, so he wanted his brothers warned not to come down there. Here is a picture of two beggars, Lazarus by name, begged bread here on earth. He died and went to paradise - called in this passage, "Abraham's bosom." Meaning the affections of Abraham. This poor rich man was rich in this world's goods, but was a pauper in spiritual things. He died and was buried, but in hell lifted up his eyes. He had plenty while he lived on the earth, but he begged for water in hell. He was in hell! He was in torment! He needed comfort, but it was too late to be comforted. Sinners, this is a real picture. It is not my picture. I did not draw it. No other man drew it. It is God's picture of a circumstance that actually happened. And it is going to happen to everyone who rejects Jesus Christ our Lord. It is better to be poor and beg bread here on earth, than to be rich, reject Christ, and beg for water in hell. Hell is real! Hell is a fact! Hell is awful! Hell is hot! Hell is deep! Hell is long-long as eternity-as long as heaven. Hell is black and dark! Hell has no end, no comfort! It has no peace. It has no joy. No one there saved by grace. No good songs. No love! No fellowship! It will be a lake of fire. It never snows in hell. It never rains there. They weep and mourn there! No children there that died before they became accountable. He that is born twice will only die once, but he that is born only once will die twice.

UNITY (Continued from Page 3)

are children of the same household. When we are unified, in the center of God's will and sharing his love with our brothers and sisters, we can have a variety of thought, differences of opinion, but unity of heart. A unity from the head to the edge of the garments of the Church. From the heights of Hermon to the hills and plains of Zion. Unity can come only from love. Love is the greatest goodness, and the highest, deepest joy. If each and every child of God would draw closer to the Lord, the results would be a more unified relationship of love between each other.

* * * *

Answers to quiz: Quotations nos. 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 23, 24, 28, 29, 30, 35, 36, 37 and 40 are not in the Bible.