

2001 Proclaimer

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, .. to proclaim the favorable year of the Lord!" - Isa. 61:1-2

A teaching and exhortation medium by members of the
Carmichael Church of Christ, meeting at 6044 Sutter Ave. Carmichael, CA 95608

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ARE THERE BENEFITS IN GOING TO HELL?

by Mike Cornwell

Have you ever thought about the benefits of going to Hell? Some people have suggested that "If you look closely enough you will find good in everything." Will Rogers said, "I never met a man I didn't like." If there is some good in everything then there surely must be some benefits to going to Hell. (This should ease your mind a little, if you are headed there!) This will not benefit those awaiting Hell since there is no peace of mind, *".. where the worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched"* (**Mark 9:44**). I tried thinking of some benefits of going to Hell and I came up with four.

You'll hear no more gospel preaching in Hell. If there is no gospel preaching then there will not be any faithful preachers in Hell. (This is refreshing news to me!) In Hell there will be no more long, boring sermons, and no shorter ones either. Preaching has a way of making some who are in sin uneasy, that is if the preacher is preaching the truth of the word. Many have said, "The preacher is preaching directly at me!" Many who are in sin have an attitude problem. They say at times, "Keep your nose out of my business. If I want to talk to you, I will do the calling!" (And that will only be for a funeral or maybe a wedding.) They will not have to suffer embarrassment any longer in Hell, because there will no more warnings about spiritual damnation.

Gospel preachers are to, *"..reprove..rebuke..exhort.."* (**2 Tim 4:2**). They must preach the truth of the gospel, not man's doctrine, but the doctrine of Christ. How else is man to know the truth that will set him free? (**John 8:32**) This world is full of false teachers who proclaim man's doctrine. They will have their congregation in Hell; but they will not be preaching Jesus Christ crucified!

In Hell, there will be no more Christian workers. You know, the ones who bother you with phone calls, letters, cards and home visits. They have been bothering people since the church's beginning (Acts 8:4). During the first century the disciples went from house to house (Acts 20:20). Even after promises of attendance they did not stop (Acts 24:25). If you go to Hell you will no longer have to worry about uninvited Christians interfering with your daily routine. True Christians, those who are part of the Lord's body, will be in Heaven. You will have lots of company in hell with souls just like yours!

In Hell, there will be no interference with your lifestyle. There will be no one to tell you how to live faithfully in order to receive a crown of life (**Rev 2:10**)! No one will tell you about sin; no embarrassment any longer with the words "sin" and "sinner." No one will prevent you from being with the "in" crowd: there will be an abundance of them in Hell. You see, the Gospel is hid from those in Hell (**2 Cor 4:3**).

There will be no more "Gospel Calls" to righteousness by those "holier than thou" preachers and "do-gooder" Saints. After all, you were as good as those "hypocrites," maybe even better! Look around when you get there, they will be there too! Everyone will be doing the same thing, suffering for eternity!

In Hell, there will be no more invitations given. You will not have to listen to an "invitation to accept the Gospel." that was the most embarrassing part of going to "church" anyway. No more pressure from family members, the preacher, and friends who were "faithful" Christians. All you will be able to do is "hope" all is well with them since you will be separated for eternity.

I wonder if you will miss the beautiful voices raised in songs of praise. You might have enjoyed that part of "church" and just maybe miss that aspect. It will be a relief that you will no longer be bored with all the nonsense of "church." Another "side" benefit of Hell is that we'll no longer have to avoid making a decision to obey the gospel: the subject simply will not come up.

There is however one catch to this "good news" of Hell. You will have to make a definite, sure decision if you want these benefits of going to Hell. All that's necessary for you to receive these benefits is ***DO NOTHING*** about your soul's condition! When you cross over into an eternity in Hell there will be no turning back. If you have the slightest doubt that you want these benefits, you need to make changes in your life .. ***obey the gospel NOW***, before it is too late!

Today at 6 PM: Song and Scripture and Prayer Service

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Truman and Sue Claiborne
Helen Gray *Doris Hopper*
Barbara Fuller *Ralph Len*
Willa Lockett *Wendell Rapiar*
Norma Romine *Josie Steadman*
Nancy Valine *Evie Westphal*

PLEASE PRAY for these, and others you may be aware of, who are sick or away from this church family.

Prayers do avail!

"Listen, an IQ can be a mixed blessing sometimes. Some people want it and can't get it. I got it and had to get rid of it. Life's funny that way, you know?"
(Barney Fife)

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**He who will not reason is a bigot.
He who cannot is a fool.
He who dares not is a slave.**

--Sir Henry Drummond

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**Age:** I've gotten to the age where I need my false teeth and hearing aid before I can ask where I left my glasses.

**Come on in and let us help prepare you for your finals.**

**You are not too bad to come in. You are not too good to stay out.**

**I was going to waste, but Jesus recycled me.**

**"When things go wrong, don't go with them."**

**K-mart is not the only saving place.**

**Ask about our pray-as-you-go plan.**

**We hold sit-in demonstrations every Sunday.**

**Pray up in advance.**

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**"WHAT CAN CAUSE A CONGREGATION TO DIE?"**

*Lalo Enriquez*

1. Removing Jesus as the Head of the church (Col 2:19); replaced by "Diotrephes" personalities (3 John 9-10).
2. Losing faith in Jesus' authority, & in God's Word as absolute guide; lack of Bible study (Matt 28:18f; Heb 5:12f).
3. Leaders and mature members catering to unscriptural liberal attitudes in doctrine and practice; and coddling unfaithful members (2 Tim 4:2-4).
4. Lack of consistent discipline against immorality and other sins (1 Cor 5:1-13).
5. Lack of order in congregation's affairs; and disorganization among its leadership (1 Cor 14:33, 40).
6. Not getting things done when they need to get done (Rom 12:11; Prov 6:10-11).
7. Members not sharing in responsibilities (Eph 4:16).
8. Lack of forgiveness, forbearance, and closeness in member's relationships (Eph 4:31-5:2).
9. Contentions, strife, division, and other "works of the flesh" (Gal 5:15-21).
10. Members becoming overly casual in attitudes and conduct toward "holy things" of God (Ezek 44:23; John 4:23-24).

**Matthew 28:19-20**

*"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,"*

# DAVID, A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART

Acts 13:16-22

## INTRODUCTION:

- A. In text, by invitation of the synagogue rulers, Paul arose and addressed the audience, sketching the history of Israel from the Exodus to the time of David.
- B. In **verse 22** we find it said of David, "*that he was a man after God's own heart.*"
  - 1. Of course, these words were not spoken concerning the whole life of David in which there were some things done that were not acceptable to God. **1 Kings 15:5**.
  - 2. Rather, they had reference to David's character when he was chosen to succeed Saul as king.
- C. By observing some of David's actions and characteristics, we too may be a people after God's own heart.

## I. DAVID HID THE WORD OF GOD IN HIS HEART. Psalms 119:1-16.

- A. Why did he do this? "*That I might not sin against Thee.*" **v. 11**. Think that might be why we're told to let the word of Christ " *dwell in us richly?*" **Col 3:16**.
- B. Some examples of what the word hidden in our hearts can do:
  - 1. The mind is like a computer, it stores information.
    - a) Whenever we are tempted to miss a service of the church, we need to have **Heb 10:25** stored to remind us that this would not be advisable.
    - b) Whenever we are tempted to let something unholy come out of our mouths (like gossip, foul language, telling lies, etc.) we need to have **Col. 4:6** stored in our hearts to remind us against such.
  - 2. If I hide or store **1 Jno 3:9** in my heart, does it mean it is physically impossible for me to sin?
    - a) No! It's like putting a fence between a cow and a cornfield. The cow CANNOT eat the corn as long as the barrier is there! Remove the fence and the cow will eat the corn.
    - b) Likewise, we CANNOT sin UNLESS the barrier of God's word, is removed from our lives.

## II. DAVID CONFESSED HIS SINS AND ACKNOWLEDGED THEM. Psalms 51:1-4; 2 Sam 12:13

- A. He did not talk of the sins of others, and try to blame them for his condition.
- B. He said, "**MY sin is ever before me.**" **2 Sam 11:2-12, 15**.
  - 1. David did not say that Bathsheba was at fault, even though she was partly to blame. **Acts 10:9**.
  - 2. He was forgiven of his sins, but God did not promise that David would be able to forget his sins.
  - 3. Adam blamed Eve, **Gen 3:12**, Eve blamed the serpent, **Gen 3:13**, King Saul blamed the people, etc. **1 Sam 15:15**.
- C. The first step on the road to conversion is to acknowledge that we are sinners. **Rom 3:23**; **Jas 5:16** tells us to confess our faults.

## III. DAVID HATED EVERY FALSE WAY: Psalms 119:104.

- A. When we see the word "therefore", we need to go back and see what it is "there for".
  - 1. In this case, David has been upholding the word of God and telling how he loved it and how that through it he gained understanding.
  - 2. FOR THAT REASON, "*he hated every false way.*"
- B. Did David hate sinners? No! He hated sin.
  - 1. Every false way, takes in everything religiously that is not according to the doctrine of Christ.
  - 2. There are false teachers among us today!

## CONCLUSION:

- 1. Paul tells us in **Rom 15:4**, "*For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that through patience and through comfort of the scriptures we might have hope.*"
- 2. So, this that we have learned concerning David, a man after God's own heart, should be helpful to us in ordering our lives.
- 3. You have the opportunity today to become a man or a woman, a boy or girl, after God's own heart.
- 4 This can be accomplished by obedience to His will and steadfastness in His service.
- 5 Why not seek a closeness and reconciliation with God today while you have the opportunity to do so?