



26:75; Ephesians 2:12). As we've already noticed, sin ultimately leads to punishment (James 1:14-15).

Sin puts an impassable barrier between us and the spiritual blessings God offers through a relation-

ship with His Son Jesus. We cannot go over that barrier, around, under, or through it. The only way to receive God's blessings is for that barrier of sin to be destroyed, and the only power in existence to destroy it is the blood of Jesus (Matthew 26:28). This is a gift He offers to all men by His mercy, no matter how sinful (1 Tim. 2:4,6; Titus 2:11; John 3:16; Mark 16:15,16). We can be assured that God will punish *eternally* those who refuse to give up their sinful life and never turn to serve Him. Given the misery that sin has causes in this life and the punishment it will bring in the next, what reason do we have to continue our life of sin, separated from Christ?



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Faithful Sayings Issue 12.51 December 19, 2010

Welcome Visitors

We are so glad that you joined us today.
Please come again.

- Let us know if you have any questions.

ISSUE

12.51

BULLETIN OF
THE OLSEN
PARK CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Faithful Sayings

December 19
2010

Services

Sunday: 9:30 AM
10:20 AM
6:00 PM
Wednesday: 7:00 PM

Elders:

Pat Ledbetter
Jeff Nunn
Kyle Pope

Deacons:

Dean Bowers
Eddie Cook
Bill Davis
Steve Dixon
Pat Goguen
Jack Langley
Neil Ledbetter
Brady McAlister
Walker McAnear
Lance Purcell
Rusty Scott

Evangelists:

Kyle Pope
Jason Garcia



Will God Send Some People to Hell?

By Jason Garcia

To answer this question we must first consider the authority of the Bible. We must recognize that although the Bible was *written* by man, it did not *originate* with man (2 Timothy 3:16; 1 Thessalonians 2:13). Peter establishes this point when he says, **“But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but MEN MOVED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT SPOKE FROM GOD”** (2 Peter 1:20 emphasis mine).

Paul affirms this point when he says, **“we may know the things freely given to us by God, which things we also speak, NOT IN WORDS TAUGHT BY HUMAN WISDOM, but in those taught by**



the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words” (1 Corinthians 1:24 emphasis mine). There are numerous passages affirming the divine origin of the Bible, but hopefully these will suffice for our study. The Bible is, in fact, the Word of God, infallible, inerrant, and the *only* place where we can find God’s plan of salvation for men’s souls.



Olsen Park church of Christ

We need to also consider what God has revealed about His place in the universe, before we can understand why He promises to punish those who disobey Him. God is the Creator of the universe and everything in it, so He has all authority just as the Bible teaches, **“Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty INDEED EVERYTHIN THAT IS IN THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH; Yours is the dominion, O LORD, and You exalt Yourself as head over all”** (1 Chronicles 29:11 emphasis mine). We must also recognize that Jesus, as God’s Son, possesses all authority, **“And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, ‘ALL authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth’”** (Matthew 28:18 emphasis mine).

Now because God has all authority, He has the right to tell us how we should or shouldn’t act. We do not exist for our own sake, nor do we exist for the sake of anyone else but we exist so that we may serve God (Revelation 4:11). He has told us how best to serve Him, and when we are disobedient, we sin. Whether it is intentional or unintentional, everyone “falls short of His glory”, and although sin is worthy of punishment, God has provided a propitiation for our sins in His Son (Romans 5:6-9). If we accept this and *obey*, thus acknowledging Him as Lord we *must* do what he says as He Himself expects, **“Why do you call Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say?”** (Luke 6:46; cf. Heb. 5:8-9). Remem-

ber, the crown of Life is only promised to those who love Him, **“Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him”** (James 1:12). And who are those that love Him? **“He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him”** (John 14:21). What of those who do not accept this gift from God? **“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord”** (Romans 6:23). Paul makes it even clearer for us when he pictures God as, **“dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus”** (2 Thess. 1:8). He goes to say, **“These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power...”** (2 Thessalonians 1: 9). Finally, on this point, consider the words of Jesus Himself as He describes what the Day of Judgment will be like for those who are not found to be faithful, **“Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels...Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life”** (Matthew 25:41, 46).

Would we agree that God, in His mercy, has offered us the gift of life, and that it’s sad to think that there will be those who go away into eternal destruction because they refused this gift? Especially when we know nothing good can come from sinning, even in this life! The Bible teaches us concerning sin that it alienates us from God (Genesis 2:17; 3:8; Isaiah 59:1, 2; Ephesians 2:12). Sin can be a barrier between loved ones (Luke 15:11-13; James 3:14-18; Galatians 2:11-14; Romans 16:17). Sin makes us feel worthless and defeated (Job 42:6; Matthew 26:33-35, 69-75). It gives us a burden of guilt (Genesis 3:10; Psalms 38:3-8; Matthew 27:3-5). Sin causes fear, grief, and hopelessness (Matthew