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THE SURE WORD by Jonnie Hutchison

WHAT YOU WILL BE DOING IN HELL #1

The Bible clearly teaches that there are two eternal destinies – heaven and hell. Contrary to popular belief, God does not send any person to either heaven or hell. Instead, each person is given a choice as to which eternal destiny will be his or hers. We each make that choice by either accepting God's offer of salvation or rejecting it. If you choose hell over heaven, what will you be doing there?

If you choose hell, you will be suffering punishment. In His preview of the judgment Jesus said of those who represented the lost, "And these shall go away into everlasting punishment...." (Matthew 25:46a). Jesus described this punishment as "everlasting fire" (Matthew 25:41), "hellfire" (Matthew 5:22), and a furnace of fire (Matthew 13:40). Some would have us believe that the punishment of hell is only temporary, but Jesus says it is "everlasting." Once one exists in hell there will be no escape, no end to one's existence and no relief or rest from the fiery punishment.

If you choose hell, you will be separated from God and from every other person you knew in this life who chose to go to heaven. The Bible speaks of "everlasting destruction from **the presence of the Lord**" (2 Thess. 1:9). Never again will God hear your prayers. Never again will you experience the joy of worship or the presence of those loved ones who tried so desperately to lead you to salvation. You will have no friends nor anyone who cares or loves you in hell. You may take God's presence now very lightly, but in hell you will be longing for just one more opportunity to experience His presence. Never again will you experience the love, compassion, and concern for your soul of those from whom you are now separated forever. Yes, in hell you will be continuously and eternally regretting your choice to be separated from God and your loved ones.

If you choose hell, you will remember with the deepest regret every evil thought, every sin you committed, every time you scorned the attempts of others to save your soul. Yes, the memory of those sinful pleasures you enjoyed in this life will haunt you throughout eternity and you will know that none of them were worth the loss of your soul in hell. But then, it will be too late. Hell will be filled with those who will weep and cry out, "Why did I choose hell over heaven? Why didn't I accept God's offer of salvation when I had the opportunity?"

You can escape the fires of hell. Obey God now before it is everlasting too late.
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