

“Whistlin’ Past the Graveyard”

Mark 9:43-48

I. INTRODUCTION: I

I. 2 It may surprise you to know that many people don’t believe in “hell” (i.e., eternal punishment):

A. ** Skeptics:

- (1) Albert Einstein believe in some sort of “God” who revealed Himself “in the orderly harmony” of the Universe; but he did not believe in the God of the Bible:

“I cannot imagine a God who rewards and punishes the objects of his creation.” (*Free Inquiry*, 1996/97, p. 31)

- (2) Bertrand Russell was Britain’s most celebrated intellectual/ philosopher/ writer/ mathematician of the 20th century (*Noble Prize* for literature, 1960).

- (a) Russell was an atheist/agnostic and said the reason he could not be a Christian was because Jesus Christ “believed in hell.”

“There is one very serious defect to my mind in Christ’s moral character, and that is that He believed in hell. I do not myself feel that any person who is really profoundly humane can believe in everlasting punishment (Russell, 1957, p. 17).

“Christ certainly, as depicted in the Gospels, did believe in everlasting punishment, and one does find repeatedly a vindictive fury against those people who would not listen to His preaching.... I really do not think that a person with a proper degree of kindness in his nature would have put fears and terrors of that sort into the world.... I must say that I think all this doctrine, that hell-fire as a punishment for sin, is a doctrine of cruelty. It is a doctrine that put cruelty into the world and gave the world generations of cruel torture; and the Christ of the Gospels, if you could take Him as His chroniclers represent Him, would certainly have to be considered partly responsible for that” (Russell, 1957, pp. 17-18).

- (b) Again, he said that no person “who is really profoundly humane can believe in everlasting punishment.”

B. ** Religionists:

- (1) Many so-called “Christian denominations” do not believe in hell (i.e., eternal punishment).

- (a) *Jehovah’s Witnesses & Seventh Day Adventists* replace the biblical hell with annihilation.

- (i) *Wikipedia: Annihilationism* “is the belief that those who are wicked will perish or be no more. It states that after the final judgment some human beings and all fallen angels (all of the damned) will be totally destroyed so as to not exist, or that their consciousness will be extinguished, rather than suffer everlasting torment in hell (often synonymized with the lake of fire).”

- (ii) Other annihilationist denominations: Various advent Christian churches, some Pentecostals, Christadelphians, Worldwide Church of God, Anglican, etc.

- (b) ** Church of Christ: amazingly some claiming to be members of the Lord’s church teach and believe annihilationism.

- (i) In 1982, Edward Fudge, who served as an elder for the Bering Drive church in Houston, produced his book, *The Fire that Consumes*. In this volume Fudge denies what he calls the “traditionalist view” of eternal punishment. He asserts that unrighteous people will be raised to judgment, punished for a while, and then banished to “total, everlasting extinction” (Fudge, 1982, 435-36).

- (ii) During the Apr. 1988 Pepperdine Univ. Lectureship, F. LaGard Smith argued God “will destroy [soul]. Not punish it. Not dangle it. Not torture it. Destroy it.”
 - (iii) Homer Hailey: Near the end of his life (last book) wrote a book (*God’s Judgements & Punishments*) “in which half of the book was dedicated specifically to defending the position that hell is not eternal...” (*The Eternality of Hell*, Apologetics Press).
 - (iv) F. LaGard Smith wrote in the foreword of Hailey’s book:
 - ☛ “total destruction rather than conscious, ongoing punishment is the dreaded fate which awaits the wicked” (Hailey, 2003, p. 10).
 - ☛ “In hell...those who have rejected God and have refused to believe in his Son will be totally wiped out! Completely eradicated. Their existence will come to an abrupt end” (Smith, 2003, p. 184).
 - ☛ According to Smith and other annihilationists, the choice for mankind is simple: “Blessed existence versus non-existence” (Smith, p. 190).
2. **3** There is a uniquely American idiom (figure of speech): “Whistlin’ past the graveyard.”
- A. *Wikipedia*: “To attempt to stay cheerful in a dire situation; to proceed with a task, ignoring an upcoming hazard, hoping for a good outcome. (idiomatic, US) To enter a situation with little or no understanding of the possible consequences.”
 - B. A person that is “whistlin’ past the graveyard” is ignoring the obvious; and the obvious has dire consequences.
 - (1) The Bible clearly, unequivocally and obviously teaches hell is real; there is such a thing as eternal punishment!
 - (2) Those not saved will not be extinguished out of existence; they will be fully conscious and aware of their dire circumstances.
3. Most Christian denominations have bought into the postmodern mindset and are unwilling to claim the Bible teaches any absolute truth on any topic, including the topic of hell.
- A. Thus, hell (eternal punishment) is an increasingly unpopular subject in most pulpits today.
 - B. When’s the last time you heard a sermon on hell?
 - C. When’s the last time you contemplated the concept of hell?
4. Let’s examine some things the Scriptures reveal about hell. When it comes to hell (eternal punishment) let’s not be guilty of “whistlin’ past the graveyard.”

II. DISCUSSION:

I. **4** Hell is real:

- A. Hell isn’t a fairy tale, myth, condition or state of mind. It’s a real place.
 - (1) In fact, it’s as real as heaven for in Scripture they are very often put on an equality as far as some of their contrasting qualities are concerned.
 - (2) For example, in **Matthew 25:46** Jesus said, “*And these [goats] will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous [sheep] into eternal life.*”
 - (a) So, if heaven is real, so is hell. If hell is a myth, so is heaven.
 - (b) If hell is just a “state of mind,” so is heaven. If hell is temporary, then so is heaven.

- B. ****** Jesus said, **Matt. 10:28**: *“And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”* In this we learn three things:
- (1) Hell should be feared,
 - (2) Hell is beyond the grave, and
 - (3) The reality of hell should motivate us to live so we won’t go there.
- C. Have you seriously contemplated the shocking reality of hell?
- (1) If not, you need to give yourself a “reality check.”
 - (2) To not do so is to be “whistlin’ past the graveyard”!
 - (3) Because, hell will be a reality for the vast majority! **Matt. 7:13-14**: *“Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. 14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.”*

2. **5** Hell is terrible:

- A. Some believe the Bible’s descriptions of hell are overstated.
- (1) Our English word “hell” is translated from the Greek word *gehenna*.
 - (2) ****** *Gehenna* is a transliteration of an Old Testament Hebrew expression, “the valley of Hinnom,” which denoted a ravine on the southern side of Jerusalem.
 - (a) This valley was used by certain apostate Hebrews as a place where their children were offered into the fiery arms of the pagan god Molech (2 Chr. 28:3; 33:6).
 - (b) It was thus a place of great suffering and weeping.
 - (c) When the Judean king Josiah launched his reformation, this valley was regarded as a site of heinous abomination and he defiled it so it was used no more for idolatrous sacrifices (2 Kgs. 23:10-14).
 - (d) It finally became the garbage dump of Jerusalem where there was a continual burning of refuse (e.g., dead bodies of humans and animals).
 - (e) *Gehenna*, being associated with these ideas, appropriately served as a symbolic designation for the place of suffering to which evil persons will be consigned following the Lord’s return.
- B. ****** The notion the Bible’s descriptions of “hell” (*gehenna*) are overstated is blasphemous! Why?
- (1) The person in the NT that uses the word “hell” the most is the Lord Himself!
 - (2) 11 of the 13 times it is used, Jesus is the person using the word.
 - (3) As we shall see, Jesus ascribes some very horrific descriptions to “hell.”
- C. **6** The horrific nature of hell can be seen from three of its aspects.
- (1) ****** First: As already noted, the English word “hell” comes from the Greek word *gehenna*.
 - (a) Choice of this word no accident! *Gehenna* is derived from the Valley of Hinnom near Jerusalem where idolatrous Israelites once burned their children alive as sacrifices (2 Chr. 28:3).
 - (b) Later this valley came to be used to burn Jerusalem’s garbage and trash.
 - (c) Dead bodies were thrown into this dump and its fires were kept burning to consume the rotting corpses and rubbish.

(2) ** Second, the Bible describes hell as a “lake of fire”:

Rev. 20:10, 14, 15: *“The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. ... 14 Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. 15 And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.”*

Rev 21:8: *“But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”*

- (a) Imagine if every drop of Lake Michigan or Superior was gasoline and was set ablaze.
- (b) What would it be like to be thrown into the middle?
- (c) Further, hell contains “brimstone” which is a sticky, flammable, sulfurous compound.
- (d) Imagine having a sticky, gooey, stinking, burning liquid clinging to your body!
- (e) Imagine how it would intensify the pain? Increase the agony? Magnify the suffering?

(3) ** Third, other passages portray hell as:

(a) A furnace of fire: e.g., parable of the wheat and the tares (Matt. 13:24-30, 36-43):

- ☛ Wheat = righteous (v. 38: “the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom”).
- ☛ Tares = wicked (v. 38: “the tares are the sons of the wicked one”).
- ☛ Harvest = final judgment (v. 39: “the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels”).
- ☛ Fate = hell (v. 40: “the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age”; vv. 41 & 42: “The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, 42 and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.”).

(b) A flaming fire: **2 Thess. 1:7-10:** *“and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, 8 in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, 10 when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed.”*

- (i) The world we live in can be an awful and cruel place.
- (ii) However, there is still much good in the world; God wields a positive influence in the world despite great wickedness (e.g., Jn. 13:34-35; 2 Pet. 1:1; Matt. 5:13-16).
- (iii) In hell one will be totally, absolutely, and completely separated “from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power”!
- (iv) No good whatsoever, no hope whatsoever: forever and ever and ever!

(c) A baptism of fire: **Matt. 3:11-12:** *“I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 12 His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”*

- (i) The word “baptism” means “to immerse, submerge, ...overwhelm” (Strong).

- (ii) Imagine being immersed, submerged and overwhelmed with fire!
- (iii) Furthermore, Jesus describes this fire in v. 12 as “unquenchable fire”!
- (d) An unquenchable fire: **Mark 9:43-48**: “If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed, rather than having two hands, to go to hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched — 44 where
 ‘Their worm does not die
 And the fire is not quenched.’
 45 And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame, rather than having two feet, to be cast into hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched — 46 where
 ‘Their worm does not die
 And the fire is not quenched.’
 47 And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into hell fire — 48 where
 ‘Their worm does not die
 And the fire is not quenched.’”
- (i) The words “never be quenched” “not quenched” are from the Greek adjective *asbestos* (Vine), which is obviously where we get the English word asbestos.
- (ii) Everyone has probably heard of *asbestos* (a fibrous mineral once used for making incombustible or fireproof articles; it causes mesothelioma).
- (iii) **7** This passage raises the awful specter of these truths about hell: (1) The burning in hell will never stop (“not quenched”); (2) The bodies of those in hell will never be consumed! i.e., “Their worm does not die.”
- (iv) How is this possible?
 - ☛ ******At the judgment all will be raised from the dead and given new, immortal, incorruptible bodies:
Jn. 5:28-29: “Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice 29 and come forth — those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.”
Acts 24:15: “I have hope in God, which they themselves also accept, that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust.”
1 Cor. 15:22: “For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.”
1 Cor. 15:52-53: “the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.”
 - ☛ ******Thus, both the righteous and the wicked will be given a body suited for the environment of eternity.
 - ☛ The righteous will be given a body suited for the environment of heaven (**Phil. 3:20-21**: “For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.”; **1 Jn. 3:2**: “Beloved, now we are children of God; and

it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.”; cf. 1 Cor. 15:35-42).

- ☛ The wicked will be given a body suited for the environment of hell (A body that feels the pain/torment of eternal fire yet is never consumed by the fire!).
- ☛ ******This great truth helps us understand important passages such as:

Matt 10:28: “And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”; cf. Lk. 12:4-5

- (4) ****** Is it any wonder that hell is characterized by: “weeping,” “wailing,” and “gnashing of teeth”? (cf. Matt. 8:12; 13:50; 25:30).
- (5) Do you need a more vivid picture? Do you want to go there? Do you want any of your loved ones or brethren to go there? Do you want anyone to go there?
- (6) Doctrines like annihilationism “defang” the gospel! Can you see how it affects our motivation for godly living and evangelism.

3. 8 Hell is eternal:

- A. The above descriptions would be bad enough even if hell only lasted for a few seconds; but the Scriptures clearly teach that hell lasts F-O-R-E-V-E-R!

Matt. 18:8-9: “If your hand or foot causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life lame or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet, to be cast into the **everlasting fire**. 9 And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into **hell fire**.”

- (1) ****** Were you paying attention? Did you notice Jesus equates two things in this passage?
 - (a) Jesus equated “hell fire” (v. 9) with “everlasting fire” (v. 8).
 - (b) Thus, the pain and suffering of hell is **eternal**.

Matt. 25:31-46 Matt. 25:46: “And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

- (2) ****** Were you paying attention? Jesus contrasts “everlasting punishment” with “eternal life”:
 - (a) Note Jesus says the righteous will go “into eternal life”; while the wicked “will go away into everlasting punishment” (i.e., hell, gehenna).
 - (b) So, eternal punishment (hell) is described as being “everlasting” and “life” (heaven) is described as being “eternal.”
 - (c) Remember, Jesus the Son of God said this, and He knows what He’s talking about!
 - (d) The word “everlasting” in reference to “punishment” (hell) and the word “eternal” in reference to “life” are both translated from the **very same** Greek word: *ainios*.
 - (e) “*ainios*” means “ 1. without beginning or end, that which always has been and always will be: Theos; Rom 16:26; 2. without beginning Rom 16:25; 3. without end, never to cease, everlasting: 2 Cor 4:18.” (from Thayer’s Greek Lexicon, Electronic Database. Copyright © 2000, 2003, 2006 by BibleSoft, Inc. All rights reserved.)
 - (f) Other *ainios* things:
 - ☛ God: “the everlasting God” (Rom. 16:26),
 - ☛ Holy Spirit: “the eternal Spirit” (Heb. 9:14),

- ☛ Heaven: “the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ” (2 Pet. 1:11),
- ☛ Jesus: “I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.” (Rev. 1:18).

(If hell is not eternal, F-O-R-E-V-E-R, then neither is God, the Holy Spirit, heaven, or Jesus!)

- (g) So, Jesus unequivocally tells us both hell and heaven are for the exact same duration: F-O-R-E-V-E-R!
 - (i) The Jehovah’s Witnesses and Seventh-Day Adventists are wrong! Hell is real and F-O-R-E-V-E-R!
 - (ii) Ed Fudge, F. LaGard Smith, and Homer Hailey are wrong! Hell is not some temporary thing! It is F-O-R-E-V-E-R!
 - (iii) However long heaven (“eternal life”) is, hell (“everlasting punishment”) is the same duration because Jesus used the exact same Greek word to describe them!
 - (iv) If hell is non-existent or temporary; heaven is non-existent or temporary!
- (3) **9** The apocalypse: Hell is the same duration as heaven! In reference to the “beast” John records:

Rev. 14:10b-11: “He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. *11* And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.”

- (a) The apocalypse leaves no doubt! Hell is “forever and ever”!
- (4) ****** Recall **Mark 9:43-48** where Jesus says hell is a place where “the fire that shall never be quenched — 44 where ‘Their worm does not die And the fire is not quenched.’” (vv. 43 & 44)
- (a) We’ve already seen that the English word describing the fires of hell as “not quenched” comes from the Greek word *asbestos*.
 - (b) ****** So, this fire differs from normal flames in that it is perpetual.
 - (c) ****** Greek lexicographers Danker, Arndt, and Gingrich defined *asbestos* as “inextinguishable” fire, and then list “eternal” (*aionios*; Matthew 18:8; 25:41) as its closest synonym (2000, p. 141).
 - (i) If the wicked are annihilated in hell, one is forced to ask what possible purpose “unquenchable fire” serves?
 - (ii) Why have an “inextinguishable” fire for “extinguishable” souls?
 - (iii) Why should the fire burn forever if its purpose comes to an end?
- B. **10** Some raise a quibble over Jesus’ statement in **Matthew 10:28**: “And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”
- (1) The annihilationists argue that Jesus uses the word “destroy” in the sense of something being so totally destroyed that it no longer exists (i.e., it’s annihilated).
 - (2) ****** The phrase “to destroy” here is derived from the Greek word *apollumi*, which is used 92 times in the New Testament.
 - (a) It is also translated by such terms as “perish,” “destroy,” “lose,” and “lost.”

- (b) ** There is not a single instance in the New Testament where the Greek word *apollumi* means “annihilation” in the strictest sense of that word.
- (3) **11** Consider: consider how *apollumi* is used in other passages:
- (a) ** Parable of the “lost sheep” (Lk. 15:3-10): Jesus spoke of the shepherd’s lone sheep that was “lost” (*apollumi*), but not annihilated (v. 6).
 - (b) ** Prodigal son (Lk. 15:11-32): Jesus spoke of the father’s prodigal son who was “lost” (*apollumi*), not extinguished (vv. 24, 32).
 - (c) ** Wineskins (Matt. 9:17): The wineskins of which Christ spoke here “perish” (*apollumi*; KJV); that is, they were “ruined” (NKJV); they did not cease to exist.
 - (d) ** The lost: Jesus said He came “to seek and to save that which was lost” (Lk. 19:10); Jesus did not come to seek and to save those who do not exist; rather He came to save those who are alive physically, but ruined spiritually by sin (i.e., lost = *apollumi*).
 - (e) ** The perishing: In 2 Corinthians 4:3 Paul said, “But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:”; his point is that the gospel is “hid” or “veiled” (ASV) “to those who are perishing” (*apollumi*) in sin, not to those who are exterminated by sin.
- (6) ** The Scriptures clearly teach that those who, at judgment, are “destroyed” because of their wickedness, will be like the “beast” who will “go to perdition” (*apoleia*, Rev. 17:8, 11) in “the lake of fire and brimstone,” where they will be, not annihilated, but “tormented day and night forever and ever” (Revelation 17:8, 11; 20:10). **“Destruction” does not equal “annihilation”!**
- (7) **12** Respected Greek scholars also disagree with the annihilationist’s position that the Greek term underlying our English word “destroy” in Matthew 10:28 means “annihilation.”
- (a) ** Vine (*Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words*) explains: “The idea is not extinction but ruin, loss, not of being, but of well-being” (1940, 1:302). In regard to Matthew 10:28, he states: “of the loss of well-being in the case of the unsaved hereafter” (1:302).
 - (b) ** Robertson (*Robertson’s Word Pictures in the New Testament*) adds: “Destroy here is not annihilation, but eternal punishment in Gehenna” (1930, 1:83).
 - (c) ** The *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament* comments on the meaning of “destroy” by stating it is “definitive destruction, not merely in the sense of extinction of physical existence, but rather of an eternal plunge” into Hell (1964, 1:396).
 - (d) ** The great Greek lexicographer Joseph Henry Thayer agrees saying that “destroy” in Matthew 10:28 means “metaphorically, to devote or give over to eternal misery” (1962, p. 64). [NOTE: Considering that the publisher’s introduction to the fourth edition of Thayer’s lexicon indicates “Thayer was a Unitarian” who denied such things as “the eternal punishment of the wicked” (p. vii), it is logical to conclude that his definition of *apollumi* could only be the result of an informed knowledge of the word’s true meaning.]
- (8) Modern usage of “destroy” almost never means “annihilation.” Consider:
- (a) Person is involved in a violent car wreck; if they told you the badly mangled car was “destroyed,” would you think it ceased to exist (i.e., annihilated)? No!
 - (b) If one football team badly beats another team; one might say “the Patriots destroyed the Jets.” Did the Jets cease to exist? No!

III. CONCLUSION: 13

1. We'll all spend eternity somewhere. Do you want to spend it in hell or in heaven?
2. Unfortunately, Jesus Himself tells us the overwhelming majority of people will go to hell!

Matt. 7:13-14: *"Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. 14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it."*

3. ****** Such is certainly not God's desire (Ezek. 33:11; 2 Tim. 2:4; Jn. 3:16), nor is it Jesus' desire (Lk. 19:10).
4. ****** Make no mistake: Judgment is coming!

Acts 17:30-31: *"...God...now commands all men everywhere to repent, 31 because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead."*

2 Pet. 3:9-11: *"The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. 11 Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness..."*

2 Thess. 1:7-9: *"...when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, 8 in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,"*

2 Cor. 5:10-11a: *"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. 11 Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men..."*; Heb. 10:31; 12:29

Matt 25:32: *"...He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. ... 34 Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world' ... 41 Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels'"*

5. Where do you plan to spend eternity? What are you doing **now** to prepare?
6. ****** Are you ready **NOW!** **2 Cor. 6:2:** *"Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation."*

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