

18th of June 2017

The good news message of Salvation Pt 4 Consequences of not believing.

In our previous studies on this topic we identified the gospel message for today – how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, was buried, and rose again the third day according to the scriptures, and for a man to be saved today when he hears **this** gospel he is required to – receive it, confess the Lord Jesus, and believe the message in his heart. In this teaching we establish the consequences for those who believe **not this** good news message.

Scriptures upon which this teaching is founded.

1. Earthly consequences for those who believe **not** this good news message.

i) They are still in their sins.

“I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins” (Jn.8: 24).

ii) They are condemned already.

“He...that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God” (Jn.3: 18). See also Jn.3: 36

iii) God is angry with them.

“God is angry with the wicked every day” (Ps.7: 11). See also – Prov.14: 17.

iv) They have no hope and are without God in the world.

“That at that time ye were without Christ...having no hope, and without God in the world” (Eph.2: 12).

2. Consequences after death for believing **not** the gospel of Christ.

i) They will stand before God in judgment for their sins.

“And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment” (Heb 9:27), c.f. Rev.20: 12 – “And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works”.

ii) Their eternal home is everlasting destruction (hell) in the presence of God.

“Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power” (2Thes.1: 9), c.f. Ps.9: 17 – “The wicked shall be turned into hell”.

Applying the teaching to our life today.

Having heard the gospel and the consequences of rejecting Christ being an eternity in hell – a middle-aged man turned around to the preacher and said “I believe it, but its not for me”.

Question to think about.

Why would anyone logically say no to such a free gift from the one true God who created the world that they live in and the heavens, and all that there is to enjoy?

My answer to our question from the scriptures.

For this man – he did not want to give up the things of this life that he enjoyed– women, wine and rugby. In other words “lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God” (2Tim.3: 4).

For others it will be their love of money, and “Ye cannot serve God and mammon” (Lk.16: 13).

Regardless of the reason, Satan has deceived the lost man, and when he believes the devil and not God he calls God a liar and will suffer consequences whilst on this earth and also for all eternity.

Just imagine for a moment being a Roman Catholic that believes their teachings and therefore confident of going to Purgatory when you die only to find out that the flames you experience after death are God’s **eternal** punishment for rejecting the gospel of His Son. Wow, what a tragedy!