

# The Afterlife

In this lesson we're going to take a look at what happens after people die. The Bible has a lot to say about this – far more than we can cover in a single lesson. However, this should be enough to get started and answer some common questions.

## **#1: *There's No Such Thing As Soul Sleep***

Some people believe that when you die your soul “falls asleep” and you stay in the grave until the resurrection. This common belief is incorrect! The Bible teaches us that after people die their soul immediately goes either to Heaven or to Hell.

This can be seen in a couple different places. For example, in the story that Jesus told about the rich man and Lazarus we find this information:

**Luke 16:22-23:** “And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.”

As soon as the beggar died he was immediately carried to a place of comfort and peace, and as soon as the rich man died he found himself in Hell. Nowhere does the passage say “When the beggar died his soul slept until the resurrection.” This story was told by Jesus Himself, who certainly knew the truth – and this is what He told us.

Another example can be found at the crucifixion. One of the two thieves condemned Christ but the other one defended Him. Jesus had something very important to tell the thief who repented and believed:

**Luke 23:39-43:** “And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise.”

Jesus told the repentant thief that he would be with Him in paradise *that very day!* Jesus didn't say “One day I'll return to this world and resurrect people, and you'll be with me then.” If the “soul sleep” doctrine is true then Jesus had multiple opportunities to teach it, but He never did.

When people die they immediately go to either Heaven or to Hell. That's how it works.

## **#2: Hell is Real**

There are many misconceptions about Hell. Despite the fact the Bible has a lot to say about it, many people don't understand it very well.

First of all, the only way to avoid going to Hell is to repent of your sins and believe in Jesus. The reason we know this is because that's what Jesus Himself told us:

**Mark 1:14-15:** “Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, And saying, The

time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: **repent ye, and believe the gospel.**

In order to be saved we must repent of our sins and believe the gospel! What is the gospel? Well, it teaches us that everyone has sinned and is guilty in the sight of God. Our sins deserve the eternal wrath of God in Hell. There is nothing we can do to save ourselves; our good works are incapable of paying for our sins. The only way we could ever be forgiven is if a perfect person suffered in our place and died for our sins – and that is exactly what Jesus did. He came into this world, became a man, and died in our place. He paid for our sins with His own blood. He suffered on our behalf and then rose from the dead on the third day. His perfect life and sacrificial death is the *only* thing that can pay for our sins! All those who repent of their sins and believe in Him will be forgiven, but those who don't repent and believe will be cast into Hell:

**John 3:36:** “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.”

Those who believe have everlasting life, and those who don't believe will face the wrath of God.

The Bible teaches that those who die in their sins are immediately sent to Hell. The Bible has a lot to say about Hell, and no one spoke more about Hell than the Lord Jesus. He was a true fire-and-brimstone preacher. Jesus wanted people to know how awful Hell was going to be *so they would repent and avoid going there!*

In fact, Jesus spoke more about Hell than He did about Heaven, and He often spoke of Hell in very graphic terms. For example:

**Matthew 13:41-42:** “The Son of man shall send

forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.”

**Mark 9:43-48:** “And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.”

Jesus spoke of the fires of Hell in Matthew 5:22, 7:19, 13:40-42, 18:8-9, 25:41, and Mark 9:43-49. He spoke of Heaven very briefly in Luke 23:43 and in John 14:2. In the parable of the rich man and Lazarus (found in Luke 16:19-31), the parable mostly focuses on the torment of the rich man as he suffered in the flame (Luke 16:24). Jesus spoke more about Hell than Heaven, and when He talked about Hell He didn't mince words.

Some people teach that there's no such place as Hell. Others say that God saves everyone and no one goes to Hell. Still others say that Hell is just separation from God. All of those viewpoints are wrong! Jesus said that Hell is real and *many* people go there:

**Matthew 7:13-14:** “Enter ye in at the strait

gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."

Jesus taught that *many* people go on to destruction and few find the path that leads to eternal life. He was plain that Hell is a real place with real fire, and *many people will be sent there*. Those who are in Hell suffer terribly. They will be desperate for a single drop of water but it will be forever denied to them:

**Luke 16:22-26:** "And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence."

The rich man was tormented in the fire. He was desperate for a single drop of water but it would never come. There was no way anyone could help him, and there was no way he could escape. He was trapped there.

As you can see, he was conscious. He knew who he was and what he'd done during his life. His identity hadn't been lost.

He also had a body because he talked about cooling his tongue. Jesus said that Hell was a place where people gnashed their teeth (Matthew 13:42), which they can only do if they have teeth in the first place. This means that even though the people in Hell are dead, they still have some type of body. All those in Hell are tormented day and night, with no hope of relief from their eternal pain. It's a horrible fate! Those who are in Hell have no hope because for no hope is possible. There's no way out – which is why it's so extremely important to repent and believe in Jesus now, in this life!

The Bible also teaches that one day Hell will be emptied, and all those who are in it will stand before God and be judged one last time:

**Revelation 20:12-15:** “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. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”

Hell is emptied for this judgment. After this judgment is over the wicked aren't cast back into Hell. Instead they're imprisoned in another place – the Lake of Fire. That's the final place of everlasting torment for all those who don't believe in Jesus. They will be tormented for all of eternity – not in Hell, but in the Lake of Fire, with no hope of rescue or comfort.

The reason Jesus spoke of this so often was to warn people of the great danger they're in! The lost desperately need to

understand what will happen to them if they don't repent and believe in Jesus. They're in more danger than they can possibly imagine.

Perhaps the most famous sermon on Hell is the one by Jonathan Edwards entitled "Sinners in the Hand of an Angry God". This is how he put it:

The God that holds you over the pit of hell, much as one holds a spider, or some loathsome insect over the fire, abhors you, and is dreadfully provoked: his wrath towards you burns like fire; he looks upon you as worthy of nothing else, but to be cast into the fire; he is of purer eyes than to bear to have you in his sight; you are ten thousand times more abominable in his eyes, than the most hateful venomous serpent is in ours. You have offended him infinitely more than ever a stubborn rebel did his prince; and yet it is nothing but his hand that holds you from falling into the fire every moment. It is to be ascribed to nothing else, that you did not go to hell the last night; that you were suffered to awake again in this world, after you closed your eyes to sleep. And there is no other reason to be given, why you have not dropped into hell since you arose in the morning, but that God's hand has held you up. . .

O sinner! Consider the fearful danger you are in: it is a great furnace of wrath, a wide and bottomless pit, full of the fire of wrath, that you are held over in the hand of that God, whose wrath is provoked and incensed as much against you, as against many of the damned in hell. You hang by a slender thread, with the flames of divine wrath flashing about it, and ready every

moment to singe it, and burn it asunder; and you have no interest in any Mediator, and nothing to lay hold of to save yourself, nothing to keep off the flames of wrath, nothing of your own, nothing that you ever have done, nothing that you can do, to induce God to spare you one moment. . .

Now God stands ready to pity you; this is a day of mercy; you may cry now with some encouragement of obtaining mercy. But when once the day of mercy is past, your most lamentable and dolorous cries and shrieks will be in vain . . .

The lost must be made to understand that *they are the enemies of God*. As Jonathan Edwards pointed out, the only thing keeping them out of Hell this very moment is the grace of God – the very same God who they despise and who they daily anger with their sins and their unbelief! Their lives and sins are an abomination to God, and yet His mercy is the only reason they're not already in Hell. The lost are in terrible danger and they have no idea how close they are to everlasting fiery torment. All those who don't believe aren't facing an eternity of separation from God; instead they're facing an eternity of fiery torment.

Some preaches today avoid the topic of Hell, but Jesus didn't. He warned people about what was coming so that they might run from it in horror and find salvation in Him. When the church hides Hell from people they're not doing them any favors.

One other thing I want to point out is that Satan isn't in charge of Hell! Some people believe that Hell is run by Satan and his demons, and they spend their time grabbing souls, dragging them down to Hell, and them tormenting them with pitchforks. That entire picture is utterly false!

First of all, Satan isn't in Hell. Instead he spends his time

roaming around the world:

**Job 1:7:** “And the Lord said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.”

Notice that Satan did *not* say “Oh, I've been in Hell tormenting all the new arrivals.” You see, Hell isn't a fun playground for demons. The truth is actually the opposite. Hell was created *to torment them*:

**Matthew 25:41:** “Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:”

Hell was created as a place to torment the devil and his angels! The demons are aware of their fate and they're terrified of it. When Jesus encountered the two demon-possessed men, the demons had a question to ask him:

**Matthew 8:28-29:** “And when he was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way. And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time?”

The demons are going to be spending eternity tormenting all the lost souls that they've managed to deceive. No, their future is quite different: they're going to spend eternity *being tormented* in the place of eternal fire that God has prepared. They're not

going to be Hell's management, but Hell's *occupants*! One day they will be tormented along with everyone else.

The Bible tells us when that will take place. The devil's hour of judgment will come at the end of the thousand-year reign of Christ:

**Revelation 20:7-10:** “And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog, and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.”

Just as Hell is going to be emptied and its occupants will be cast into the Lake of Fire, so one day Satan will be cast there as well. When the Millennial Kingdom begins, the devil will be imprisoned in a bottomless pit for a thousand years (Revelation 20:1-3). After Jesus has ruled on Earth for a thousand years the devil will be set free. He will gather an army and try to attack Jerusalem, but he will fail. God will cast him into the Lake of Fire where he will be tormented day and night, forever and ever. The devil and his servants will find no rest from their torment for all of eternity.

As you can see, the demons aren't *running* Hell! Instead they're being tormented along with everyone else. One day Satan's power will be utterly broken. The book of Isaiah speaks of this time:

**Isaiah 14:9-11:** “Hell from beneath is moved for thee to meet thee at thy coming: it stirreth up the dead for thee, even all the chief ones of the earth; it hath raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations. All they shall speak and say unto thee, Art thou also become weak as we? art thou become like unto us? Thy pomp is brought down to the grave, and the noise of thy viols: the worm is spread under thee, and the worms cover thee. . . .”

**Isaiah 14:16-19:** “They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms; That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners? All the kings of the nations, even all of them, lie in glory, every one in his own house. But thou art cast out of thy grave like an abominable branch, and as the raiment of those that are slain, thrust through with a sword, that go down to the stones of the pit; as a carcase trodden under feet.”

Notice what happens when Satan finally is cast down to Hell! He's not greeted as some sort of “CEO of Hell”. Instead people look at him in amazement that his power is finally broken and he's become as weak as the rest of the tormented dead. He's not reigning over Hell! Instead he's described as a carcass trodden under foot that's covered by worms. He's not reigning; instead he's suffering along with everyone else. The devil who once made the world tremble and destroyed cities has become nothing.

### **#3: Heaven**

When a saved person dies they immediately go to Heaven. Jesus told the repentant thief on the cross that he would be with Him in Paradise *that very day!* Just as the lost immediately go to Hell, so the saved immediately go to Heaven.

However, there's more to the story. One day the Lord Jesus Christ will return to this world and raise the righteous dead:

**I Thessalonians 4:16-17:** “For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”

This event is known as the rapture. When this happens the Lord will return, raise the dead, and catch the living saints up to meet Him in the air. Jesus will then take them with Him back to Heaven. Much later, at the end of the seven-year tribulation period, Jesus will return to Earth with them. The book of Jude talks about this:

**Jude 1:14-15:** “And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.”

At the end of the tribulation the Lord Jesus Christ will return to this world with His saints and put an end to the reign of

the antichrist. He will then establish His kingdom on Earth and will reign over the world for a thousand years – and we will reign with Him (Revelation 20:4-6)! After that will be the final judgment, when all of the wicked will be cast into the Lake of Fire and death itself will be done away with.

Next, God will create a new heaven and a new earth:

**Revelation 21:1-4:** “And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.”

At the Great White Throne judgment the Lord will destroy this universe, but after the judgment is over He will create a new one to replace it. God will then live in that new world with us, and we will live with him. This means that after the final judgment, God and man will no longer live together in Heaven. Instead we'll all move to the new earth, and will live there together for all of eternity.

This means it's incorrect to say that the righteous will spend eternity living together with God in Heaven. The righteous will only be in Heaven until the end of the tribulation. At that point we will return to Earth with Jesus and will reign over the world with Him during His Millennial Kingdom. After the Great White Throne judgment the saints will live in the new earth that

God will create – and He will live there with us. This means the final home for the righteous will be *the earth*. Not *this* world, but the new one that God will create after the final day of judgment! The righteous aren't going to spend all of eternity living in Heaven; instead they will spend eternity living with God on earth.

That being said, until those things come to pass the righteous dead will live in Heaven, so let's talk about that.

#### **#4: People In Heaven Have Bodies**

We can see this from what the rich man said:

**Luke 16:24:** “And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.”

The rich man (who was being tormented in Hell) wanted Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and then come help him. This means that Lazarus must have had fingers – and if he had fingers then it's reasonable to assume those fingers were attached to a body.

#### **#5. People In Heaven Remember Their Former Lives**

We can see this from what Abraham told the rich man:

**Luke 16:25:** “But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.”

In this story all of the people are already dead. Abraham

was dead, the rich man was dead, and Lazarus was dead. However, Abraham knew the life story of the rich man! The rich man remembered his life, the beggar's life, and even his unsaved family members. Although he was dead he hadn't forgotten anything. His death didn't cause his identity to be lost. Abraham actually mentioned up the lives that both the rich man and Lazarus had led! That information was still relevant and it mattered.

Not only did these dead people remember their former lives, but they also remembered their families. The idea that once we get to Heaven we'll forget everything isn't Biblical. Our past doesn't magically go away.

## #6: People In Heaven Remember Their Friends

This is a point that Jesus brought up in the parable of the unrighteous steward. I don't have the time to review the entire parable, but I would like mention the conclusion that Jesus made:

**Luke 16:9:** “And I say unto you, Make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness; that, when ye fail, they may receive you into everlasting habitations.”

Jesus is saying that we should use our resources in this life to make friends and help people, so that in the next life they'll receive us into their eternal homes. This means that in Heaven *people remember who helped them!* The people we helped may not be able to return the favor in this life, but in Heaven things will be different. In Heaven they'll remember all the things you did for them and will welcome you into their home. What you did will still matter, and it will affect your Heavenly relationship with them!

This means you won't forget all your friends once you reach Heaven. You'll remember your past and those who came to your aid. Your friends will still be your friends.

## #7: There's Time In Heaven

Some people believe that time doesn't pass in Heaven. However, that's not the case! Revelation is clear about that:

**Revelation 8:1:** “And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour.”

The only way there could be a half hour of silence in Heaven is if time passed in Heaven. I realize there are hymns that say one day “time shall be no more”, but that claim is false. The Bible doesn't teach that one day time itself will stop.

## #8: People In Heaven Know What's Happening On Earth

Some people believe that once you reach Heaven you no longer have any idea what's happening back on Earth. However, that's not the case. Christ told us that there's rejoicing in Heaven when a sinner repents:

**Luke 15:7:** “I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.”

The only way that's possible is if the people in Heaven know when a sinner repents! If they had no idea what was going on then they wouldn't know a sinner had repented, and if they didn't know they couldn't rejoice.

There's another way we can know that people in Heaven are aware of what's going on in this world. All through the book of Revelation the Lord pours out His terrible judgments upon the

world – *and the people of Heaven watch everything*. They are aware of what's going on, and they even comment on it:

**Revelation 11:15-18:** “And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned. And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.”

Let's back up and establish a bit of context. Revelation 11 is the chapter that explains the ministry of the two witnesses, who preach the gospel during the seven-year tribulation period. Before the elders make their comment, the two witnesses finished their ministry, were killed, and were then resurrected three days later. That's when the seventh angel sounded.

The 24 elders represent the raptured church. As you can see, the church is very aware of what God is doing on Earth! In fact, they're actually praising God for what He's doing and they are commenting on it. The raptured church is watching God as He does things in this world. They know what's going on.

This means the teaching that the saints in Heaven are ignorant about what's going on in this world is false. God isn't keeping them in the dark! He's not hiding what He's doing from them. Instead He reveals it to them *and His saints praise Him for*

*His actions.*

Some people believe that the saints in Heaven *must* be ignorant because they couldn't possibly be happy if they knew what was going on. This is another way of saying that joy is only possible if God keeps us in the dark and doesn't reveal the truth to us – which doesn't make sense. I don't believe that the only way to achieve happiness is through *ignorance!* That's not what Revelation teaches us. In Heaven people will see what God is doing and will praise Him for it. People will have a much *better* understanding of events because *they will see things from God's perspective!* Seeing things the way God sees them isn't going to result in despair and hopelessness.

## **#9: Heaven Is A City, Not A Cloud**

Heaven isn't a vague place where people float around on clouds and are bored for all of eternity. The Bible describes Heaven as a city:

**Hebrews 11:16:** “But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.”

This heavenly city has a name – it's called the New Jerusalem. Revelation 21 and 22 tells us that it's a massive city which is 1500 miles wide and 1500 miles long (making it vastly larger than any earthly city). This city has streets of gold, and angels guard its twelve gates. It's a fantastic place that is literally lit by the glory of God! The Bible tells us it has streams, trees, fruit, buildings, houses, and people. It's truly an amazing place.

One very important thing we know about this city is that nothing evil will ever be allowed to enter it:

**Revelation 21:27:** “And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither

whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.”

Nothing evil will *ever* happen in this city! No one is going to get robbed or assaulted. No one will get sick, or grow old, or die. It will be a perfect place, ruled by God Himself and filled with the righteous. The Tree of Life is in this city and those who live there will be able to freely eat of its fruit and live forever. It will be a glorious thing!

Will we have jobs in this city? Yes we will. God has an eternal assignment for us:

**Revelation 22:3-5:** “And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.”

We will serve God throughout all of eternity. In fact, verse 5 says that we'll reign with Him forever and ever. We won't just reign during Christ's Millennial Kingdom; instead we'll reign with Him for all of the endless ages to come! In the beginning God gave Adam dominion over the world (Genesis 1:26) – and we'll continue to reign over His creation forever. In those endless ages there will be no sorrow, or pain, or crying, or death, or sin, or evil. Instead there will be everlasting joy and peace.

## **Conclusion**

The stakes of this life are extremely high. One day all of the wicked will be tormented forever in the Lake of Fire. However, one day all of the righteous will be given an eternity of

joy in a literal city of gold. Those are the only two possible outcomes of your life! Those who repent of their sins and believe in Jesus will be given forgiveness, joy, and everlasting life. No matter what sorrows they face in this life or what hardships they encounter, their future is *guaranteed*. However, those who don't repent and believe will be tormented forever in a fire that never goes out. Although they may have a great life in this world, and they may think that everything is going well for them, one day their sin *will* find them out. Once they die they'll have no way to escape the everlasting wrath of God.

I urge you to repent of your sins and believe in Jesus while there's still time! The day is rapidly coming when you will die, and once that day comes it will be too late to change your fate. Flee from the wrath of God! Run to our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, and seek His forgiveness and mercy. He will forgive all those who go to Him, and will turn no one away. Now is the time to act.