## DUTY LIST...

### **SUNDAY MORNING**

- > Announcements....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Jeff Isbell Reading: TBA
- > Song Leader.....Robert Johnson
- ➤ Opening Prayer.....Lynn Buttrey
- ➤ Lord's Table:

Lead.....Michael Pickford Serve......Eli Todd Serve......

Closing Prayer......Kenny Johnson

## **SUNDAY EVENING**

- ➤ Song Leader......Kenny Johnson
- Opening Prayer....Eli Todd
- ➤ Invitation.....Kenny Todd
- ➤ Lord's Supper......Mike P. / Eli T.
- Closing Prayer.....Michael Pickford

## **God's Plan of Salvation**

There is only one true saving plan of Salvation outlined in Scripture. No substitutes will do. Have you really been saved? Get out your Bible and study the plan below.

- ➤ <u>Hear the Gospel</u>: Romans 10:17
- ➤ <u>Believe</u>: Mark 16:16; John 8:24
- Repent of Sin: Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30

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- Confess Faith: Romans 10:9, 10
- ➤ <u>Be Baptized</u>: Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21
- Remain Faithful: Rev. 2:10

Obey Today!

# Southside Searcher "They... searched the scriptures daily..." -Acts 17:11 February 14, 2021

# **Dying Well**

My doctor once told me that of the many deaths he had witnessed, "Those who die in light of the Christian religion die in a much different way."

What does it mean to die well? Perhaps if one died in service to his country, he died well. Perhaps if someone gave his life to save another, he died well. Perhaps if someone died with little pain or suffering, he died well. But do these fully capture the essence of dying well? In blessing Israel, Balaam uttered an impressive prayer, "Let me die the death of the righteous, And let my end be like his!" (Numbers 23:10). Now that would be dying well—as a righteous servant of God! But if one is going to die as a righteous servant of God, he must serve God righteously.

Everyone has an appointment with death (Hebrews 9:27), and we all know it, "For the living know that they will die" (Ecclesiastes 9:5). In 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14, Paul discussed those who die "In Jesus." The only way to truly die well is to die in Christ. Otherwise, you will die "as others who have no hope." Christians die much differently than those in the world. They die with hope! Their hope is for eternal glory when they pass from this life. Paul taught that those who die in Christ have not ceased to exist; they will be glorified with Christ.

When the deceased is a child of God the sadness of death is ultimately swallowed up with joy. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. Yes, says the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them" (Revelation 14:13). Notice that they die "in the Lord." The following passages teach us how to get "In Christ" so we can die well. (Galatians 3:26-27; Romans 6:1-6).

-Michael Pickford

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We would love to have you visit with us. Our meeting times are:

SUNDAYS: 9 & 10 AM & 6 PM / WEDNESDAYS: 7 PM

We have capable Bible teachers who would be delighted to study with you at your request and convenience.

Our evangelist, Michael Pickford is the editor of this publication.

Please visit our website at www.defendthegospel.com

Bible Correspondance Courses Available At Your Request.



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# What's Missing In Hell?

Torments, darkness, suffering, and other terrible things are found in hell. Many people have grave misconceptions about hell. These misconceptions can be corrected when we consider what's missing in hell.

- 1) Atheists Are Missing. The atheist thinks he is wise for denying God's existence. He is a fool for doing so considering the profound evidence that surrounds him in the beauty, grandeur, and perfect order of creation (Psalm 14:1; 19:1-6; Romans 1:18-23). But when he meets the Lord on judgment day, he will most certainly believe before being cast into hell. He won't be an atheist there!
- 2) Good Times Are Missing. Some speak of wanting to go to hell so they can party with all their friends. Sorry, there will be no "good times" there. Only darkness, torments, and wailing (Mark 9:42ff).
- 3) The Obedient Are Missing. Those who obey Christ, obey the gospel, and serve the Lord faithfully until death will be in heaven, not hell (Hebrews 5:8-9; Revelation 2:10). But those who "Do not obey the gospel...will be punished with everlasting destruction" (2 Thessalonians 1:7-9).
- 4) The End Is Missing. Not only is hell filled with unimaginable suffering, but it will never end. You will beg for annihilation, but it will not come. The suffering of hell is just as "eternal" and "everlasting" as the glories of heaven will be for the saved (Matthew 25:46; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9).
- 5) Help From Satan Is Missing. Some foolishly believe that if they live wickedly in this life Satan will be pleased and will take it easy on them in hell. This stems from the false notion that Satan oversees hell. The everlasting fires of hell were originally prepared for the devil and his angels (Matthew 25:41). Satan will be suffering the full intensity of hell's fury alongside everyone else.
- 6) The Second Chance Is Missing. Once you take your last breath in this life your eternal fate is sealed. We will be judged based on what we did while "in the body" (2 Corinthians 5:10). Purgatory is a myth not found in the Bible. No one can pray you out, pay you out, or get you out by being baptized for you after you have died.
- 7) The Glory Of The Lord Is Missing. When you enter hell, it will not merely be about the punishment you are suffering, it will also be about the glories of heaven you are missing. The disobedient will be separated FROM the presence of the Lord and FROM the glory of His power (2 Thessalonians 1:7-9).

-Michael Pickford Mpickford3@comcast.net

## **Eternal Punishment**

"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:" "And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

-Matthew 25:41, 46

"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—"

-Mark 9:43

"and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, 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. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power."

-2 Thessalonians 1:7-9

"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."

-Revelation 21:8

"And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day; as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal

fire.

-Jude 1:6-7

"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."

-Matthew 10:28

"Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation."

-John 5:28-29