

# THE REALITY OF HELL SHOULD GIVE US URGENCY TO SHARE THE GOSPEL

One woman, the sister of the deceased, stood in her turn and stated, "Not everyone who dies goes to heaven." Wow — total silence. "My sister didn't love the Bible, didn't love Jesus, didn't go to church. I can't lie, I have no great confidence that she's in Heaven right now. But we're still alive, and this funeral is a warning to all of us to flee to Christ while there's time." Then she sat down.

#### STATS ON HELL

• 61% OF AMERICANS BELEIVE IN AN AFTERLIFE.

• IN 1990 87% OF AMERICANS BELIEVED IN AN AFTERLIFE.

ONLY 20% OF AMERICANS BELIEVE THAT HELL IS A REAL PLACE.

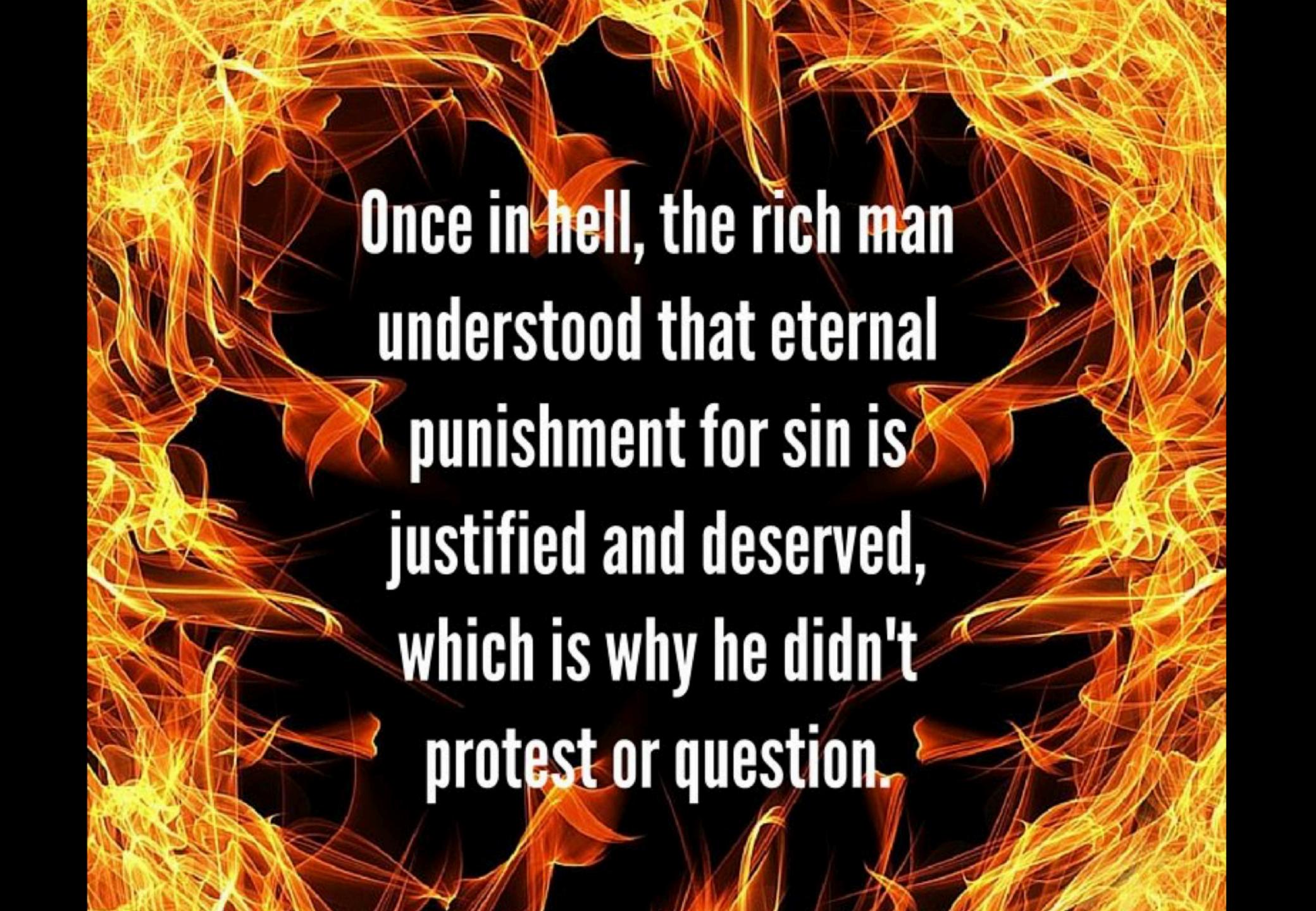
• 80% OF "EVANGELICAL CHRISTIANS" BELIEVE IN A <u>LITERAL</u> HELL.

#### HELL IS BEYOND DESCRIPTION

- Hell is a place of <u>disease</u> and rotting flesh.
  - Sin In the beginning brought about disease. Nowhere In the Bible does it say that disease will be
    done away with In hell. Those who choose hell will live with the diseases of this life. There will be the
    terrible stench of the decaying flesh of the lepers, the open running cancerous sores, and the bloody
    spittle of those with diseased lungs. Every disease with which sin has plagued men will be present
    there. Screams of the anguished will be a permanent part of hell's society.
- · Hell is a place of weeping.
  - How sad to see someone cry! Here we are able to get away from the sorrowful and see bright faces, but not in hell. Everyone there will be weeping. night and day. Sorrow will prevail. There will be no one to comfort or give a kind word or brush away the tears.
- Hell is a place of <u>memories</u>.
  - The mind of man will still function in hell (Luke 16). The people in hell will forever remember. They will hear the prayers of the saintly mother, the counsel of a caring father. They will hear the pleas of a Christian husband or wife. They will remember times of conviction when the Holy Spirit dealt with their heart, times when they almost decided to accept Christ. Forever and forever, they will remember.

### HELL IS BEYOND DESCRIPTION

- Hell is a place without singing, laughter, or joyous expressions of any kind.
  - No song will ever be sung in hell. The music of hell will be the moaning and screaming of the lost. No kind words will ever be spoken.
- Hell Is a place of ever-present evil.
  - These terrible demons described in the New Testament and countless thousands more like them will be the neighbors of those who go to hell. Time will never remove the sinister, chilling fear of the devil's presence.



#### TARTARUS

- 2 Peter 2:4- <sup>4</sup> For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to Tartarus, putting them in chains of darkness to be held for judgment;
  - Sinning angels are mentioned in Genesis 6:1–4 where they were called "sons of God" and they took advantage of human women and their offspring.
  - Jude 1:6 describes: "And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day."

## Genesis 6:1-4

6 When human beings began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them, 2 the sons of God saw that the daughters of humans were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose. 3 Then the Lord said, "My Spirit will not contend with humans forever, for they are mortal; their days will be a hundred and twenty years."

4 The Nephilim were on the earth in those days—and also afterward—when the sons of God went to the daughters of humans and had children by them. They were the heroes of old, men of renown.

## Luke 8:26-29

26 They sailed to the region of the Gerasenes, which is across the lake from Galilee. 27 When Jesus stepped ashore, he was met by a demon-possessed man from the town. For a long time this man had not worn clothes or lived in a house, but had lived in the tombs. 28 When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell at his feet, shouting at the top of his voice, "What do you want with

me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don't *torture* me!" 29 For Jesus had commanded the impure spirit to come out of the man. Many times it had seized him, and though he was chained hand and foot and kept under guard, he had broken his chains and had been driven by the demon into solitary places.

- 1) Hell is what <u>Hell</u> is because God is who God is.
- Seeing God face to face is going to be <u>terrifying</u> for some. The Bible explains that God's holiness and perfections are so complete that if anyone were to see him, he would die (<u>Ex. 33:20</u>).
- When Isaiah, the prophet of God, saw God upon his throne, he fell upon his face, terrified and sure that he was about to die (Is. 6:5).



Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.'"

#### 2. Jesus spoke about hell more than anyone else in Scripture.

- Some people try to avoid the idea of hell by saying, "That was the Old Testament God. But when God matured in the New Testament with Jesus—meek and mild Jesus—he was all about love and compassion."
- Jesus spoke more about hell than he did about heaven!

And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear Him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Matthew 10:28

#### 3. Hell shows us the <u>extent</u> of God's love in saving us.

- Why did Jesus speak about hell more than anyone else in the Bible?
  Because he wanted us to see what he was going to endure on the
  cross on our behalf. On the cross, Jesus's punishment was scarcely
  describable: Hanging there in immense pain, he slowly suffocated to
  death.
- The worst part was the separation from the Father that Jesus felt, a separation that was hell itself. "My God, my God," he cried out, "Why have you forsaken me?" (Matt 27:46). Jesus was taking the hell of our sin into his body.

- 4. In one sense, God doesn't send anyone to Hell; we <u>send</u> ourselves.
- Hell is the culmination of telling God to "get out." You keep telling God to leave you alone, and finally God says, "Okay."
- But when you tell God you don't want him as the Lord and center of your life, eventually you get your wish, and with God go all of his gifts.

## HELLIS FULL OF PEOPLE WHO:

- -Admired Jesus
- -Learned about Jesus in Church
- -Read about Jesus in the Bible
- -Walked an Isle
- -Repeated a "sinners prayer"
- -Gave to Charity
- -Served in Church
- -Believed they were saved

SALVATION ISN'T EARNED, BUT RECEIVED ONLY By Repentance & Faith in Christ Alone

- 5. In another sense, God does send people to Hell, and all his ways are true and righteous altogether.
- We may be tempted to rage at God and to correct him. But how can
  we find fault with God? As Paul says in Romans 9, who are we—as
  mere lumps of clay—to answer back to the divine potter?
- We are not more merciful than God. Isaiah reminds us that all who are currently "incensed against God" will come before him in the last day and be ashamed, not vindicated (Is. 45:24), because they will then realize just how perfect God's ways are.

Click the link below for this week's video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EhoFEuw2GPA