SINNERS IN THE HANDS OF AN ANGRY GOD

(Hebrews 11:31)

- Introduction: 1. The Bible doctrine of *Hell* has been diminished, ignored, and all but eliminated from consideration today.
 - 2. However, we do ourselves and the world a disservice when we fail to teach on this important doctrine.
 - 3. (II Corinthians 5:11).
 - 4. All of us have or are currently dangling over the fires of Hell by the thread of our life, sustained by God.
 - 5. Are you prepared for what lies beyond the grave?
 - 6. Let us look more closely at what God says about Hell so that we can answer that question responsibly.

I. HELL IS THE MANIFESTATION OF GOD'S WRATH

- A. If Hell was merely the wrath of man, it may be bearable, but it is the wrath of an infinite God.
- B. The wrath of kings and men is to be feared (Proverbs 20:2), but such is feeble in comparison to the Almighty God of the Universe.
- C. (Luke 12:4-5).

II. HELL IS THE FIERCENESS OF GOD'S WRATH

- A. Hell is not simply the wrath of God, it is the fierceness of God's wrath.
- B. (Revelation 19:15) "Treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God."
- C. Who can conceive the dread of God's fury.
- D. God will not be touched by your suffering, He will not pity you in your pain. In Hell, you are the object of God's wrath, anger, and fury and He will unleash His powers against you without mercy.
- E. (Hebrews 10:29-31).

III. HELL IS THE MISERY OF GOD'S WRATH

- A. Hell is eternal.
 - 1. (Matthew 25:46) Hell will last just as long as Heaven will last.
 - 2. Hell is not eternal annihilation for it involves torment, which requires consciousness.
 - 3. The duration of the punishment ought to cause us to realize the enormity of sin (Romans 6:23).
- B. Hell is a place of fire.
 - 1. (Matthew 13:42) A furnace of fire.
 - 2. (Matthew 25:41) Everlasting fire.
 - 3. (Mark 9:44-45) Fire is not guenched.
 - 4. (Revelation 20:15) The lake of fire.

- 5. (Matthew 3:12) Baptism of fire.
- 6. Fire is likely a metaphor used to describe the nature of this punishment.
 - a. As a metaphor, it does not fully exhaust the description of Hell.
 - b. Fire and no light?
- C. Hell is a place of pain.
 - 1. (Matthew 25:30) Weeping and gnashing of teeth.
 - 2. When's the last time you experienced "teeth gritting" pain?
- D. Hell is a place of no rest or relief.
 - 1. (Revelation 14:11) No rest day or night.
 - 2. (Revelation 20:10) Tormented.
 - 3. Can you imagine "teeth gritting" pain from which you can find no relief?
- E. Hell is a place of no hope.
 - 1. If Hell were 100, 1000, or even 10,000 years, it would be bearable.
 - 2. There is no glimmering ray of hope, for there is no end.
 - 3. In Dante's poem, "The Inferno", he said the sign hanging over Hell's door should read, "Thou Who Enter This Door Leave All Hope Behind."

Conclusion: 1. Are you prepared for such a fate?

- 2. It is pitiful to think that some within the hearing of my voice this morning will be the recipients of this misery for all eternity.
- 2. Are you dangling over Hell by the thin thread of your life?
- 3. If so, it is only by God's good providence that you have not already suffered this fate.
- 4. Delay no longer; don't despise the riches of His goodness and longsuffering and obey the gospel.