Who will end up in hell?

Message 3: Under your wings series

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Introduction

I am Dickson Wasake, a bond servant of Jesus the Christ, who found me wallowing in my many sins in the outer darkness. When the Son of God called me by name, I rose up and he gave me the gift of salvation. I got baptised in May 2017 in response to his love for me and later he considered me worthy of his name when he sent me to give a message to his brothers and sisters scattered in the church abroad: *"repent for the kingdom of heaven is near (Matthew 3:2)"*.

Today's message is titled: "Who will end up in hell."

Now, some people are so offended by the idea of hell because they cannot believe in a God who can be so loving and yet also send people to hell so they ask: *"How is eternity in hell a fair punishment for sin?"*

Because they cannot seem to see any logical answer to such a question, they refuse to believe that hell is real or both – they reject the notion of hell and then also reject to believe that a Holy God like this exists and this is why the message of hell is offensive to many today.

The Bible however speaks of reality of hell and it is spoken of at least 167 times in the Bible with references like *sheol, hades, the pit, Gehenna and the lake of fire*.

Then some other people are so confident they know who will be in hell: They expect that those in hell will include:

- 1. The celebrity who calls himself God.
- 2. Or the other celebrity who supposedly performs open satanic rituals at her concerts.
- 3. Or perhaps the one who has openly admitted to being gay and even performs devilish dances.
- 4. This is in addition to all those rock n roll stars whose music when played backwards says 666.

Such people focussed on the cult of celebrity and hell forget that anyone can indeed go to hell. How about:

- your boss at work, the nice guy in the cubicle next to you, the well-dressed work mate;
- The guy in your social club, you watch a football or basketball game with them, perhaps play a round of golf with them.
- How about the girls, the sister hood who you always have Sunday brunch with?
- Your mother, your father, your child, your grandma, your favourite cousin, your brother or sister can go to hell.
- Your social media friends on LinkedIn, Facebook, X and TikTok, these too can indeed go to hell.

So, who really will go to hell? Let us find out what the Bible says in this message and more importantly how to avoid it!

Anchor verse

The danger of thinking "others" will go to hell while "you" are safe or that others are "wicked" while you are "righteous" has been around for a long time and especially when disaster befalls others. We often quickly judge saying: "the cancer diagnosis, the financial trouble, the jail sentence serves them right for being wicked, racist, cruel etc"

Jesus addressed this very issue when he was approached about some people who had died in a disaster:

"At that time some of those present told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. To this He replied, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered this fate? No, I tell you. But unless you repent, you too will all perish. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam collapsed on them: Do you think that they were more sinful than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you. But unless you repent, you too will all perish."" Luke 13:1-5 BSB

His point was that disaster can befall any one of us and a wider point he seemed to be making was that anyone of us is just one step away from perishing and hell - for the road to life is narrow and few find it while the road to destruction is wide (Matthew 7: 13-14).

For you it means being humble and working out your salvation with fear and trembling (Philippians 2: 12) for you might think you are standing, yet you are fallen... (1 Corinthians 10: 12).

Why is there hell in the first place?

So, before I tell you who will go to hell, why is there a hell in the first place, and why does God send people there for something as "simple as sin"?

So, people go to hell because God is Holy. Holy means he is set apart and separate. He is so holy that there are angels or heavenly creatures who day and night, never stop crying: Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord Almighty! (Revelation 4: 8).

These heavenly creatures are **not** crying: *"loving loving loving is the Lord Almighty"* - even if we know that God is love. So most people who can't understand why God sends people to hell fail to understand that God is love, yes BUT he is also VERY holy!

Because he is holy, sin cannot be in his presence.

Because sin cannot be in his presence and he hates it, he must judge it and he himself says he will by no means leave the guilty unpunished (Exodus 34:7).

Because sin is eternal in nature - meaning it never ends or never stops offending him, he must judge it, eternally - meaning never ending judgment.

This is why there is a hell.

Why do some choose hell?

So now that you hopefully understand why there is a hell, what I personally struggle with is why anyone knowing that God will punish sin eternally would want to go there - yet they are warned??

Part of the reason is we have free will and so choose what we want, but the real reason is sad.

The reason is because such people have been blinded by Satan, the god of this world and so they don't see their need for a saviour or the gospel shining in their hearts (see 2 Corinthians 4: 4). Because pride from the god of this age has filled their heart, such people refuse to admit their need for salvation from their own sin.

It is however my prayer that if you can get rid of pride, you will hopefully start hearing me and this message of salvation.

This message is therefore for the one who is terrified of hell and that is good news!

Why is being terrified of hell good news?

They are terrified because the Spirit of Jesus is doing the work of convicting them of their sin, so that they feel guilty and do something about it, so that they never end up in hell!

If this is you, then may the Lord help you understand this message.

So now the main issue, who will really end up in hell?

Who will end up in hell?

In various scriptures, the Bible gives us a glimpse of the people who will end up in hell and you will be surprised at some of these categories:

Category #1. Those who confessed they were saved BUT then have never changed their life style.

This is they think *"once saved, always saved."* They are deceived for they have not clothed themselves with holiness - and yet God says: *"be holy, because I am holy (1 Peter 1: 16)" and "without holiness, no one will see the Lord (Hebews 12:14)."* The scriptures give this warning to such people:

"Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who submit to or perform homosexual acts, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor verbal abusers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God." 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 BSB

These verses are showing that after getting saved or coming to God you are expected to change your lifestyle, for this is what to "repent" means - hence the verse says: "that is what some of you were" **not** "that is what some of you ARE."

It means that if you were homosexual, by the Holy Spirit in conversion you will no longer be involved in such a wicked thing and likewise: if a drunkard, you will leave it, a thief will stop stealing, an adulterer will stop cheating and so on and so forth. So those who will go to hell include those who think they are saved because they confessed Jesus BUT they don't back up their faith with action and change their ways under the power of the Spirit and so for such, they won't inherit the kingdom of heaven but will instead end up in hell, where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth (Luke 13: 28).

Could you be in hell because of failing to turn from your old wicked ways even when you confessed salvation? If so, repent while it is day time, for today is the day of true salvation and turning from your wicked ways.

Category #2. The uncaring.

There is a group of people who are uncaring and unconcerned about Jesus' followers, especially those suffering. Do you care for Jesus followers? Did you know that Jesus' followers are his body while he is the head? The scriptures show this about such people:

"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. For I was hungry and you gave Me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave Me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, I was naked and you did not clothe Me, I was sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' And they too will reply, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' Then the King will answer, 'Truly I tell you, **whatever you did not do for one of the least of these**, **you did not do for Me.'** And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."" Matthew 25:41-46 BSB

There are many people, including professing Christians who claim to love God but don't love other Christians, for such they need to repent because the Lord says: "*whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for Me.*" Could you be in hell because of being uncaring? Brother and Sister, Repent for the King is near.

Category #3: The unprepared.

There are many who know about Jesus and perhaps even respect him, some others have even been called by Jesus to live a life of purity and he has invited them to his kingdom banquet BUT unfortunately they never get ready in their hearts for him and they put off the priorities of God's business like reading their Bibles and Praying and going to Church and so eventually they forget that they waiting for a King and their lamp, which is the Spirit dies out and they go to sleep like the 5 foolish virgins. Jesus said this parable about such unprepared people:

"Later the other virgins arrived and said, 'Lord, Lord, open the door for us!' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour. " Matthew 25:11-13 BSB

The unprepared will be told by the Lord: I do not know you! If the Lord does not know you, it is likely you will not enter his kingdom! Will you be in hell, where the worm does not die and the fire is not quenched because you were foolish enough not to prepare?

Category #4. The wicked.

Finally, yes, the ones in hell will also include the wicked. Who is a wicked person?

A wicked person is a person who is rebellious. Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things [sin] deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them. (See Romans 1: 32.)

A wicked person is a rebel who thinks God is cruel, unkind, not worthy to be called a Holy God – "which God sends people to hell?" they ask. "This is not a Holy God, this is an evil tyrant." They conclude.

So they break away from his rule and start living a life style, where they do whatever they want - gratifying their every desire and following their heart, which is deceitful above all else and so they never give thought to God so their actions daily eventually become habits and these habits become lifestyles and such life styles become a destiny and that's how a small sin, a little leaven leads one to eventually become wicked, like their father Satan.

Such people will not have their names written in the Book of life and so they will be thrown into the lake fire, which is the second death (Revelation 20: 15).

Who are such people? The scriptures show examples of such including in these last days:

"But to the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and sexually immoral and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their place will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur. This is the second death."" Revelation 21:8 BSB

"For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, without love of good, traitorous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. Turn away from such as these!" 2 Timothy 3:2-5 BSB

This list is long. Think of the kind of people:

- **Cowardly** they were afraid to put their trust in Jesus, to dare to believe.
- **Unbelieving** they rebelled against the gospel truth.
- **Murderers** which includes those who hate others for hate is the same as murder.
- The **sexually immoral** and this includes those who lust in the heart for lust is the same as adultery.
- The sorcerers including wizards, witches, warlocks, those who follow astrology, reading of horoscopes, tarot cards, Ouija boards and such omens. This includes white witches, satanists, mediums and those who practice magic.
- Idolaters those bowing down to man-made images, yes even if these are religious symbols.
- Liars. The truth is never found in them, including those "little white lies" we think are harmless.
- **Hedonists** they loving only themselves and pleasure using this as an excuse for all sorts of wicked living and lusts.
- **Those who are greedy for money**. Money is their god and they will kill, be corrupt, sell their bodies, their Godly inheritance and even their souls just to get money.
- **The Abusive**. These abuse others with cruel toxic language and this includes online trolls who are nasty to their innocent victims online. Now they even use AI to harness their abuse.
- **Those who are proud, boastful and arrogant**. They think they have it all, forgetting everything we have in life is a gift from God.
- Those who are rebellious against their parents. They are disobedient and think their parents are old fashioned, Boomers, and know nothing.

- **The Unforgiving**. They bear grudges forever and never forgive or show mercy to those who wronged them.
- **The Slanderous**. They gossip about others, secretly speaking bad of those who should be their friends. They never have good to say about others but when others are down and out they are happy.
- **Those without self-control** -whatever they want, they do, for they say, it's my life and I can live it how they want. This includes those who follow the You Only Live Once (YOLO) philosophy, which is really a satanic lie from hell and so such people do everything excessively, including gluttony forgetting we must give an account to the great King.
- **The Brutal**. They are violent, wife beaters, bullies, human traffickers, slave traders and such.

Will you end up in hell because you have lived a wicked life?

Conclusion (the message of Jesus).

It is true that the realities of eternal damnation, eternal hell, and eternal punishment are frightening and disturbing.

It is also true that the one in hell is there because they have rejected God and failed to heed his warnings.

But it is good that we might, indeed, be terrified. While this may sound grim, there is good news.

God loves us (John 3:16) and wants us to be saved from hell (2 Peter 3:9).

But because God is also just and righteous, He cannot allow our sin to go unpunished. Someone has to pay for it.

In His great mercy and love, God provided His own payment for our sin. He sent His Son Jesus Christ to pay the penalty for our sins by dying on the cross for us.

IF you choose Jesus you will go to heaven. If you reject the son of God, who alone is the way to the father in heaven, you will go to hell, with Satan, the father of lies.

Which father will you choose?

Will you be in heaven or will you be in hell?

The power to choose is yours. I have today set before you death and life, please choose life! (Deut 30:19).

I hope you and I shall be together in heaven at the marriage supper of the lamb. I hope to see you in that place about which our God says:

God himself will be with them and be their God. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." Revelation 21: 3-4.

Do you want to be hidden safely under God's wings instead of facing his wrath in hell fire? If so, pray this prayer to become a Christian:

"God of heaven, I confess that I am a sinner and have been one since birth, but I have heard that you can make me new, and you sent your son Jesus to die for me. He rose again and it is he who can give me his Holy Spirit. Please forgive me and welcome me into your Kingdom, teach me how to follow you. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Lots of love, your brother in the Lord and a Bond Servant of the Lord Jesus.

Lord Jesus, come, Maranatha!