ARE YOU SAVED AND STILL GOING TO HELL?

By Brother Mike Sutherland

I want to open today by saying that repentance produces a change in destination and destiny. Hell is the destination at the end of a Christ rejecting life. Eternal hell is the destiny of all those who refuse to repent. In speaking of idolatry in *Acts 17:30* the Bible says:

> [30] And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: *Acts 17:30*

The Holy Ghost said in *Acts 20:20-21*:

> [20] And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house, [21] Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. *Acts 20:20-21*

According to what we just read, salvation requires faith and repentance. Furthermore, the Holy Ghost said in *2 Corinthians 7:10*:

> [10] For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death. *2 Corinthians 7:10*

Four times in the closing book of our Bibles it is said that those hell bound sinners in the tribulation repented not which drives me to the following questions. Are you counting on your church membership, your baptism, your confirmation, your works, or some sinner's prayer from an unrepentant heart to keep you out of hell? Can you trust what you are counting on today for salvation to keep you out of hell or, ARE YOU SAVED AND STILL GOING TO HELL? You heard the question right. ARE YOU SAVED AND STILL GOING TO HELL? Now, that seems to be a contradictory question, but it is the question that describes most of professing Christianity today. Many years ago we knocked most of the doors in Saint Marys, Georgia and many in Kingsland, Georgia doing door to door evangelism by handing out tracts and witnessing to people. It would amaze you that most of the people we asked said they were saved. We had pretty much the same results when we would knock doors in Cocke County, Tennessee. Yet the salvation these folks professed was not real because it had no power over their lives. It did not change them and it did not get them in church. Most professing Christians in our churches today are not real because God has no power over their lives or in their lives. Their salvation has left them with an unclean and hateful attitude and unholy lives that mock the God of the Bible. Tragically, they are saved and still going to hell. So, are you saved and still going to hell?

The problem we have in America and in our churches in America is that we have raised two generations that are doing everything that is right in their own eyes instead of what God says is right. We have raised two generations of men and women that hate God. I am not here today to tickle

anyone's ears and preach unto you smooth things. I am here to tell you that if you have not repented of your sin and put your faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, then you are going to die in your sin and burn for eternity in hell and the lake of fire. I am talking to all the lost folks out there including unsaved church members and any professing Christian who has ever prayed a prayer and been told that they are saved when there is no evidence of salvation in their lives. Anyone who has prayed a sinner's prayer and is still living like the Devil is still a child of the Devil. If you have not been changed, then you are still lost and dead in your trespasses and sins and your eternal destiny is hell and the lake of fire. The Bible calls that change we just referred to as repentance. Repentance is both a requirement for salvation and a fruit of salvation. Repentance is not a work of your flesh. Repentance is a work of the indwelling Holy Ghost of God. God will not allow you to work for your salvation because he gave his blood on Calvary to save you when he sacrificed his precious, sinless Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. The blood of the Lord Jesus Christ cleanseth us from all sin. Most religionists today will try to clean lost sinners up on the outside making the lost sinners nothing more than whited sepulchres full of dead mens bones, because they are still dead in their trespasses and sins. God will not work on you from the outside in. God always works on you from the inside out. God changes your heart then motivates you to keep your outward parts clean. The question I have for you today is: ARE YOU SAVED AND STILL GOING TO HELL? Have you had some false prophet or false teacher assure you that you are saved when you have no evidence of salvation in your life? Folks, I am not the Holy Ghost of God and I cannot assure you of your salvation. For me to assure you of your salvation, I must usurp the ministry and the authority of the Holy Ghost. The indwelling Holy Ghost is the witness to you of your salvation.

Most of today's religious church members and professing Christians will face the Lord Jesus Christ with these horrific words ringing in their ears:

> [21] Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. [22] Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? [23] And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. *Matthew 7:21-23*

The most tragic commentary on most well meaning religious folks is that they will spend eternity in religious hell. Folks, the problem is not so much what you do. The problem is what you are outside of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I would ask you: Has some false prophet assured that you are going to heaven when you know deep down that you are not saved. Salvation eternally changes people and their destiny. Have you been deceived? Have you been sent such strong delusion that you believe the lie that you are saved and on your way to heaven regardless of how you live? *Proverbs 12:15* says: "The way of a fool *is* right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel *is* wise. I would counsel and warn you to examine yourself and whether ye be in the faith. The Bible says in Proverbs 16:25:"There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death". So there is a way that leads to eternal death, but there is also a way that leads to eternal life. That way is expressed in *John 14:6*

and *John 10:9*:

> [6] Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. *John 14:6*
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> [9] I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. *John 10:9*

If you have not entered through the door, in other words the Lord Jesus Christ, then you are attempting to steal your way into heaven. I am here to warn those today who have a form of godliness but deny the power thereof by claiming to be saved and continuing in a God denying wicked lifestyle. I am here to warn those that claim they are saved and continue to live a worldly, sensual lifestyle because they have not the spirit of Christ abiding in them. I am not here to leave you in your comfort zone. I am not here to tell you that it is okay for you to continue in your sin. I am here to tell you that you are still lost and dying in your sin and on your way to hell.

If the salvation you have has not changed you, I am here to tell you that you are still on the highway to hell and that you will spend an eternity in hell and the lake of fire where the worm dieth not and the fire is never quenched. Your body will be used over and over again to stoke the fires of the lake of fire. You will burn and not be able to burn up. If you have been SAVED (??) and left to wallow in your sin, then you are still on the fast road to hell. Again, I would ask you: ARE YOU SAVED AND STILL GOING TO HELL?

Salvation is not a reward at the end of a good life. Salvation is not being dunked in the baptismal pool. Salvation is not in your good works. Salvation is not in your church membership. Salvation is in the God-man, the Lord Jesus Christ. If you have not repented of your sin and put your faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ and Him alone, then you are not saved. *Acts 5:21* states that salvation is repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. Repentance is a God anointed and God led turning from a life of sin and a turning to a life of walking in fellowship with God. Repentance will result in a changed life. I would ask you again: ARE YOU SAVED AND STILL GOING TO HELL?

Are you trusting is some false profession, a sinner's prayer, or your church membership to get you into heaven. Are you still working for your salvation or working to keep your salvation? Do you have constant doubts about YOUR salvation? If you have constant doubts about whether you are saved, that is God the Holy Ghost telling you that you are still lost and on your way to hell. The devil would never have you constantly doubt your salvation. God has stirred a firestorm up in your mind to let you know that you are still on your way to hell. That firestorm is a premonition of hell.

Do you know the Lord Jesus Christ AND more importantly does he know you. Do you have Bible believing salvation or ARE YOU SAVED IN THE EYES OF MAN AND STILL GOING TO HELL? Have you been led in a faithless "sinner's prayer" by some deceived, "well meaning" man or woman and then pronounced to be saved only to never experience a change in your behaviour. Salvation changes folks. If you have not been changed, then you are still lost and going to hell where you will burn for ever and ever. So, how can a person avoid an eternally burning hell? You have to realize that your are lost and on your way to hell because you have a sin problem that only the blood

of Jesus can cover.

If you do not know the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour, you are a lost sinner. The Bible says in *Romans 3:10*, "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:". It also says in *Romans 3:23*, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;". What is the Penalty for that sin? The Bible says in *Romans 6:23*, "For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord". The death that we speak of here is called the "second death" four different times in the book of Revelation. The "second death" is what happens when death itself and hell are cast into the lake of fire. We will have more on that shortly.

Man is under the tragic delusion that he can do good works or religious works for his salvation. Folks works will not get it done. The Bible says this about works:

> For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. *Ephesians 2:8-9*

> Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; *Titus 3:5*

The only works that God will accept to keep you out of hell is the work of his Son on the cross of Calvary. It was there that he paid both the debt and the penalty that God requires for your sin. The Lord Jesus Christ rebuked the most religious folks on earth when he was here a little over 2,000 years ago when he said:

> [21] Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. [22] Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? [23] And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. *Matthew 7:21-23*

> [15] Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves. *Matthew 23:15*

In this case, the proselyte is a convert to a false religious system. False religion sends people to hell. Bible believing Christianity is the only way to avoid the fires of hell. Religion is man's futile attempts to reach God. Bible believing Christianity is God coming down from heaven to dwell in the hearts of all born again believers. The best commentary on false religious systems is *John 14:6*:

> [6] Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. *John 14:6*

If you will put your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and turn from your sin, here is the Bible's promise

to you:

> But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name: *John 1:12*

If you will not receive the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour, you are going to spend eternity in hell. If that is your decision, I want you to meditate upon the following two passages of Scripture:

> [19] There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day: [20] And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, [21] And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. [22] 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; [23] And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. [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. [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. [26] 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. [27] Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house: [28] For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment. [29] Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. [30] And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. [31] And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead. *Luke 16:19–31*

> [11] And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. [12] 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. [13] 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. [14] And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. [15] And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire. *Revelation 20:11–15*

Hell is a real place folks. Hell is mentioned 54 times in the King James Bible. When doctrines of hell and eternal punishment are taken together, they are mentioned at least 88 times in our Bibles.

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In closing ,the most tragic and most troubling things we run into when we are out witnessing is the huge numbers of professing "Christians" whose Christianity is not strong enough to change their lives (and in many of our church members). Nor is it strong enough to get them into church and keep them there. Most of them are glad to tell you they are church members, but you dare not ask them ARE they saved and how and when they were saved for their father the Devil will quickly be offended and put you down the road. They will quickly brag about being a deacon, a Sunday School teacher, and a piano player, but they will not brag about the day the Lord Jesus Christ saved them The mouth that will not publicly confess the Lord Jesus Christ is the mouth that weeps and wails from hell. What a tragedy to die and go to hell trusting in a profession that never changed you. We would ask that you prayerfully read and consider what we have said today

So, church member or professing Christian are you "saved" and going to hell?!!?