

NOT EVERYTHING YOU HEAR IS SCRIPTURAL

Lesson Five

Sermon by Donald Townsley

INTRODUCTION

1. This is the fifth lesson on this subject.
2. For something NOT to be scriptural means that there is NO Bible authority for it.
3. If we are to please God, we must have scriptural authority for all we do -- Col. 3:17.

I. WE HEAR MANY TODAY SAY "THERE IS NO HELL"; OTHERS SAY "THERE IS A HELL, BUT THOSE THAT GO THERE WILL BE ANNIHILATED."

1. Looking back through church history, various groups have denied the doctrine of eternal torment.
2. Today, Seventh-day Adventists and Jehovah's Witnesses teach that ALL the wicked, including the devil, will be annihilated.
3. Some liberal preachers are teaching annihilation.
4. Does the Bible teach that there is no hell and the doctrine of annihilation? The answer is "NO".
5. Two key passages to show this doctrine is NOT taught in scripture: Matthew 25: 41,46
 - (1) Jesus calls the punishment of the wicked an "*everlasting fire*"-- Matt. 25:41.
 - (2) In verse 46 He refers to it as "*everlasting punishment*".
 - (3) The ASV translates the word "*eternal*".
 - (4) "*And these shall go away into eternal punishment: but the righteous into eternal life.*"
 - (5) "*Eternal*" in this passage modifies both "*life*" and "*punishment*"-- thus making the duration of hell the same as that of heaven.
 - (a) Both Heaven and Hell are identical in duration; both are eternal "never-ending".
6. Other passages that show Hell is unlimited in its duration -- it is "eternal".
 - (1) Paul said Hell "*everlasting destruction*" or "*eternal destruction*"-- II Thess. 1:9.
 - (a) The meaning of "*destruction*" in this passage is NOT annihilation -- it is ruin, a lack of well-being, an eternal separation from Christ and God. It is to be in a state of ruin and wretchedness.
 - (2) John said in Rev. 20:10 that the torment of Hell will be "*day and night forever and ever*".
 - (3) Hell will last as long as God does. Hell is eternal and God is eternal.
 - (a) Rom. 16:26
 - (b) Rev. 10: 6; Rev. 20:10
7. The nature of Hell and eternal punishment:
 - (1) Hell is a place of "*everlasting fire*" -- Matt. 25:41.
 - (2) It is a place of "*unquenchable fire*"--Mk. 9: 43.
 - (3) It is a place of "*everlasting punishment*"--Matt. 25:46.
 - (4) It is a "*lake of fire*" -- Rev. 20:15.
 - (5) It is a "*furnace of fire*"--Matt. 13:42.
 - (6) In hell there "*shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth*"-- Matt. 13:42.
 - (7) Hell is a place of "*torment*"-- Rev. 20:10
 - (a) "*Torment*" conveys the idea of torture, severe distress and pains of body and mind.
 - (b) The rich man was in "*torment*"-- Luke 16: 23 - 25.

- (c) Jesus describes the torment "*where the worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched*"-- Mk. 9: 44.
 - (8) Hell is the "*second death*"-- Rev. 20: 15; 21: 8.
 - (a) The second death is to be forever separated from God and the glory of His power -- II Thess. 1:9.
 - (9) Hell is "*outer darkness*" --Matt. 25:30.
8. Some things not found in Hell:
- (1) There is no light in Hell -- Matt. 25:30.
 - (a) Hell will be a place of eternal darkness -- just as heaven will be a place of eternal day -- Rev. 21:23.
 - (2) Hell is a place away from God -- II Thess. 1:7 - 10; Rev. 20:14.
 - (3) There is no mercy in Hell -- Heb. 10:28 - 29; Luke 16:24.
 - (4) There is no love in Hell.
 - (a) God is love -- I John 4:8.
 - (b) Hell is away from God and His love.
 - (c) In Hell there is indignation and wrath -- Rom. 2: 8 - 9.

CONCLUSION

1. You can see from this lesson the teaching that there is no Hell is a false doctrine.
2. And, the doctrine that man is annihilated in Hell is a false doctrine.