

## THE SOUL PULLED OUT OF THE FIRE

### Text:

***Jude 22-23:***

***<sup>22</sup> And of some have compassion, making a difference:***

***<sup>23</sup> And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.***

This wonderful text has meaning which is past the confines of human reason. Its exact translation is a little difficult. It represents the most common danger.

### The Most Common Danger

1. **A lost soul**
  2. **A great responsibility -- rescuing souls**
  3. **A grave danger -- pulling them out of the fire**
  4. **Identifies two appealing motives behind our work — love and fear**
1. The lost soul surely has a terrifying danger which is in bondage to satan, fettered by his cords of iniquity, and without Christ and without hope in the world.

We are all dead in trespasses and sins, and far from God.

***Romans 3:23: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;***

2. The world has need of a Saviour, and Christ is that only **God-provided Rescuer**.

If Jesus the Messiah was not needed, He would not have come from Heaven to save us.



Some people do not like the warnings in the Word of God about the lost and their

future destruction. Yet, these warnings are a must, and they are as much filled with love and gentle compassion as **John 3:16** reveals:

**John 3:16:**

***For God so loved the world, that He gave His Only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have Everlasting Life.***



3. If men are in a burning house, asleep, it is not unkind to awaken them and arouse them from the devouring flames.



The real unkindness is to let them sleep on.

There would be no danger of the Railroad Crossing if no train were approaching.

There would be no need of a lighthouse if there were no rocks.

God's message is a most loving one because it tells the danger, and the way of escape. The escape cost God everything, and us nothing, except the swallowing of our pride.

4. The Lord God identifies in the Word of God (the Bible) two appealing motives behind our work — love and fear.

Jesus did not shrink from telling the exact danger every soul is to face and the disagreeable truth some dislike. The wages of sin is death. But what a happy fact is connected with this, that while:

***Romans 6:23: For the wages of sin is death; but the Gift of God is Eternal Life through Jesus Christ our Lord.***

The work of all Christians is a rescue work. It is not enough for us to be saved ourselves. We must turn and rescue others from the fiery pit of Hell.

The true picture is a scene on the Cross - of Jesus dying for sinners and providing deliverance from the penalty of, presence of, and power of sin. On the Cross, He provided eternal redemption for us in rescuing the lost.



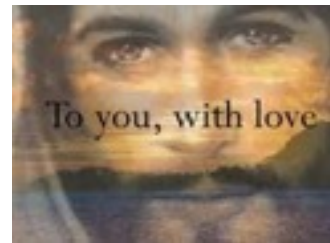
It is far more inhuman to neglect the saving a soul from Hell when you can, than saving a body when you can.

**This is our common responsibility. The appealing motive is love and fear.**

**First, is the love of Christ which constrains us.** It is broad enough to reach the most degraded soul, and it is powerful enough to lift the worst shackled soul.

The love of God is greater than all our sins.

**Second is fear which also moves men who are hardened by sin to respond to the Gospel call.** Knowing the terror of the Lord, we persuade men.



**Christ's warnings are just as loving as His promises of happiness.**

**How shall we escape the damnation of Hell if we neglect the salvation of Heaven?**

We are Pulled Out Of Hell by The Great Atonement provided by Christ. This gives us a new nature, a new disposition, and changes our rebellion and love for sin into love for righteousness. It also creates a willing obedience to God's Word and the call of Christ. Our hearts are changed from rebels to love and confidence as a child.

Jesus came to bring peace and is calling this revolting world back to Himself where once it started.



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