

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE LOST?

TEXT: ***Mark 16:16: He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.***

Introduction: The word *damned* has largely fallen into disuse, partly because it is used so much by profane people; partly because we live in an easy-going way that recoils from a vigorous statement of unpleasant truth. *Damned* means condemned of God – but *damned* is a much more vigorous word than condemned. It carries much more meaning in the average mind. It summons at once, before our imagination, all the awful consequences of being condemned of God.

We will let the text stand there as it reads in the Authorized Bible Version.

“He that believeth not shall be damned.”

Any man who hears the Gospel and persistently refuses to believe it and receive it shall be damned.

Any man who hears the Gospel and persistently refuses to believe it and receive it shall be damned. That’s all one needs to do to be damned. Damned to the uttermost is to refuse to believe on the Lord Jesus. In order to be damned, it is not necessary that one be what the world calls a wicked person.

First of all, the man who does not believe the Gospel and does not believe in Jesus Christ must be damned. Because God is Love, He has revealed this in His Word. How, according to the Bible, is the love of God manifested? We must go to the Bible for interpretation.

1. God’s LOVE manifests itself in His ministering to our needs and joy.

Isaiah 48:14: All ye, assemble yourselves, and hear; which among them hath declared these things? The LORD hath loved him: he will do his pleasure on Babylon, and his arm shall be on the Chaldeans.

Isaiah 48:20-21:

²⁰ Go ye forth of Babylon, flee ye from the Chaldeans, with a voice of singing declare ye, tell this, utter it even to the end of the earth; say ye, The LORD hath redeemed His servant Jacob.

21 And they thirsted not when he led them through the deserts: he caused the waters to flow out of the rock for them: he clave the rock also, and the waters gushed out.

- 2. God's LOVE manifests itself in His chastening us, and in His sending us trials, pain, sorrow and bereavement.**

Hebrew 12:6-11:

6 For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth.

7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

9 Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?

10 For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but He for our profit, that we might be partakers of His Holiness.

11 Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

- 3. God's LOVE is manifested by His sympathizing with us in our afflictions.**

Isaiah 63:9: In all their affliction He was afflicted, and the angel of His Presence saved them: in His love and in His pity He redeemed them; and He bore them, and carried them all the days of old.

- 4. God's LOVE is manifested in His never forgetting those He loves.**

Isaiah 49:15-16:

15 Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee.

16 Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of My hands; thy walls are continually before Me.

God will not pardon sin if we hold on to it. There is a fancy about God's love, that because God is love He will pardon and save all men, whether they repent and believe on Christ or not. It is wholly unscriptural. To believe, you must live up to the Bible. If you live up to the Bible, you must live up to your belief that God is love — for that is from the Bible.

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The message:

1. **It is not that Jesus is a good man or even the best man who ever walked the earth. "Jesus is the Son of God".**
2. **Jesus is not merely a great teacher, but Jesus is the Son of God.**
3. **Jesus is not merely a perfect man and our example, but Jesus is the Son of God.**
4. **Jesus is the Son of God. What does that involve?**
 - a. **Absolute and whole-hearted trust in Him**
 - b. **Trusting in Him for Salvation**
 - c. **Surrender of our life to Him**
 - d. **Surrender of our thoughts to Him**
 - e. **There is no saving power in the doctrine, alone, that Jesus is the Son of God. Only those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God from the heart, and act upon it, are saved.**
 - f. **This belief and action will bring one life eternal.**

John 20:31: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His Name.
 - g. **Salvation will bring victory over the world.**

1 John 5:5: Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

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