

THE BIBLE VIEW

In This Issue:

[The Saddest Moment](#)

["Uh, Oh!"](#)

[What Must Hell be Like?](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

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The Saddest Moment

Bill Brinkworth

Most have heard of tragic events that have occurred in many lives. The sobs of broken hearts and tales that explained their sadness will be remembered for a long time. Moans indicating hopelessness from broken confidences, deserted family members, treacherous attacks, and lost love also will not be forgotten. Heartbreak occurs many times in most lives.

Although betrayals and misplaced trusts are often a surprise to the one hurt, there will be a moment for many that will be the saddest they ever experienced. At that time, they will be shocked to discover that their good works, sacrifices, being an attentive parent, being an excellent leader, being a good person, following edicts of a religion, grandiose generosity, wealth, and kindness will not matter for what awaits them.

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

It is when eyes are closed in death and opened in the next life, that it will be realized much of what was cherished in

this life will not matter in the next. For a countless majority, most will sadly and frighteningly discover that their earthly endeavors will not matter much, as they experience an agonizing and terrifying Hell. Screams of other hopeless souls and tormenting heat, darkness, and loneliness will be a constant reminder of lives that were wasted on the wrong priorities. That will be the saddest moment for lost souls!

Hell does not have to be anyone's next destination!

- While you still have breath, realize your sinful condition.

“As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:”

Romans 3:10

“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;” Rom. 3:23

“Wherefore, as by one man [Adam] sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:” Rom. 5:12

- While you still have breath, understand that there is a painful price that must be paid for sins.

“The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.” Psalm 9:17

“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Rom. 6:23

“But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness ... And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time...” II Peter 2:10-13

- While you still have breath, understand that Hell does not have to be your eternal destination. There is One that loves you so much that He paid for your sin, and

took your deserved punishment so that you can have a better eternity.

“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”

Rom. 5:8

“For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:”

I Peter 3:18

“Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.” I John 3:16

“In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.” I John 4:9

- While you still have breath, trust Christ’s sin-payment for your eternal joy with Jesus and be saved from an agonizing Hell.

“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.”

Rom. 10:9

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” Rom. 10:13

“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.” John 3:16

“And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” Acts 2:21

While you still have breath on this Earth, make the most important decision of your lifetime. Trust and ask the Lord Jesus Christ to save you from your deserved eternity in Hell. It does not have to be in your future. You can have God's promise of an eternity with Him today, and not the surprising, saddest moment. Do not wait. You may not have tomorrow!

“Everyone who finds himself in Heaven will have to thank God for it; and everyone who finds himself in Hell will have to thank himself.” — C. H. MacKinosh

“Uh-oh”

Bill Brinkworth

“Consciousness came and went in short spurts. For a brief second, bright surgical lights came into sight, and then sleep over came me. Again, for a glimpse, I saw doctors and nurses scurrying about me. Some were adjusting electrodes on my chest. Another nurse was quickly putting a needle into my arm, then sleep again. I do not know how long it was, but again I was vaguely aware of my mother's talking to me. She was crying. There was urgency in her sobbing voice. Again, doctors were shouting orders to those nearby. The beeping of a monitor increased. Some were running for more equipment, and then silence.

“Darkness surrounded me, but I was quite conscious. No longer were there bright lights; no doctors' voices; no mother's sobs. It wasn't like the previous in's and out's of consciousness. I was aware with all my senses. There was

a sense of my moving, but not one of my body parts was at all involved. It was as if I were drifting somewhere. I could feel it getting warmer and warmer, and it wasn't long until the heat was unbearable. Where was I? What was happening to me? I knew my eyes were wide open, but all around me was darkness. Was this, was this, was this Hell? Oh no, that must be where I was. I've died! Fear like I never experienced before forced screams out of my mouth. Hell! Oh, no. What have I done?

“Then, through all the fear, the intense heat, and now an increasing pain in what seemed every pore of my body, I remembered some things from my past. I remembered Mrs. Corner's Sunday school lesson and the parts of the verses she read about Hell. I remembered my snide remarks mocking what she said.

“Distant shrieks in the tormenting darkness told me I was not alone in my imprisonment.

“Memories continued to flood my mind. I recalled the times my friend Gary and I mocked Hell and proudly boasted that we would be together in Hell and would have a party together. This was no party. Perhaps one of the screams in the distance was his, but we certainly were not together.

“A horrible series of blood-curdling shouts told another was not able to bear the torture they were in, but there was no way out. There was no escape; for anyone! Another cry hollered, 'Not forever.' All hope was gone from that voice.

His ‘Oh-nooooo’ seemed to be a whisper as he realized the hopelessness of his situation.

“A brief memory of my brother’s coming back from church one day reminded me how I reacted when he told me he had just gotten saved and he had God’s promise of going to Heaven when he died. I thought I was so smart when I retorted that, ‘No one can know for sure that they’re going to Heaven. How can you believe that Bible? It’s just an ol’ book that some men wrote.’

“I was so wrong. If I had only listened to him! If I only had taken him up on his invitations to go to church, I may have gotten what he had. I may not have been in the place I am now. How wrong I was. How foolish my opinions were. If my memory of what I heard in church serves me well, it is going to get worse; a judgment before God; the Lake of Fire — forever. Uh-oh, what have I done?”

This story, of course, is a fictitious account of what may be happening to billions of unsaved souls right this very second. It is based on many Scriptures and may be very close to reality. If you have never trusted Christ as your payment for your sin, it may very well describe what you may experience one day. Do not be foolish. While God has allowed you the opportunity, decide to be saved from Hell today before it is eternally too late!

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” Romans 10:13

“Witness, and win many to the Lord so the population of Hell will be reduced.”

What Must Hell Be Like?

Author Unknown

A Scottish preacher once had an occasion to pass a factory where glass was manufactured. Finding the door open, he stepped in. Soon, he stood before the cavernous opening of one of the furnaces. He stared at the seething flames as if he were hypnotized, and finally exclaimed out loud, “What will Hell be like?”

He did not know that the fire’s stoker, standing quietly a few feet behind him, heard his words. After several weeks, the workman appeared in the church. Making himself known after the service, the stoker reminded the preacher of the incident at the glass factory and said, “Every time I have opened the furnace since then, I have thought of your words. I came tonight to take Jesus as my Lord and Saviour. I don’t want to find out what Hell is like!”

“Hell is truth seen too late; duty neglected in its season.” — *Tyron Edwards*