• There is No Rest There. Revelation 14:11 says the wicked will have no rest from their torment day or night. Hell is a place where there is no hope. The punishment is everlasting (Matt. 25:46) with no chance of pardon or parole.

• Who Will Go There? As already noted, Satan and his angels will be there (Matt. 25:41). Revelation 21:8 says the "cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars" will be there. 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9 says that those who do not know God and those who will not obey the gospel of Christ will be punished with everlasting destruction. In short, all sinners who choose to remain in their sin will be found in hell.

• Why Will People Go There? People will not be in hell because God wants them to be there. He desires that all be saved (1 Tim. 2:1-4). They will not be there because God cannot save them. God is all-powerful and the gospel, His power to save (Rom. 1:16), can save to the uttermost. God sent His Son into the world so that all might have salvation (John 3:16) and He has extended His invitation to all who would come to Him (Matt. 11:28-30). If a person ends up in hell, he is lost by his own free choice. He has no one to blame but himself. Many see no need to be interested in spiritual things and are indifferent to the pleas of the gospel. Others refuse to obey the gospel or submit to the will of God. Some refuse to believe. Others just love sin more than righteousness. Some, though once obedient, become unfaithful in service. Many put off obeying until it is too late.

Conclusion: Hell is real. The suffering of it is waiting for the sinful. You can escape the torments found there by giving obedience to Christ now. He will wash away the guilt of your sins and grant you hope of a life of eternal bliss in His presence. Gene Taylor http://www.padfield.com/2000/hell.html

Leadership Elders Hayward Blanton, Jerry Casey		Schedule of Services Sunday	
Deacons	S Clint Smith Sr, Clint Smith Jr,	Bible Class	10:00 AM
	Robby Stocksdale, Joe Sweeney	Morning Worship	11:00 AM
Pulpit Ministe	r David Wright	Evening Worship	6:00 PM
Associate Minister	r Irvin F. Williams	Ū I	
		Wednesday	
Panama Missions		Bible Class	
Evans Campbell	Pablo Sanchez		

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Those Privileged to Serve								
AM Service		PM Service		AM & PM Services				
Song Leader	Michael Hawkins	Song Leader	Robby Stocksdale	Announcements	Clint Smith Jr			
Opening Prayer	Hank Tincher	Bible Reading	Joe Sweeney	Lord's Supper	Harold Tincher			
Scripture	Jeremy Montgomery	Selection	23	Offering	Ron Iverson			
Sermon	David Wright	Prayer	Leon Stocksdale	Usher	Grover Blanton			
Lord's Supper	Matt 27:11-50	Sermon	David Wright	Count Offering	Robby Stocksdale			
Message	Joe Sweeney	Closing Prayer	Matt Johnson	Assist Count	Harold Tincher			
Attendant	Art Patrick	If you are unable to serve,		Last Sunday				
Attendant	Greg Blanton	Call Art Patric	ck 502-819-9481	Contribution	Attendance			
Closing Prayer	Irvin Williams	Or Harold Ti	incher 288-5956	\$1853	60			



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The Reality of Hell

In Matthew 25:31-46, the Bible teaches that at the final judgment, while the righteous will enter heaven to enjoy everlasting life, the wicked will go into eternal punishment. The thought of everlasting suffering is repulsive to many. No doubt this aversion lies at the bottom of much of the indifference to what the Bible teaches about hell.

Hell, despite the denials of many, is real. Sin demands it. Sin is a violation of the law of God (1 John 3:4). If there were no punishment for sin, then there could be no law, for law without penalty is null and void. If there is no law, there would be no sin. That would make the death of Jesus useless because if there is no sin there is no responsibility to save anyone from it.

The reality of life after death also demands the reality of hell. Jesus taught, in Matthew 22:23-33, that there was life after physical death. In the account of the rich man and Lazarus in Luke 16:19-31, two distinct destinies are presented comfort for the righteous but punishment for the wicked depending on whether or not one serves God while living on earth.

Hell was not originally prepared for man. It was prepared for Satan and his angels (Matt. 25:41). Jude 6 states that fallen angels are placed in chains awaiting judgment. Yet, when men and women join the devil in his work and live in servitude to him, they must suffer the same fate that will befall him.

- Hell Is Not Contrary to the Nature of God. Many people find it difficult to accept the reality of hell because they cannot understand or believe that a loving, merciful and forgiving God could create such a place and then place people in it eternally. If no punishment were given for violation of His law, then God would not be just. Being a just God, He will reward the righteous and punish the wicked. Hell is to punish the wicked.
- What Hell Is Like? Hell is eternal. It is described that way in Matthew 25:46. In Romans 16:26 God is said to be eternal. The Holy Spirit, in Hebrews 9:14, is also described as eternal. The same Greek word is used in all three passages. The word means "eternal, everlasting, without end, never to cease." Hell and the punishment meted out there will last as long as God forever.
- Hell is a place of darkness. Jude 13 speaks of "the blackness of darkness" to which false teachers will be confined forever. God is light (1 John 1:5) and the Father of lights (Jas. 1:17). Hell is described as darkness because it is the place farthest removed from God.
- Hell is a place of fire. Matthew 13:42 speaks of it as a furnace of fire. Matthew 25:41 calls it an everlasting fire. Mark 9:44-45 says the fire is never quenched. Revelation 21:8 refers to it as the lake of fire. There will be no relief from its fires because Revelation 14:11 says the smoke from the fires of torment ascends forever and ever.

(Continued on back page)

### Without a Word

#### David Wright

Carmen, a Christian girl, meets handsome Jeff. They fall in love and get married. Jeff promises before the wedding that he will attend church regularly, but five years have now passed. Jeff has never obeyed the Gospel, and he only visits the church on special occasions. Carmen has resorted to arguing, manipulating, and pleading. But Jeff is offended and angered by any overt attempt to win him to Christ. What should she do?

Peter acknowledges that reasoning with a husband may be an ineffective way to bring about conversion. "Be submissive to your husbands," he writes, "so that some, though they do not obey the word, may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives, when they see your reverent and chaste behavior" (1 Pet. 3:1-2). In other words, the noble character of a Christian woman is more attractive to an unbelieving husband than the firm pressure of endless verbal appeals.

Winsome character means virtue. Peter says that a woman's "beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as braided hair and the wearing of gold jewelry and fine clothes. Instead, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight" (1 Pet. 3:3-4, NIV). Is he implying that women must never wear jewelry or nice clothes? Of course not! Peter is simply teaching that external beauty alone fails to make a woman attractive to her husband. If she is arrogant, loud-mouthed, selfish, or disrespectful, her hypocritical conduct will push the unbelieving husband away.

Appealing character also means submissiveness. "So once the holy women who hoped in God used to adorn themselves and were submissive to their husbands," Peter says, "as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord" (1 Pet. 3:5-6). This biblical teaching drives feminists crazy. They tell women to be powerful, assertive, and—well—masculine. It's great advice if a woman is looking for a shortcut to the divorce court. But if she wants to strengthen her marriage and win her husband to the Lord, Peter's advice is considerably better.

# <u>Sermon</u>

## Acts 2:42-47 The Church Restored (a.m.) The Inner Shrine (p.m.)

<sup>22</sup> Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. <sup>23</sup> For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. <sup>24</sup> Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.<sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, <sup>26</sup> that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, <sup>27</sup> so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. <sup>28</sup> In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. <sup>29</sup> For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, <sup>30</sup> because we are members of his body. <sup>31</sup> "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." <sup>32</sup> This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. <sup>33</sup> However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband. -Ephesians 5:22-33

#### Hamburg Pike Happenings

A note from our Elders: Jerry and Hayward invite and encourage the male members of the congregation to volunteer to present a Wednesday devotional during the spring quarter March thru May. The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. Lessons should be prepared and 3 - 5 minutes in duration.

The Monday Night for the Master group will meet Monday March 10<sup>th</sup> 6 pm. Please come join us, the meal theme is oriental.

The Elizabethtown congregation is conducting a Bible Bowl on Saturday July 6<sup>th</sup>. The competition will cover Genesis chapters 26 thru 50. The age groups are K  $-2^{nd}$  grade, 3rd - 5th Grades, 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grades and 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Our teams should sign up by April 1<sup>st</sup> in order to get the materials to begin practicing. See Robby Stocksdale for other details and questions.

Please mark your calendar for two important upcoming events. First, Hamburg Pike is holding a Gospel meeting April 25-27. The guest speaker is to be Doug Burleson. Second, Hamburg Pike is having its first vacation Bible school July 20-23. Josh Wright is planning to bring a group of young people from Rome, Georgia, to help with this good work. If possible, please plan vacations with these dates in mind.

The Elizabethtown congregation is hosting an evangelism seminar with Stephen Rogers on Saturday, April 12. The cost per person is \$10. Please sign the sheet in the foyer if you plan to attend. Please RSVP by March 21; a flyer is posted on the bulletin board.

This is a reminder that we will go on Daylight Saving time at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 9, 2014. Please turn your clocks FORWARD one hour before going to bed Saturday night.

### Hamburg Pike church of Christ Home Page

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