



Why Man Can Earn A Place In Hell  
But Not A Home In Heaven

# Why Man Can Earn A Place In Hell But Not A Home In Heaven

- Before man committed sin, he did not need to be saved.
- After man committed sin, he could not save himself.
- Now that sin is in this world, being good will never be good enough.

# Being Good Is Not Good Enough

- Rom. 5:1-2, 6-11
- Mark 10:17-31
- Many good people are not going to be in heaven.
- Jesus didn't come because the world was full of good people.
- Human goodness isn't God's goodness.
- Keeping the commandments will never be enough.

# Being Good Is Not Good Enough

- “I have now disposed of all my property to my family. There is one thing more I wish I could give them and that is faith in Jesus Christ. If they had that and I had not given them a single shilling, they would have been rich; and if they had not that, and I had given them all the world, they would be poor indeed” *(Patrick Henry)*.

# How Can Man Earn A Place In Hell But Not A Home In Heaven?

- In Eden, humankind had a Paradise-like setting.
  - Gen. 2 - 3
  - All needs were taken care of,
  - The environment was perfect and protected,
  - Death was unknown,
  - Access was given to the tree of life,
  - There was nothing to fear,
  - Man's relationship with God was personal and direct in access.

# How Can Man Earn A Place In Hell But Not A Home In Heaven?

- Man squandered life in the idyllic garden and his relationship with God by choosing to do the one thing forbidden; he did so willfully, and he knew the consequences.
- God is both love and righteousness; from His love He wanted man restored to the relationship, but He could not do it without a price because He is righteous.
- To abandon man to his own destiny, God would have to stop loving him, and He would cease to be God.
- To save him without a price, He would have to abandon His righteousness and would thus cease to be God.

# How Can Man Earn A Place In Hell But Not A Home In Heaven?

- The unavoidable problem is that man had nothing to offer to pay the price, so God offered to pay the price for man's sins -- conditionally.
  - Gen. 3:15 - “And there will be war between you and the woman and between your seed and her seed: by him will your head be crushed and by you his foot will be wounded.”

# How Can Man Earn A Place In Hell But Not A Home In Heaven?

- Man earns perdition because he pays the price of admission.
- The net price for entrance into heaven or hell is a righteous life.
  - He trades away his sinless condition to enter hell.
  - He must offer a sinless condition to enter heaven.



# How Can Man Earn A Place In Hell But Not A Home In Heaven?

- All men begin life without sin; if he remains in that condition, he is destined to go to heaven.
- When a man chooses to sin, he willfully and knowingly exchanges his sinless life for a place in perdition.
  - Matt. 16:26 - “For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?”

# How Can Man Earn A Place In Hell But Not A Home In Heaven?

- Man earns perdition because he pays the price for admission.
- He later regrets his decision and wishes to go to heaven, but he no longer has the price of entry, a sinless life; he already traded it for a place in hell when he sinned.
  - Rom. 7:7-11, 22-25
- In order to recover his former righteous condition, he must have another pay the price for him, a form of propitiation.

# How Can Man Earn A Place In Hell But Not A Home In Heaven?

- Man cannot earn a home in heaven because after he sins, he no longer has the means of admission, a righteous life.
- If he is to become righteous in order to enter heaven, the state of righteousness must be imputed (ascribed, credited, attributed) to him.

# How Can Man Earn A Place In Hell But Not A Home In Heaven?

- Rom. 4:6-8 - "...David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works: 7 'Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, And whose sins are covered; 8 Blessed is the man to whom the LORD shall not impute sin.'"
- Rom. 11:6 - "And if by grace, then it is no longer of works; otherwise grace is no longer grace. But if it is of works, it is no longer grace; otherwise work is no longer work."

# How Can Man Earn A Place In Hell But Not A Home In Heaven?

- God sent Jesus to pay for man's sins so that he might be reckoned to be righteous and be given a home in heaven.
- Man must never forget that he squandered his condition of righteousness when he sinned; he had nothing to offer to God to obtain a home in heaven. God paid his way through Jesus.

– Rom. 3:19-28

# How Can Man Earn A Place In Hell But Not A Home In Heaven?

- Heb. 2:14-17 - “Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. 16 For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham. 17 Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.”

# How Can Man Earn A Place In Hell But Not A Home In Heaven?

- 1John 2:1-2 - “My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 2 And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.”

# How Can Man Earn A Place In Hell But Not A Home In Heaven?

- Everyone is born in possession of an innocent, righteous life.
- When we sin, we earn a place in hell
- When we regret it and want a place in heaven, we no longer have an innocent, righteous life to offer for it.
- We needed another to pay our way.
- God has paid our way into heaven through His Son Jesus Christ.
- And now you are trading that away, too?!
- For what?!