

Sinners in Zion

“The sinners in Zion are afraid; fearfulness hath surprised the hypocrites. Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings?” Isaiah 33:14.

The words *“everlasting burnings”* identify what Isaiah speaks of. It is such a horrible prospect that he waited until the last verse of his writings to tell us about it. He wrote, *“And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcasses of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh”* Isaiah 66:24.

Jesus said it would be exactly as Isaiah described. He quoted Isaiah three times in only six verses, warning his twelve disciples against that place, *“Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched”* Mark 9:43-48. This is *“the lake of fire”* which John speaks of five times in his book of Revelation. He describes it as a place where the wicked shall be *“tormented day and night for ever and ever”* Revelation 14:11, 20:10.

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad” II Corinthians 5:10.

It is commonly taught that those who “believe in Jesus” will never be judged for their sins; that this judgment is only to “judge our works to determine our rewards.” Someone should have informed the apostle Paul. He said in the next verse, *“Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men...”* II Corinthians 5:11. Paul did not fear for himself, but he was “terrified” for the sake of the Corinthian church, which was both *“carnal”* I Corinthians 3:3 and *“lascivious”* I Corinthians 5:1. They thought they were very spiritual, possessing many spiritual gifts. They prophesied and did many wonderful works, all “in the name of Jesus,” but they were among those to whom Jesus would say at the judgment seat of Christ, *“I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity”* Matthew 7:22-23.

The discovery that they have been lied to by their teachers is why Isaiah said the *“sinners in Zion”* would be *“afraid”* and *“surprised”* by fear when they stand before Christ at His judgment. It will be too late for them to believe the truth which Jesus said would *“make you free”* John 8:32. They came expecting to hear *“Well done...”* but they heard *“Depart from me into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels”* Matthew 25:41.

One of the most prevalent teachings of the modern church is “We are all sinners.” This may appear to be true because statistics say 68% of men in the churches regularly view pornography, along with 54% of their pastors. Recent studies show those numbers are increasing rapidly, because they are told it is merely a “chemical imbalance,” and not a “sin.” But we are NOT all sinners. God still has his people who have been washed from their sins through the blood of Christ.

I recently came across an article from several years ago that spoke of “forty years that changed the world.” It is an undeniable fact that “the world” was changed during those forty years

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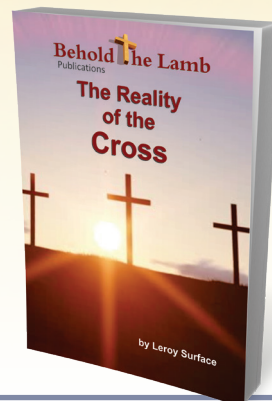
from 1975 through 2015, but sadly, it was for worse. Today, in the midst of a nation that is terribly divided, we have an opportunity to see a great harvest of souls, but it cannot come through those who believe “we are all sinners.” If it is true we are “all sinners,” it is also true that we are “all lost.”

One of the evangelists from the great sanctified revival of the nineteenth century said the revival did not begin with the “sinners” in the world. The men of God preached against sin until the members of the church ran into the altars, crying to God in repentance. Only then did the sinner in the world want Jesus Christ. Jonathan Edwards preached the message *“Sinners in the hands of an angry God.”* He painted a picture of sinners hanging over the fires of hell, supported by only a rotten cord, which could break at any time. It was in the churches that men fell out of their seats onto the floor, crying, “My God, Mr. Edwards, what can we do?” ...and revival came.

If Jesus Christ were to return today, it would be the greatest of all calamities for “the church” of this generation. It is no wonder Peter said, *“Judgment must begin at the house of God.”* I Peter 4:17. It began in the temple when Jesus drove the *“money changers”* out, calling them *“a den of thieves”* Matthew 21:13. The “big business” of Christian religion began a little over forty years ago. The lust for money became the driving force for many ministers. Their multi-million dollar houses and their private jets will be a witness against them in the Day of Judgment. They refused to preach against sin because it might offend the people. Instead, they chose to offend God almighty and His Son, Jesus Christ. Their doctrines have deceived untold millions of people into believing sin doesn’t matter.

I call your attention to something Jesus said in the parable of the foolish virgins. When they were not ready *“with oil in their lamps,”* they were told by those who had oil, *“go to them that sell”* Matthew 25:9. They had trusted in *“them that sell”* in the past, see if they could help them now. They went, and they spent their money, probably on another sensational, must-have book, but they were not ready when the bridegroom came. They knew about the “hidden mysteries,” but they knew nothing about “the Christ” and why He suffered the cross. They thought they were “covered by the blood,” but discovered too late they were never *“washed from their sins.”* Revelation 1:5

“Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness. Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live.” Isaiah 55:1-3



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