

“ARE YOU MY FRIEND?”

Then why am I here and you in Heaven?

My friend, I stand in judgment now in the presence of GOD and the Lord Jesus Christ condemned to the Lake of Fire, and firmly believe that you're to blame somehow.

On earth I walked with you everyday, but never did you point The Way.

You knew Jesus Christ in all truth and glory; but never did you tell the Story. My knowledge then was very dim and I did not take the Scriptures too seriously. I loved to gossip and backbite about other people and their problems. I know the minister preached about these topics, but you did not reiterate them. Why did you not tell me I was on my way to hell? If you were my friend, why did you not stop me before I got here?

I had a short temper so I caused trouble; quarreled and fought with my friends, neighbors and families about almost everything they said. You should have cautioned me that refusing to talk with you sometimes, shaking hands with those who offended me, frowning my face, snubbing, wishing bad things on people, and using filthy cuss words that true believers in Christ never use, would send me to hell? I harbored hatred, envy, and was drunk with resentment and vengeance from what people had done to me. My desire at that time was to get even with them. Why did you not warn me to renounce my sinful actions, and why did you not remind me of the importance of forgiveness? Are you my friend?

I loved to dress according to the modern-day fashion with gold and silver jewelry. Now, I see the uselessness of artificial beauty. Why did you not warn me to distinguish my dressing from the world's? Are you my friend?

Contrary to the fruit of the Spirit commanded in Galatians 5:22-26, I cheated, lied, stole from everyone else and sold stolen merchandise because I wanted to make some money; I followed the useless works of the flesh in hatred, contentions, jealousies, outburst of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions; refusing to depend on GOD for all my needs so I sold goods at ungodly higher percentages. Lending was a service I did not offer. I did not care for other people, so I held on to all my extra earthly possessions. Are you my friend?

Why did you not tell me that suing another person or taking another person to court was a prerequisite for going to the Lake of Fire. I took undue advantage of other people to satisfy my selfish needs. You could have led me straight to Him. Why did you not tell me that I would end up here for doing all these things? Maybe you thought that if you had witnessed or explained the scriptures to me at that time, I would have thought of you as a self-righteous person and stopped being your friend? Why were you afraid to say I was wrong scripturally? You saw me beat up my kids and other people to vent my anger, but didn't utter a word. Are you my friend?

Why did you not remind me that fornication and adultery were the sinful reasons why GOD overturned Sodom and Gomorrah? You heard the minister preach about these sinful ways, but never did you pass it on or proclaim the Word to me.

Though we lived together on earth, you never mentioned the second birth, which every true believer in Christ had to undergo—baptism of the Spirit. And now I stand this day condemned to Hell, because you failed to mention the redeeming work the Savior Jesus Christ did for mankind on Calvary's Cross.

We walked by day, and talked by night, and yet you showed me not the Light. You never told me that either going to unscriptural events or worshipping sports games were wrong. Why did you not warn me about the evils of television (TV) and movies dealing with immorality, sex, killing, violence, unnecessarily funny comedy, and others that did not promote the beatitudes Jesus Christ preached or the warnings in His other Parables? Why did you not tell me that spending ungodly hours in front of the television and movies would poison my life and land me in this horrible place where regrets are too late. Why? You never mentioned how unscriptural it was for me to buy things on credit nor the sin of going into debt, but the blessedness of waiting until I had the money in my hands before purchasing things.

Why did you not tell me to spend more time praying to GOD, and maybe I might have repented. Why did you not stop me when I talked negatively about all the evils in our society, but never showed any signs of loving my enemies and praying for those who persecuted me, the importance of feeding the hungry, of donating clothing to the poor and needy?

Why did you not convince me to start attending church services again after I had stopped because of what somebody did or what the minister preached, ultimately diminishing my soul food growth? I realize now that just going to any church would not have saved my soul, but through faith, acceptance and belief in the Grace of the Savior Lord Jesus Christ and His justification work. You never expounded against going to work on Sunday. I was afraid then that I would not have a job if I excused myself from work on Sunday. I knew quite all right the blessings of attending service on Sunday, but my priority was the security of my job. Had I known?

And Love, what happened to the greatest of all? You never encouraged me to love you, my family, friends, enemies and especially GOD? I ate the Lord's Supper, which made everyone who partook in it one in Christ, but real love was not in my agenda (Romans 12:9-21). If only I had applied the fundamental principles of love Jesus Christ, Paul, Peter and the other apostles preached I would not have ended here. You let me live and love and die, but knew I would never live in Heaven? Are you my friend?

Yes, I called you "friend" in life, and trusted you through joy and strife. And yet, coming to this dreadful end - I cannot now call you "my friend."

You and I discussed many things that are true; I called you "friend" and trusted you. But now I learn that it's become too late in hell. You could have kept me from the Lake of Fire where the gnashing of teeth and torment never stops.

Closing Comments:

This is the time for us to stop our unscriptural activities and start sowing seeds of the Spirit. The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other. (Galatians 5:19,20,22,25) Who wants to go to hell? Are we ready to meet Jesus Christ? Millions will be surprised to realize that they did not make it at the Rapture. While no one knows the exact date and time, there are imminent signs everywhere. If we were to die today, where would we go? To Heaven? May GOD Almighty have mercy on us through Jesus Christ

before it becomes too late. We all know that the devil does not want anyone to go to Heaven and he is doing everything possible to take the world with him to hell, even the elect. Will you allow Satan to win?

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.” (Hebrews 12:1).

Spread love, even though it seems to be the hardest thing to do.

DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WILL EVER ASK YOU ANY OR ALL OF THESE QUESTIONS, OR WILL IT BE THE OTHER WAY ROUND?

Even if any of these questions do not apply to us, it is imperative that we share these thoughts with others. Remember, there will not be a second opportunity. Remember Noah and the Flood? Remember Lot's wife? Remember what our Lord Jesus Christ said: “As it was in the days of Noah, so will it be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away.” Matthew 24:37:39.

I received the title and some of these words via e-mail correspondence, and they inspired me to imagine additional questions and forward to family and friends worldwide, who believe in going to Heaven. The questions apply to everyone and it could happen to anyone, even me! Are you my friend? Then show it in GOD's way! If you are my friend, then let's meet in Heaven by God's Grace.

May the Marvelous Grace, Mercy and Peace of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the Perfect Love of GOD, and the Faithful Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of us! Amen.

Compiled by your friend In Christ
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