

## **SINS THAT WILL PREVENT CHRISTIANS AND NON-CHRISTIANS FROM GOING TO HEAVEN**

We have found it extremely necessary to examine once more, why the Lord Jesus Christ made some shocking statements on the rejection that fake Christians will receive at the Judgment Day in spite of their spiritual activities based upon Matthew 7:21-23.

We need to humble ourselves before our Gracious God and consider how these important warnings affect those of us who regard ourselves as true Christians or Heaven-bound followers of Christ. Does this warning from the Son of God apply to us? As Christians, are we exempt?

Is it necessary for each born-again Christian to surrender their life entirely to the control of the Lord Jesus Christ? We recognize that the Lord has been merciful and loving enough to save us from the bondage of the devil and of sin. Do we then have the freedom to live in disobedience to our Almighty God, because His Grace is sufficient to forgive us, again?

Apart from the unpardonable sin, scripture makes it clear that our Heavenly Father can forgive all confessed sins. However, if we make sin a habit, what should we expect in return?

Proverbs 28:13 <sup>13</sup>"He who covers his transgressions will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes his sins will obtain mercy." (Amplified)

Romans 6:1-2: <sup>1</sup>"WHAT SHALL we say [to all this]? Are we to remain in sin in order that God's Grace (favor and mercy) may multiply and overflow? <sup>2</sup>Certainly not! How can we who died to sin live in it any longer?" (Amplified)

As believers or men and women of "faith," are we obeying ALL of the Lord's Commandments or a select few? Do we deliberately reject some Commandments so we can satisfy our carnally selfish desires or the Devil's agenda?

John 14:15 & 21 and 23:15 <sup>15</sup>"If you love Me, you will obey what I command. <sup>21</sup>Whoever has My commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves Me. He who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I too will love him and show Myself to him. <sup>15</sup>Jesus replied, "If anyone loves Me, he will obey My teaching. My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him."

James 2:10-11: <sup>10</sup>"For whosoever keeps the Law [as a] whole but stumbles and offends in one [single instance] has become guilty of [breaking] all of it. <sup>11</sup>For He Who said, You shall not commit adultery, also said, You shall not kill. If you do not commit adultery but do kill, you have become guilty of transgressing the [whole] Law." (Amplified)

Do Christians qualify to go to Heaven if they hold a strong view about one part of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, but deliberately disobey any of the others,

including the seven sins God hates? Should Christians reflect on the eternal consequences of their daily fruits of the flesh?

Proverbs 6: 16-19: “<sup>16</sup>These six things the Lord hates, indeed, seven are an abomination to Him: <sup>17</sup>A proud look [the spirit that makes one overestimate himself and underestimate others], a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, <sup>18</sup>A heart that manufactures wicked thoughts and plans, feet that are swift in running to evil, <sup>19</sup>A false witness who breathes out lies [even under oath], and he who sows discord among his brethren.” (Amplified Bible)

Do we understand the strong warning the Lord declared in Matthew 7:21-23?

“Not every who says to Me, Lord, Lord, will enter the Kingdom of Heaven, but he who does the Will of My Father Who is in Heaven. Many will say to Me on that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, and driven out demons in Your name, and done many mighty works in Your name? And then I will say to them openly (publicly), I never knew you; depart from Me, you who act wickedly – disregarding My commands.” (Amplified Bible)

Deuteronomy 6: 5: “<sup>5</sup>You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.” (Amplified Bible)

Such absolute rejection by the Lord Jesus Christ calls us to examine our hearts and obediently adjust how we worship our Almighty Father. We need the Holy Spirit's Power to do God's Will, but we must first surrender our will completely to the Lord.

2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 13: 4-5 “<sup>4</sup>Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you are disqualified.” (Amplified Bible)

Now let us consider the Lord's shocking statement in Matthew 7:21-23. To whom was the Lord Jesus Christ referring? Why would these people not enter into the Kingdom of Heaven? Why would the Lord Jesus Christ turn them away? In spite of their spiritual successes, why did the Lord reject them? Was He talking about unbelievers?

NO! The Lord was not talking about unbelievers; His statement was directed at CHRISTIANS! YES! Our Savior was referring to Christians from denominational churches worldwide. Yes, even Christians in our churches today.

Based upon the Lord's serious warnings over 2000 years ago, many unreal Christians will find themselves in hell. Will you be one of them? You may categorically reject such an assertion, but the evidence from your daily life will determine whether you are a wheat: obedient to God's Will in John 14: 15, or a

chaff: living in sin and disobedient to God in Psalm 1:4-6, and preparing yourself for eternal torment in hell.

**PSALM 1:4-6:** <sup>4</sup>Not so the wicked [those disobedient and living without God are not so]. But they are like the chaff [worthless, dead, without substance] which the wind drives away. <sup>5</sup>Therefore the wicked [those disobedient and living without God] shall not stand [justified] in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous [those who are upright and in right standing with God]. <sup>6</sup>For the Lord knows and is fully acquainted with the way of the righteous, but the way of the ungodly [those living outside God's will] shall perish (end in ruin and come to nought)." (Amplified Bible)

What obedient steps are you taking to ensure that you do not end up in hell? The evidence of your seriousness as a true Christian going to Heaven will be in the Godly fruits that you bear. Otherwise, you are a fake going to hell!

While these people in Matthew 7:21-23, and in our present world performed activities as Christians, they may not have fully surrendered their life to the commandments of Christ, or they were not fully obedient to God's Words. They may have preached from the Holy Bible; they may have healed the sick; they may have been generous to the poor and helped many unbelievers to become Christians; they may have been born in the church; they may have religiously attended church services all their life, but like Lot's wife, their hearts were not fully devoted to serving and obeying God's Commandments.

2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 17:33 says they worshiped the LORD, but they also served their own gods. Today, the gods of people are stealing, lying, rebellion, immorality, hatred, resentment, jealousy, dissensions, selfishness, smoking, drunkenness, sports events, entertainment, etc. Even some type of work we do, or the way we go about our work could be sinful.

The Lord Jesus Christ warned that they were not real Christians; they were hypocrites, and performed their Christian duties to please themselves or gain worldly recognition.

It is a fact that as sinners, we were once under the control of the devil because of the sin of our first father Adam in the Garden of Eden, but the Lord Jesus redeemed us. With His Marvelous and Amazing Grace, Christ offered His Blood at Calvary, and offered us "salvation" after we became Christians.

The Holy Scripture confirms the fact that God uses His Providential Grace to save sinful people without follow-up responsibilities. In the case of the second thief on the cross, who had encouraging words to say to the Lord, he received salvation to Paradise by just pleading with the Son of God in Luke 23:40-43.

Similarly, it is very true that God requires all Christians to obey Him, and live a new death of the self-life daily in Christ, carrying the Cross. The Bible confirms that our Almighty God sends sinful people to hell who refuse to offer little things such as kindness and mercy to those who need it.

Some examples of required Christian responsibilities (or bearing good fruits) are the true account of the rich man and Lazarus in Luke 16:22-31, and the rich fool in Luke 12:16-21. The rich man enjoyed the pleasures in the world, but later, regrettably, found himself in torment with no possibility of end.

Have we ever wondered why the rich man ended up in hell of everlasting torment? The answer is out of pride, he refused to show mercy to Lazarus; even if he was unable to do it himself, he closed his heart by not sending someone else to go and wash Lazarus' sores or bring Lazarus into one of his guest rooms to care for him.

Luke 12:16-21: "Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. <sup>17</sup>And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?' <sup>18</sup>So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. <sup>19</sup>And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.'" <sup>20</sup>But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?' <sup>21</sup>"So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." (NKJV)

Clearly, both rich men refused to share in their abundance. With the abundance that God has blessed us, are we sharing with the poor or needy? Let us not forget the results of selfishness, which led these two rich men to hell.

Let us compare Matthew 25:31-46 and ask the Lord to wake us all up to our Christian responsibilities so we invest in the poor and needy around us, and those in other countries. One of the ways we can be rich toward God is by sharing what God has blessed us.

The Lord's Parable of the goat and sheep is another great example of required responsibility for each true Christian. If we fail in this area, the Lord will turn us away in His Glory.

With the rich blessings of Salvation and the Holy Spirit's enlightenment that God has given to us:

1. Are we reaching out to non-Christians to share the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ in our daily dealings with the people around us?
2. Are we walking in the Spirit?
3. Are we sharing our food and money with the hungry and needy?

4. Are we turning our eyes away from those with material needs or encouragement in their life?
5. Are we happy when people visit with us?
6. Are we visiting the sick and oppressed at the hospital, prison and home?

Matthew 25:31-46: <sup>31</sup>When the Son of Man comes in His glory (His majesty and splendor), and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. <sup>32</sup>All nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them [the people] from one another as a shepherd separates his sheep from the goats; <sup>33</sup>And He will cause the sheep to stand at His right hand, but the goats at His left. <sup>34</sup>Then the King will say to those at His right hand, Come, you blessed of My Father [you favored of God and appointed to eternal salvation], inherit (receive as your own) the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

<sup>35</sup>For I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you brought Me together with yourselves and welcomed and entertained and lodged Me, <sup>36</sup>I was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and you visited Me with help and ministering care, I was in prison and you came to see Me. <sup>37</sup>Then the just and upright will answer Him, Lord, when did we see You hungry and gave You food, or thirsty and gave You something to drink?"

<sup>38</sup>And when did we see You a stranger and welcomed and entertained You, or naked and clothed You? <sup>39</sup>And when did we see You sick or in prison and came to visit You? <sup>40</sup>And the King will reply to them, Truly I tell you, in so far as you did it for one of the least in the estimation of men] of these My brethren, you did it for Me. <sup>41</sup>Then He will say to those at His left hand, Begone from Me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels!"

<sup>42</sup>For I was hungry and you gave Me no food, I was thirsty and you gave Me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup>I was a stranger and you did not welcome Me and entertain Me, I was naked and you did not clothe Me, I was sick and in prison and you did not visit Me with help and ministering care. <sup>44</sup>Then they also [in their turn] will answer, Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?"

<sup>45</sup>And He will reply to them, Solemnly I declare to you, in so far as you failed to do it for the least [in the estimation of men] of these, you failed to do it for Me. <sup>46</sup>Then they will go away into eternal punishment, but those who are just and upright and in right standing with God into eternal life." (Amplified)

Who are the goats the Lord Jesus Christ will send to eternal punishment? They are Christians who were merciless, selfish and unkind toward other people.

Today, many of us are in a position to pay the school fees of a member's child, or help a brother or sister with their finances, house rent or in a struggling business. We could offer our resources and abundance to the church at home and abroad or simply pray for the success of God's Church, pastor, leader and congregation, but have closed our hearts to them.

The Lord Jesus Christ warned that those who do not love and obey Him, will be rejected in Heaven. Therefore, we need to search our hearts and find out whether we are obeying all of God's Commandments or just a few. If these statements apply to each Christian, we need to ask the Holy Spirit to remove those sins that will prevent us from going to Heaven.

Hell is a real place of endless torment and pain, and the Lord made many references about hell to His followers: Matthew 5:22; 29; 30; Matthew 10:28; 18:9; 23:15; 23:33; Mark 9:43; 45; 47; Luke 12:5; 16:23; James 3:6; and 2 Peter 2:4.

The warnings from the Lord Jesus Christ call for urgent, careful consideration. Millions of people will find themselves in hell, not because they are not Christians, but because they:

1. Enjoyed God's blessings and had an abundance of wealth, but closed their hearts to the needy and poor
2. Refused to forgive a brother or sister of the wrong against them
3. Refused to reconcile to a brother or sister; refused to speak to them
4. Refused to let go of a situation that was resolved by a pastor or a conciliator
5. Refused to attend the same church because a pastor or member said something that hurt them; they became "church-hopping" Christians
6. Refused to openly confess the Lord Jesus Christ in their daily life; they led a fake Christian life
7. Attended church regularly, but practiced some of the following: lying, hatred, backbiting, stealing, cheating, divisions, quarrelling, fighting, etc.
8. Became baptized, but continued in their immoral behavior, indecent dressing, unscriptural music, detestable pictures, obscene videos, and used harsh and bad language
9. Took advantage of the weak, the poor and children to commit sin
10. Participated in wild parties, smoking and drinking alcohol
11. Practiced idolatry, astrology, magic and witchcraft
12. Refused to believe in, trust in, adhere to or obey the Lord Jesus Christ as the only Savior of the world
13. Refused the warnings in the Holy Bible, especially Ephesians, 4-31-32; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 5:3-21; Romans 1:29-32; 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 6:9-10; 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 3:-2-5; Revelation 21:8; Revelation 22:14-15; Matthew 15:18-19 and Hebrews 12:14.

On that day, the Lord Jesus will reject many who consider themselves Christians, because their attendance was not regular. Many are seasonal Christians and attend services only when there is a problem in their life or on occasions. Some people spend the Lord's Day working when they should be in fellowship with other Christians to worship God. Others rush in and out of church services to watch or play their favorite games. The devil has robbed some from understanding God's Word; the preaching they hear falls on the highway (deaf ears) because they have closed their hearts to submitting to the Will of God. Others do not have the time for God.

Matthew 13:18-21: <sup>18</sup>"Therefore hear the parable of the sower: <sup>19</sup>When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand *it*, then the wicked *one* comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside. <sup>20</sup>But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; <sup>21</sup>yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles." (NKJV)

We must be sure of this: Christians who do not commit any of the "big" sins in the Bible, but practice "little" sins will both end up in hell unless they repent.

Consequently, and in line with the Holy Scriptures, any Christian who practice any of following sins will not go to Heaven:

#### **GALATIANS 5:19-21 - AMPLIFIED BIBLE:**

<sup>19</sup>Now the doings (practices) of the flesh are clear (obvious): they are immorality, impurity, indecency, <sup>20</sup>Idolatry, sorcery, **ENMITY, STRIFE, JEALOUSY, ANGER (ILL TEMPER), SELFISHNESS, DIVISIONS (DISSENSIONS), party spirit (factions, sects with peculiar opinions, heresies),** <sup>21</sup>**ENVY**, drunkenness, carousing, and the like. I warn you beforehand, just as I did previously, that those who do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

If any of these sins in Galatians and other passages of the Bible will prevent Christians and non-Christians from going to Heaven, what actions are we taking to ensure that we do not commit jealousy, anger (ill temper), selfishness, immorality, envy, backbiting, resentment, lying, idolatry, to name a few?

Some of us invent different categories of lies in our everyday life – white lies, black lies, half lies, natural lies, etc., as a technique of deception to avoid exposing ourselves to a direct question. A lie is a lie, and it will send us to hell, if we do not repent from it.

If we really understand what God's punishment for lying, immorality, hatred and jealousy are, would we rather die than commit any one of these?

Divisions, selfishness, backbiting and resentment will also take us to hell, if we do not repent from any of them.

NEW LIVING BIBLE:

<sup>19</sup>When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, your lives will produce these evil results: sexual immorality, impure thoughts, eagerness for lustful pleasure, <sup>20</sup>idolatry, participation in demonic activities, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, divisions, the feeling that everyone is wrong except those in your own little group, <sup>21</sup>envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other kinds of sin. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.

**EPHESIANS 4:31:32 - AMPLIFIED BIBLE:**

<sup>31</sup>**Let all bitterness and indignation and wrath (passion, rage, bad temper) and resentment (anger, animosity) and quarreling (brawling, clamor, contention) and slander (evil-speaking, abusive or blasphemous language) be banished from you, with all malice (spite, ill will, or baseness of any kind).** <sup>32</sup>And become useful and helpful and kind to one another, tenderhearted (compassionate, understanding, loving-hearted), forgiving one another [readily and freely], as God in Christ forgave you.

21<sup>ST</sup> Century KJV BIBLE:

<sup>31</sup>Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice; <sup>32</sup>and be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

NEW LIFE BIBLE:

<sup>31</sup>Put out of your life all these things: bad feelings about other people, anger, temper, loud talk, bad talk which hurts other people, and bad feelings which hurt other people. <sup>32</sup>You must be kind to each other. Think of the other person. Forgive other people just as God forgave you because of Christ's death on the cross.

**EPHESIANS 5:3-7 - AMPLIFIED BIBLE:**

<sup>3</sup>But immorality (sexual vice) and all impurity [of lustful, rich, wasteful living] or greediness must not even be named among you, as is fitting and proper among saints (God's consecrated people). <sup>4</sup>Let there be no filthiness (obscenity, indecency) nor foolish and sinful (silly and corrupt) talk, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting or becoming; but instead voice your thankfulness [to God]. <sup>5</sup>For be sure of this: that no person practicing sexual vice or impurity in thought or in life, or one who is covetous [who has lustful desire for the property of others and is greedy for gain]--for he [in effect] is an idolater--has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. <sup>6</sup>Let no one delude and deceive you with empty excuses and groundless arguments [for these sins], for through these things the

wrath of God comes upon the sons of rebellion and disobedience. <sup>7</sup>So do not associate or be sharers with them.

**NEW LIVING BIBLE:**

<sup>3</sup>Let there be no sexual immorality, impurity, or greed among you. Such sins have no place among God's people. <sup>4</sup>Obscene stories, foolish talk, and coarse jokes-- these are not for you. Instead, let there be thankfulness to God. <sup>5</sup>You can be sure that no immoral, impure, or greedy person will inherit the Kingdom of Christ and of God. For a greedy person is really an idolater who worships the things of this world. <sup>6</sup>Don't be fooled by those who try to excuse these sins, for the terrible anger of God comes upon all those who disobey him. <sup>7</sup>Don't participate in the things these people do.

**21<sup>ST</sup> Century KJV BIBLE:**

<sup>3</sup>But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let them not once be named among you, as becometh saints; <sup>4</sup>neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not befitting, but rather giving of thanks. <sup>5</sup>For this ye know: that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the Kingdom of Christ and of God. <sup>6</sup>Let no man deceive you with vain words, for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. <sup>7</sup>Be ye not therefore partakers with them.

**EPHESIANS 5:8-21 – AMPLIFIED BIBLE:**

<sup>8</sup>For once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of Light [lead the lives of those native-born to the Light]. <sup>9</sup>For the fruit (the effect, the product) of the Light or the Spirit [consists] in every form of kindly goodness, uprightness of heart, and trueness of life. <sup>10</sup>And try to learn [in your experience] what is pleasing to the Lord [let your lives be constant proofs of what is most acceptable to Him]. <sup>11</sup>Take no part in and have no fellowship with the fruitless deeds and enterprises of darkness, but instead [let your lives be so in contrast as to] expose and reprove and convict them.

<sup>12</sup>For it is a shame even to speak of or mention the things that [such people] practice in secret. <sup>13</sup>But when anything is exposed and reproved by the light, it is made visible and clear; and where everything is visible and clear there is light. <sup>14</sup>Therefore He says, Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall shine (make day dawn) upon you and give you light.

<sup>14</sup>Look carefully then how you walk! Live purposefully and worthily and accurately, not as the unwise and witless, but as wise (sensible, intelligent people), <sup>16</sup>Making the very most of the time [buying up each opportunity], because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup>Therefore do not be vague and thoughtless and foolish, but understanding and firmly grasping what the will of the Lord is. <sup>18</sup>And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but ever be filled and stimulated with the [Holy] Spirit.

<sup>19</sup>Speak out to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, offering praise with voices [and instruments] and making melody with all your heart to the Lord, <sup>20</sup>At all times and for everything giving thanks in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father. <sup>21</sup>Be subject to one another out of reverence for Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).

#### **ROMANS 1:29-32 – AMPLIFIED BIBLE:**

<sup>29</sup>Until they were filled (permeated and saturated) with every kind of unrighteousness, iniquity, grasping and covetous greed, and malice. [They were] full of envy and jealousy, murder, strife (fight, quarrel, conflict), deceit and treachery, (intense) ill will and cruel ways. [They were] secret backbiters (speak spitefully) and gossipers, <sup>30</sup>Slanderers, hateful to and hating God, full of insolence, arrogance, [and] boasting; inventors of new forms of evil, (unmerciful) disobedient and undutiful to parents.

<sup>31</sup>[They were] without understanding, conscienceless and faithless, heartless and loveless [and] merciless. <sup>32</sup>Though they are fully aware of God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve to die, they not only do them themselves but approve and applaud others who practice them.

#### **NEW LIFE BIBLE:**

<sup>29</sup>They are full of everything that is sinful and want things that belong to others. They hate people and are jealous. They kill other people. They fight and lie. They do not like other people and talk against them. <sup>30</sup>They talk about people, and they hate God. They are filled with pride and tell of all the good they do. They think of new ways to sin. They do not obey their parents.

<sup>31</sup>They are not able to understand. They do not do what they say they will do. They have no love and no loving-pity. <sup>32</sup>They know God has said that all who do such things should die. But they keep on doing these things and are happy when others do them also.

#### **21<sup>st</sup> Century KJV BIBLE:**

<sup>29</sup>being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness, full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malignity. They are whisperers. <sup>30</sup>backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,

<sup>31</sup>without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affections, implacable, unmerciful <sup>32</sup>And knowing the judgment of God, that those who commit such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but have pleasure in those who do them.

### **1<sup>ST</sup> CORINTHIANS 6:9-10 – NEW LIFE BIBLE:**

<sup>9</sup>Do you not know that sinful men will have no place in the holy nation of God? Do not be fooled. A person who does sex sins, or who worships false gods, or who is not faithful in marriage, or men who act like women, or people who do sex sins with their own sex, will have no place in the holy nation of God. <sup>10</sup>Also those who steal, or those who always want to get more of everything, or who get drunk, or who say bad things about others, or take things that are not theirs, will have no place in the holy nation of God."

### **AMPLIFIED BIBLE:**

<sup>9</sup>Do you not know that the unrighteous and the wrongdoers will not inherit or have any share in the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived (misled): neither the impure and immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor those who participate in homosexuality, <sup>10</sup>Nor cheats (swindlers and thieves), nor greedy graspers, nor drunkards, nor foulmouthed revilers and slanderers, nor extortioners and robbers will inherit or have any share in the kingdom of God.

### **COLOSSIANS 3:1-10 – AMPLIFIED BIBLE:**

<sup>1</sup>IF THEN you have been raised with Christ [to a new life, thus sharing His resurrection from the dead], aim at and seek the [rich, eternal treasures] that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>And set your minds and keep them set on what is above (the higher things), not on the things that are on the earth. <sup>3</sup>For [as far as this world is concerned] you have died, and your [new, real] life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ, Who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in [the splendor of His] glory.

<sup>5</sup>So kill (deaden, deprive of power) the evil desire lurking in your members [those animal impulses and all that is earthly in you that is employed in sin]: sexual vice, impurity, sensual appetites, unholy desires, and all greed and covetousness, for that is idolatry (the deifying of self and other created things instead of God). <sup>6</sup>It is on account of these [very sins] that the [holy] anger of God is ever coming upon the sons of disobedience (those who are obstinately opposed to the divine will), <sup>7</sup>Among whom you also once walked, when you were living in and addicted to [such practices].

<sup>8</sup>But now put away and rid yourselves [completely] of all these things: **ANGER, RAGE, BAD FEELING TOWARD OTHERS, CURSES and SLANDER, and FOULMOUTHED ABUSE and SHAMEFUL UTTERANCE FROM YOUR LIPS!** <sup>9</sup>**Do not lie to one another, for you have stripped off the old (unregenerate) self with its evil practices,** <sup>10</sup>And have clothed yourselves with the new [spiritual self], which is [ever in the process of being] renewed and remolded into [fuller and more perfect knowledge upon] knowledge after the image (the likeness) of Him Who created it.

**REVELATION 21:8 – AMPLIFIED BIBLE:**

<sup>8</sup>But as for the cowards and the ignoble and the contemptible and the cravenly lacking in courage and the cowardly submissive, and as for the unbelieving and faithless, and as for the depraved and defiled with abominations, and as for murderers and the lewd and adulterous and the practicers of magic arts and the idolaters (those who give supreme devotion to anyone or anything other than God) and all liars (those who knowingly convey untruth by word or deed)--[all of these shall have] their part in the lake that blazes with fire and brimstone. This is the second death

**21<sup>st</sup> Century KJV BIBLE:**

<sup>8</sup>But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.

**MATTHEW 15:18-19 – AMPLIFIED BIBLE:**

<sup>18</sup>But whatever comes out of the mouth comes from the heart, and this is what makes a man unclean and defiles [him]. <sup>19</sup>For out of the heart come evil thoughts (reasonings and disputings and designs) such as murder, adultery, sexual vice, theft, false witnessing, slander, and irreverent speech.

**HEBREWS 12:14 – AMPLIFIED BIBLE:**

<sup>14</sup>Strive to live in peace with everybody and pursue that consecration and holiness without which no one will [ever] see the Lord.

**REVELATION 22:14-15 – 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY KJV BIBLE:**

<sup>14</sup>Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the Tree of Life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. <sup>15</sup>For outside are dogs and sorcerers, and whoremongers and murderers and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

**ROMANS 13:11-14 – AMPLIFIED BIBLE:**

<sup>11</sup>Besides this you know what [a critical] hour this is, how it is high time now for you to wake up out of your sleep (rouse to reality). For salvation (final deliverance) is nearer to us now than when we first believed (adhered to, trusted in, and relied on Christ, the Messiah). <sup>12</sup>The night is far gone and the day is almost here. Let us then drop (fling away) the works and deeds of darkness and put on the [full] armor of light. <sup>13</sup>Let us live and conduct ourselves honorably and becomingly as in the [open light of] day, not in reveling (carousing) and drunkenness, not in immorality and debauchery (sensuality and licentiousness), not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>But clothe yourself with the Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah), and make no provision for [indulging] the flesh [put a stop to thinking about the evil cravings of your physical nature] to [gratify its] desires (lusts).

## **FINAL WARNING TO CHRISTIANS**

We are aware of Christians who stubbornly refuse to resolve differences with others, and nurse grudges for decades, sometimes to their graves. Others live a life of open rebellion and ignore the pleadings of Godly people and family members.

In addition, there are couples who claim that they have resolved quarrels in public, but still sleep in separate rooms at home. Instead of "beating about the bush" when resolving differences of rebellious people, we should inform them that when they reject mediation plans, they are living in sin, and if they do not repent, will find themselves in hell.

A Christian who is arrogant and rebellious is giving their soul to the devil. We should prayerfully caution Christians who are deliberately arrogant and rebellious by reading specific Bible verses to them that those who engage in such sins, and ignore repeated warnings are driving themselves to the lake of fire, unless they repent of those sins.

Similarly, we know of incidents where Sister B knows that Sister A has had a fight and does not talk with Sister C. Sister B is on good terms with both Sisters A and C. However, Sister B does not make any attempts to use her Godly influence to mend the differences between the quarreling Sister. Should real Christians remain indifferent and allow other Christians to quarrel, fight, lie, steal, cheat, get drunk, smoke and lead immoral (sex sins) because Sisters A and C are not members of her family? Some would argue: "leave them alone." Is that Godly?

We must inform other Christians that as God's watch men and women, we have a duty to remind one another that when we persist in anger, sex sin, idolatry, backbiting, lying, disobedience, or any other sin, we will end up in hell, based upon the warnings in the Bible.

Ezekiel 3: 16-19 <sup>16</sup>Now it came to pass at the end of seven days that the word of the LORD came to me, saying, <sup>17</sup>"Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore hear a word from My mouth, and give them warning from Me: <sup>18</sup>When I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life, that same wicked *man* shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand. <sup>19</sup>Yet, if you warn the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul."

If disobedience to God's Words will prevent us from going to Heaven, should we not conduct a self-examination of our hearts, and ask the Holy Spirit to cleanse and change our sinful habits through the Precious Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ?

## HOPE FOR THE REPENTANT

When Satan controls people, it is difficult for them to naturally stop sinning, but with the help of the Holy Spirit a change can happen. Here are some examples of what happened to Bible characters who lived in sin:

Rahab in Joshua 6:25: "And Joshua spared Rahab the harlot, her father's household, and all that she had. So she dwells in Israel to this day, because she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho."

The repentance and obedience of Rahab earned her the blessings of being an ancestor to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 1:5: "Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse."

Hebrews 11:31: "By faith the harlot Rahab did not perish with those who did not believe, when she had received the spies with peace."

Balaam and Ruth were both from Moab, but they treated the opportunity for salvation differently. Let us compare their actions:

Numbers 31:8,15,16: "They killed the kings of Midian with *the rest of* those who were killed—Evi, Rekem, Zur, Hur, and Reba, the five kings of Midian. Balaam the son of Beor they also killed with the sword. <sup>15</sup>And Moses said to them: "Have you kept all the women alive? <sup>16</sup>Look, these *women* caused the children of Israel, through the counsel of Balaam, to trespass against the LORD in the incident of Peor, and there was a plague among the congregation of the LORD."

Revelation 2:14: "But I have a few things against you, because you have there those who hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit sexual immorality."

Ruth 1:16-17: "But Ruth said: "Entreat me not to leave you, *Or to* turn back from following after you; For wherever you go, I will go; And wherever you lodge, I will lodge; Your people *shall be* my people, And your God, my God. <sup>17</sup>Where you die, I will die, And there will I be buried. The LORD do so to me, and more also, If *anything but* death parts you and me." Moreover, compare Ruth 4:1-18.

Romans 12:1-2 "I APPEAL to you therefore, brethren, and beg of you in view of [all] the mercies of God, to make a decisive dedication of your bodies [presenting all your members and faculties] as a living sacrifice, holy (devoted, consecrated) and well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable (rational, intelligent) service and spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not be conformed to this world (this age), [fashioned

after and adapted to its external, superficial customs], but be transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal of your mind [by its new ideals and its new attitude], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God, even the thing which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His sight for you]." (Amplified Bible)

Hebrews: 12:1-2 "THEREFORE THEN, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses [who have borne testimony to the Truth], let us strip off and throw aside every encumbrance (unnecessary weight) and that sin which so readily (deftly and cleverly) clings to and entangles us, and let us run with patient endurance and steady and active persistence the appointed course of the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup>Looking away [from all that will distract] to Jesus, Who is the Leader and the Source of our faith [giving the first incentive for our belief] and is also its Finisher [bringing it to maturity and perfection]. He, for the joy [of obtaining the prize] that was set before Him, endured the cross, despising and ignoring the shame, and is now seated at the right hand of the throne of God." (Amplified Bible)

Proverbs 28:13 "<sup>13</sup>He who covers his transgressions will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes his sins will obtain mercy." (Amplified Bible)

In light of the different warnings the Bible has given us, each of us can humbly go before our Heavenly Father for forgiveness, and admit the specific sin(s) that we have been practicing and receive deliverance unto salvation.

We can even pray the sinner's prayer. An example of which is: "Dear Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am a sinner because I lie and resent my brother in my daily life. I know that these sins will take me to the lake of fire. Please, Lord, I ask for forgiveness. I want to surrender my life to you. Enable me to stop lying and forgive my brother, and I ask for the Holy Spirit's power to lead a new life in you. Thank you, Lord, I pray this in your Holy Name. Amen."

Here is [room for] discernment [a call for the wisdom of interpretation]. Let anyone who has intelligence (penetration and insight enough) prepare their life for the Second Return of the Lord Jesus Christ and the Judgment Day!

Revelation 14:12: "Here [comes in a call for] the steadfastness of the saints [the patience, the endurance of the people of God], those who [habitually] keep God's commandments and [their] faith in Jesus will gain Eternal Life."

May we humble our hearts to God, and allow these warnings to keep us steadfast in God's Will until the Second Advent of our Lord and Savior Jesus. Proverbs 19:23: "The fear of the Lord leads to life, and he who has it will abide in satisfaction; He will not be visited with evil." (NKJV)

Let us worship our Heavenly Father reverently in spirit and in truth. John 4:23-24: "A time will come, however, indeed it is already here, when the true (genuine)

worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth (reality); for the Father is seeking just such people as these as His worshipers. <sup>24</sup>God is a Spirit (a spiritual Being) and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth (reality)." (Amplified Bible)

If we claim to have repented from the sins that will take us to hell, where is the evidence in our daily lives? Deuteronomy 30:19: "I call heaven and earth to speak against you today. I have put in front of you **life** and death, the good and the curse. So **choose life** so you and your children after you may live." (New Life Bible). Where would you like to spend Eternity? In hell or in Heaven?

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We are always glad to give Scriptural advice and counsel to those who desire to write us about their problems, and to remember their requests for prayer in our services.

In addition, we publish sermons on other subjects, which take up in detail teaching on how to deal with God successfully and be delivered out of all our troubles. We will gladly send them to those who desire them for their own use or for others.

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**Sins That will Prevent Christians and Non-Christians from Heaven**