



Beyond the Sermon

A Sermon Application Guide

Title: Heaven's Promise, Hell's Reality

This guide offers a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print this guide to study on your own or use it in a group and experience transformation together.

Message Theme

What About Hell?

Prayer Focus

Father, I could never thank You enough for sending Your only Son to die for my sins. I deserved death, but Your gracious love freed me. I'm forever grateful for Your mercy and grace. I'm sorry for sinning against You and ask for Your forgiveness. Thank You for being a perfect Father. Amen.

Key Truths

We can learn much about Heaven and Hell through the New Testament. Every person will spend eternity somewhere, and we don't get to decide where we're going after we die; by then, our fate is sealed. We must make the right decision *now*. Our Heavenly Father is a God of absolute truths, not suggestions. His Word is clear that we only have one life and won't get to return to try to fix our mistakes.

But wait, there's good news! According to Jesus, death isn't the end. We're three-part beings—a *spirit* with a *soul* in a *body*. While our bodies will eventually die, our souls will live on forever. The Gospel brings the good news that nobody needs to go to Hell, as God has provided a way out. The wages of sin is death, but Jesus came and paid the price for us so that we may walk free. We cannot earn salvation through good works; it's a gift freely given. Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, and we must go through Him to reach the Father.

Thirty years after Jesus' resurrection, people were already wandering away from the truth. So much so that in Jude 1:3, Christians were told to "contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to God's holy people." There's a natural tendency to drift away from truth, but we need to fight the good fight and pursue what's right. It's important to remember that it's not moral people who go to Heaven but those who have been *forgiven*. Similarly, it's not immoral people who go to Hell, but those who remain *unforgiven*.

Practical Application

We can only receive what God did for us through Christ while we're alive. Jesus came in a flesh and blood body to pay for our sins, and we can only receive salvation while we're in a flesh and blood body. Once we

pass away, we can't negotiate with God or change our eternal destination.

It's insufficient to know of God or believe He exists. We have to understand that Jesus died on the cross for our sins and rose from the grave. He defeated the enemy and is coming again. Do you believe God sent Jesus for you?

Reference Verses

- Hebrews 6:1-2, 9:27, 2:12-16, 10:11
- Luke 16:19-23
- 1 Thessalonians 5:23, 1:10
- Jude 1:3
- Revelation 20:11-15
- Matthew 25:41 & 46, 10:28,
- John 3:16, 14:6, 1:12
- Ecclesiastes 11:3
- Psalm 49:6-9
- Romans 3:20
- 2 Samuel 14:14
- Acts 4:12
- Mark 9:43-48, 8:36-38

Declarations

My old self was crucified with Him so that I no longer have to be a slave of sin. (Romans 6:6)
I'm a child of God because I believe in His name. (John 1:12)

I know God is kind and forgiving. He abounds in love. (Psalm 86:5)

When I approach God and ask for forgiveness, I'm confident He'll forgive me and throw my sins as far as the East is from the West.

What's Next?

This message confronts us with a life-or-death matter. How is it impacting your daily priorities and the way you live? We can only receive what God did for us through Christ while we're alive. Here are some steps to finding your place in Heaven...

- **Most Importantly Accept Jesus as Savior:** Put your full faith in Jesus' death and resurrection as the payment for your sins. Ask Him to be your Lord and Savior - Pastor will pray with you at the end to receive Jesus as your savior, keep watching or click on the Say Yes To Jesus Chapter Marker Now.
- **Then Confess and Repent:** Honestly admit your sins before God. Acknowledge you cannot save yourself and turn away from those sins.
- **Talk with God:** If you haven't prayed before, start a simple, honest conversation with God.
- **Read the Bible:** Begin with the Gospel of John or the other Gospels to learn more about Jesus and his message.

- **Seek Christian Community:** Find a Bible-believing church where you can grow in your faith and connect with others.

Now it's time to write down anything the Lord has spoken to you. Praise Him, thank Him, and ask the Holy Spirit to help you walk this out.

Scripture References

Heaven's Promises, Hell's Reality

Hebrews 6:1-2 NKJV Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

Luke 16:19-22 NKJV "There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. So it was that the beggar died...

Luke 16:22 NKJV So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom.

Luke 16:22-26 NKJV The rich man also died and was buried. And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. "Then he cried and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented. And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.'

Hebrews 9:27 NKJV And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment...

1 Thessalonians 5:23 NKJV Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless...

John 4:24 NKJV God is Spirit...

Hebrews 1:7 NKJV "Who makes His angels spirits..."

Hebrews 10:31 NKJV It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Jude 3 NKJV ...I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

Revelation 20:11-15 NKJV Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before [a]God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

Matthew 25:46 NKJV "And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Matthew 25:41 NKJV ... into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels...

1 Thessalonians 5:23 NKJV Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 2:14-16 NKJV 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, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. For indeed He does not give aid to angels...

Ecclesiastes 11:3 NKJV And if a tree falls to the south or the north, In the place where the tree falls, there it shall lie.

Psalms 49:6-9 NJB They trust in their wealth, and boast of the profusion of their riches. But no one can ever redeem himself or pay his own ransom for God, the price for Himself is too high: it can never be that we will live on forever and avoid the sight of the abyss.

Romans 3:20 NKJV Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

2 Samuel 14:14 NKJV For we will surely die and become like water spilled on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again. Yet God does not take away a life; but He devises means, so that His banished ones are not expelled from Him.

John 14:6 NKJV Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

John 3:16 NKJV...whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

John 1:12 NKJV But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God...

Acts 4:12 NKJV "...Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

1 Thessalonians 1:10 NKJV ...and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

Matthew 10:28 NKJV And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Matthew 13:39-43 NKJV ...and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

Mark 9:43-44 NKJV If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed, rather than having two hands, to go to [b]hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched—where 'Their worm does not die And the fire is not quenched.'

Mark 8:36 NKJV For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?

Hebrews 10:14-15 MSG It was a perfect sacrifice by a perfect person to perfect some very imperfect people. By that single offering, he did everything that needed to be done for everyone who takes part in the purifying process.

Matthew 27:50-53 NKJV And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit. Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split, and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many.