## "Surprised to be in Hell"

- I. Life on earth is a temporary assignment
  - A. While on earth we must choose our eternal home
  - B. God desires to give us <u>eternal life in heaven</u>

"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." (2 Peter 3:9)

C. God offers us great freedom to reject eternal life

"Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him." (John 3:36)

- II. When we die we go to our eternal home
  - A. Once we die our eternal home is forever fixed
  - B. Those who believe in Jesus go to heaven

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you." (John 14:1-2)

C. Those who reject Jesus go to hell

"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels." (Matthew 25:41)

- III. What is the comparison between heaven and hell
  - A. Hell is a place of torment instead of comfort
  - B. Hell is a place of need instead of fulfillment
  - C. Hell is a place of <u>loneliness</u> instead of <u>relationship</u>
  - D. Hell is a place of <u>regret</u> instead of <u>peace</u>
  - E. Hell is a place of <u>agony</u> instead of joy
  - F. Hell is a place of <u>death</u> instead of <u>life</u>

"He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life." (I John 5:12)

- IV. God has provided the way for us to escape hell
  - A. God has revealed himself through his Word

"They made their hearts as hard as flint and would not listen to the law or to the words that the Lord Almighty had sent by his Spirit through the earlier prophets. So the Lord Almighty was very angry." (Zechariah 7:12)

B. God has revealed himself through his Son

"The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word." (Hebrews 1:3)

C. God has given us enough evidence to believe

"Even after Jesus had done all these miraculous signs in their presence, they still would not believe in him." (John 12:37)

"But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath against yourself for the day of God's wrath, when God's righteous judgment will be revealed." (Romans 2:5)

- 1. We must <u>repent of our sin</u>
- 2. We must place our <u>faith in Jesus</u>