Redeemed To Evangelize

Intro: Abraham asked an important question in the long ago when he said, “Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?” (Gen. 18:25 “That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?”) God will always do right because He is Righteous or Just.

I. **God Is Just Or Righteous.**
   A. **Emphasized**
      1. Psa. 145:17 “The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.”
      2. 1 John 3:7 “Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.”
   B. **To be righteous He must punish sin.**
      1. 2 The. 1:6 “Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you;”
      2. Rom. 11:22 “Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off.”

II. **He Punishes Sin.**
   A. **Examples:**
      1. Adam and Eve cast out of the garden; Gen. 3.
      2. Cain had a mark placed upon him, and he became a vagabond; Gen. 4.
      3. The old world destroyed in a flood; Gen. 6.
      4. Sodom and Gomorrah destroyed; Gen. 18-19.
      5. Egypt with the plagues; Exo. 1-12.
      6. Israel taken into Assyrian captivity; Judah taken into Babylonian captivity.
      7. Ananias and Sapphira died before God; Acts 5.
   B. **He will punish those who disobey today:**
      1. Heb. 2:1-3 “Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. 2For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward; 3How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;”
      2. Heb. 10:28, 31 “He that despised Moses’ law died without mercy under two or three witnesses:...31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”
      3. Heb. 12:25 “See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven:”

III. **Final Punishment Will Be An Eternal Hell.**
   A. **It is a punishment.**
      1. Mat. 25:46 “And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.”
      2. Heb. 10:29 “Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?”
      3. 2 The. 1:9 “Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;”
B. Described:

1. A place of destruction.
   a. 2 Th. 1:9 “Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;”
   b. The application in the scriptures of this word is not annihilation, but to come to ruin or devastation.

2. A place of torment.
   a. intense, agonizing pain.
      (1) Mat. 13:41-42 “The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; 42And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.”
      (2) Luke 16:23-24 “And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. 24And 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.”
   b. Fire.
      (1) Rev. 14:10 “The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:”
      (2) Rev. 21:8 “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.”
      (3) That is unquenchable; Mark 9:43-48 “And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: 44Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. 45And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: 46Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. 47And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire: 48Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.”
   c. A sorer punishment than death without mercy; Heb. 10:28-29 “He that despised Moses’ law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: 29Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?”
   d. A place of no rest; Rev. 14:11 “And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.”

3. A place of separation from God.
   a. They depart from God’s presence.
      (1) Mat. 25:41 “Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:”
      (2) 2 Th. 1:9 “Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;”
   b. The wages of sin is death.
      (1) Rom. 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”
      (2) Death is separation; Jam. 2:26 “For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.”
c. Since God is light, they are separated from light.
   (1) 1 John 1:5 “This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare
        unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.”
   (2) Jude 13 “Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering
        stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.”

d. God is love
   (1) 1 John 4:8 “He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.”
   (2) They are separated from love; there is no love in hell.

e. God is the source of all good.
   (1) Jam. 1:17 “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh
        down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of
        turning.”
   (2) They are separated from good; there is nothing good in hell.

4. The punishment is eternal in nature.
   a. Mat. 25:46 “And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into
        life eternal.”
      (1) Everlasting and eternal are the same Greek word αἰώνιον (aionion).
      (2) However long the life is, that is how long the punishment is.
   b. 2 The. 1:9 “Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the
        Lord, and from the glory of his power;”
   c. Rev. 14:11 “And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they
        have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth
        the mark of his name.”
   d. This is the saddest of the portrayals of hell, there will be no end to the
        vengeance of God, the torment and punishment they will receive.

IV. WE PERSUADE MEN

A. 2 Cor. 5:10-11 “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. 11Knowing therefore
the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made
manifest in your consciences.”

B. We
   1. Not supernatural beings.
      a. Angels will not do the work for us.
      b. The Holy Spirit does not do it for us.
      c. Nor will the Father or Son do this work.
   2. Not non-Christians, they would not teach saving Truth.
   3. Christians must do this work; God left the spread of the gospel into our hands.
      a. 1 Cor. 1:21 “For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God,
         it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.”
      b. Rom. 10:14-17 “How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and
         how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear
         without a preacher? 15And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How
         beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of
         good things! 16But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath
         believed our report? 17So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

C. Persuade.
   1. We cannot force people to accept the truth, only persuade.
   2. Men are free moral agents, thus having the power of choice.
3. Rom. 12:1 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.”

D. Men.

1. We don’t try to persuade God.
   a. He is supreme
   b. We must persuade those who are not Christians to become reconciled to God.

2. Acts 26:28 “Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.”

3. 2 Cor. 5:18-21 “And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; 19To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. 20Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ’s stead, be ye reconciled to God. 21For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.”

Conclusion: Illustration: There is a child in road and we see car going to hit the child, would we do nothing (turn our backs to it) or try with all our being to save the child from being hit (even to the endangering of ourselves)? Do we have the same desire for man’s salvation that Paul had for the Jew’s salvation? Rom. 9:3 “For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh.” Rom. 10:1 “Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.”