

from the desk of
Danny D. Miller



Worse Than Going to Hell

Is there anything that can be imagine that would be worse than going to hell? How *could* anything be worse than going to hell? And consider this, is there something better than going to heaven? Now this may sound like double talk until we understand a passage found in Jeremiah 8:20 “*Harvest is past, summer is ended, and we are not saved.*” Could this be the sad cry of untold millions who have not heard the Good News about a Savior that died for them? And what of us, who have the capacity to take the Gospel to others – will our hearts cry out with this same statement tearfully spoken by Jeremiah? Jesus said, “*The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field*” (Matthew 9:37). Let us not just read these words in passing. Let them sink into our hearts and conscience with the consuming desire to be the very worker, the very individual that Jesus is sending to lead souls to Him!

Collectively and individually, the church must reach and teach people *daily*. The Bible plainly teaches that, “*He that win souls, is wise*” (Proverbs 11:30). This implies that we are to be *personal workers* for Jesus. As co-workers and personal workers with the Lord, we need to pray *daily* that doors of opportunity will be opened. “*Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving; praying at the same time, that God may open up to us a door for the word . . .*” (Colossians 4:2-3). Notice Paul said we are to pray and then be ALERT to the opportunities that God will bless us with!

The gospel is a message of grace for a world in disgrace (Ephesians 2:8-9). Because of this fact, **every** Christian should be involved in some way teaching or preaching the gospel. This can be done **directly** by preaching the gospel or by **supporting** the men who are taking a message of hope to others! The responsibility of taking the gospel to others, falls on the shoulders of every individual member and churches thought out the world. We are the means (earthen vessels – 2 Corinthians 4:7) left to carry the gospel to others. Brother Roy Deaver expressed it this way:

When the Lord gave the commission, he placed a tremendous responsibility upon the disciples, and upon the church, and upon every Christian. Think what is involved in the phrase, ‘To every creature.’ If the Lord had said, ‘Preach the gospel in every continent’ – this would have been a task. But the Lord said far more. If the Lord had said, ‘Preach the gospel in every nation,’ this would have been a greater task. But, the Lord said far more. If the Lord had said, ‘Preach the gospel in every city,’ the task would have been far greater. But the Lord said more. If the Lord had said, ‘Preach the gospel in every house,’ the burden would have been tremendous, but the Lord said even more. ‘The gospel of Christ must be preached to *every person in every house on every street, lane, road and trail, of every city, village, and district, of every nation of the whole world.* May God help us to come to a greater appreciation of the *scope* of the *scope* of the GREAT COMMISSION’ (Roy Deaver, in *Spiritual Sword*, Vol. 1, No. 1, Jan. 1958).

Soul-winning is a command. It is not a mere suggestion for us to consider; it is a command from the very lips of our savior! Soul-winning must be the number one priority of every church and each member should be **actively involved** in winning souls! Souls will not flow into the church **unless we GO!** Personal work is not a highly specialized method or technique which only a few preachers are qualified to do. A **PERSONAL WORKER** is a **PERSON** who will **WORK** by sharing the gospel of Christ with others! Simply stated: **PERSONAL** means **Y-O-U**, and **WORK** means **JUST DO IT!**

The church must restore apostolic personal evangelism back into the lives of every member. Luke describes their zeal for the lost when he said, “And daily in the temple, and every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ” (Acts 5:42). Later Paul would write, “You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and from house to house” (Acts 20:20). If we would seek to teach and preach the gospel with the same zeal and fervor we would then get back to the same apostolic results when “the Lord added to the church daily” (Acts 2:47). Until we do that, we cannot say we have completely restored New Testament Christianity as practiced in the first century. If we do not capture this spirit of caring for precious souls, then many souls will spend eternity in hell! What is worse than going to hell? Decide today and then act upon that decision!

- I want to be a soul winner for Jesus every day, He does so much for me; I want to aid the lost sinner to leave his erring way, And be from bondage free.
- I want to be a soul winner and bring the lost to Christ, that they His grace they may know; I want to live for Christ ever, and do His blessed will because He loves me so.
- I want to be a soul winner till Jesus calls for me, To lay my burdens down; I want to hear Him say, ‘Servant, You’ve gathered many sheaves, receive a shining crown.’

Blessings,
Danny