One Step into Eternity The Reality of Hell - Week 2 January 20, 2019

WHAT YOU BELIEVE ABOUT <u>ETERNITY</u> DETERMINES HOW YOU LIVE TODAY.

"Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that <u>leads to destruction</u>, and <u>many enter through it</u>. ¹⁴ But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, <u>and only a few find it</u>." Matthew 7:13-14

WHY DOES HELL EXIST?

1) Hell exists for God to deal righteously with Satan.

And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever. Revelation 20:10

2) Hell exists for God to deal righteously with <u>unbelievers</u>.

He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. ⁹ They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord ... 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9

"There was a rich man who was <u>dressed in purple</u> and <u>fine linen</u> and <u>lived in luxury every day</u>. ²⁰At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores ²¹and <u>longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table.</u> ... ²²The time came when <u>the beggar died</u> and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. <u>The rich man also died and was buried</u>. ²³In <u>Hades</u>, where <u>he was in torment</u>, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to

dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, <u>because</u> <u>I am in agony in this fire.</u>" Luke 16:19-24

... "they, too, will drink the wine of God's fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of his wrath. They will be tormented with burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb. ¹¹ And the smoke of their torment will rise for ever and ever ..." Revelation 14:10-11

"He answered, 'Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment." Luke 16:27-28

What the Rich Man Learned in Eternity

- 1) He was fully conscious and aware.
- 2) His eternal destiny was irrevocably fixed.
- 3) That his suffering was just.
- 4) He begged and pleaded for someone to help his brothers know <u>Jesus</u>.

For the Week Ahead

We said "What you believe about eternity determines how you live today." How does this apply to Hell?

Examine your last few weeks. What does your life say about what you believe about eternity? Is there anything you want to change?

What's the first practical step you can take this week to live, love, and serve with eternity in mind?