

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

- BELIEVE – ACTS 16:31
- REPENT – ACTS 17:30; LUKE 13:3
- CONFESS – ROMANS 10:10; I TIMOTHY 6:12
- BE BAPTIZED – ACTS 2:38; MARK 16:16
- BE FAITHFUL – REVELATION 2:10

PRAYER LIST:

North Ridgeville church of Christ
36364 Chestnut Ridge Road
North Ridgeville, OH 44039

www.nrcoc.net

Times for Meeting

Lord's Day	9:30 AM	Bible Study (all ages)
	10:30 AM	Worship
Wednesday	7:00 PM	Bible Study (all ages)

Elders
Bruce Dean
Mark Ullman

Evangelist
Steven Wallace

THE NORTH RIDGEVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST

“But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only,
deceiving your own selves.” James 1:22

November 27, 2022

“Jesus, the Fire-and-Brimstone Preacher”

Nick S. Wallace

When preachers and teachers address the dangers of sin and hell, some may think they aren't Christ-centered. While preachers shouldn't preach only on hell, the very fact that they should preach “the whole counsel of God” (Acts 20:27)¹ demands that they address hell also. After all, among the things the apostle Paul taught were “righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come” (Acts 24:25). One cannot discuss “the judgment to come” without addressing the danger of being judged guilty of sin. One cannot preach Jesus without addressing hell, for every time we find the word “hell” (*gehenna*) in the New Testament, it appears in the mouth of Jesus. (James 3:6 represents the only exception.) Of course, passages outside the gospels address the final fate of the wicked, but they do so using other terms. Let's examine what Jesus taught about hell.

John the Baptist spoke of Jesus thus: “His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire” (Matt. 3:12). Using similar language, Jesus explained that, as weeds are burned up in fire, so Jesus will send out His angels at the end of the age to “gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice

lawlessness, and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth" (Matt. 13:41–42).

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said that those who call others a "fool" (Greek, *moros*) simply out of anger "shall be in danger of hell fire" (Matt. 5:22). In the same sermon (vv. 29–30) and at other times, Jesus explained that anything—even amputation—would be better than suffering in hell, the place where "Their worm does not die, And the fire is not quenched" (Mark 9:43–48; cf. Matt. 18:8–9).

Jesus condemned the Pharisees since they took great lengths to convert proselytes only to make a convert "twice as much a son of hell as yourselves" (Matt. 23:15). He then asked them how they could expect to escape the same "condemnation of hell" (v. 33). We should fear this condemnation rather than fear men since, as Jesus explained, people can kill only the body; instead, we should fear God, "who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell" (Matt. 10:28; cf. Luke 12:4–5).

Additional passages on the subject abound. However, for a parting thought, remember that the Adolf Hitlers of the world aren't the only ones condemned to hell fire. When Jesus explained the difference between the righteous who have "eternal life" and the lost who will undergo "everlasting punishment" (Matt. 25:46), the distinction was simply between those who *served* "one of the least of these My brethren" (vv. 31–40) and those who *neglected* "one of the least of these" (vv. 40–45). Do we ignore Jesus' brethren when they're "hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison" (v. 44)? If so, Jesus considers it the same as if we neglected Him (v. 45). May we instead walk in love toward each other, that we may be counted as having done so to Jesus Himself and inherit eternal life!

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"Remember" (Author Unnamed)

Luke 22:19," do this in remembrance of Me."
Take this bread and eat

Remember

Man shall not live by bread alone,
But by the word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.

Remember

Four Thousand men, fed with seven loaves of bread

Remember

With man it is impossible, but not with God;
For with God all things are possible

Remember

The Israelites ate manna in the wilderness and died

Remember

For the bread of God is He who comes down from above

Remember

I am the bread of life. He who comes to me shall never hunger

Remember

Take this cup and drink

Remember

Why do you, a Jew, ask me for a drink?

Remember

Whoever drinks of the water I give, will never thirst

Remember

Beating, flogging, mocking, a crown of thorns, crucifying

Remember

For this is My blood of the New Covenant shed for you

Remember

He is not here

Remember

God has raised Him up

Do you remember?