

A Tour of Hell

by Rolfe Barnard

The sermon emphasizes the importance of remembering the love of God and the eternal consequences of rejecting it, highlighting the torment that will follow in hell.

Duration: 15:05

Scripture: Proverbs 27:1, Matthew 14:6-11, Matthew 24:37-39, Matthew 27:24-25, Luke 16:25, Luke 16:27-28, John 3:16, Romans 2:5, Hebrews 10:31

Topics: "Eternal Consequences", "Hell And Judgment"

Description

This sermon delves into the concept of memory in hell, where individuals are tormented by memories of their past actions and opportunities for salvation they missed. It emphasizes the eternal consequences of rejecting God's warnings and the haunting nature of memories in hell, such as the missed chance to enter Noah's ark, Herod's guilt over John the Baptist's death, Pilate's inability to wash away the blood of Jesus, and a girl's regret over delaying her salvation. The sermon warns of the lasting impact of memories, especially the memory of God's love, which will continue to torment those who rejected it.

Transcript

He's been down there all this time. So here's that fella, the rich man Boddy. According to the scriptures, still in the grave.

His old brain's long since decayed. But his memory's living in hell. I'll tell you, memories can be mighty sweet.

Or they can be awfully bitter. Son, remember. Remember.

Lord, let's just be done with this now. What's done's done. Let's just forget about it.

No, Abraham said, son, remember. Remember. Remember what? Remember what happened down there on the earth.

Well, I won't forget it, no. Son, remember. To be condemned.

To be harassed. And tormented. And sat down.

And trailed. By a murderer. I threw out a lawn.

You take yours then. I want you to join me tonight. I'm going to ask Abraham if he will take us on a tour of hell.

Abraham. If you don't mind. Take me on a tour of hell.

I want you to help me preach. I want you to help me warn sinners. I want you to help me brave the ridicule of this religious generation.

That says, well, that preacher's trying to scare people. You're dead right. I sure wish I could scare you.

I wish I could get you where you're afraid of Satan. I wish I could get you where you're afraid of facing the Holy God. Oh, whether I can or not.

I walk with tears. I walk with authority. I walk with passion.

The word is not of something I thought of. But of the eternal consequences of the fact that God's the Holy God. And he's got to punish sin.

So I want Abraham to take us tonight on a tour of hell. And Abraham and I go down the elevator and land in hell. And immediately we're in bedlam.

And I see a multitude of people over to my right. And they're knocking. Open, open the door.

Please open the door. Please open the door. For God's sake, somebody open the door.

Open the door. Please open the door. And I say, what on earth is going on over there, Abraham? What are they trying to do? Oh, he said they're knocking on the door of Noah's ark.

I said, well, I don't see Noah's ark yet. He said, oh, no, Noah's ark's not in hell. But they think it is.

It's in their memory. And all they do is go around 24 hours a day, day in and day out, night in and night out. Get in your house.

Knock on the shut door. But it's in their memory. They lived unrighteous lives.

How do you know? Because Noah preached righteousness. They wouldn't believe him. Oh, they didn't believe that judgment was coming.

Every time they drove a nail in the ark, it was saying judgment's coming, judgment's coming, judgment's coming, judgment's coming. The wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness. Judgment's coming, judgment's coming.

Get her in the ark, get her in the ark, get her in the ark. But nobody did. Nobody did.

Nobody did. Seven years. More, Noah said, seven days later.

Still nobody got in the ark. He condemned the world. He said, the boat's rocking, boys.

This ain't not going on forever. The wrath of God can be, can come to its end sometime. It's piling up, wrath on wrath, vengeance on vengeance.

The judgment's coming, judgment's coming, judgment's coming. Get the lady healed, he said to his generation. And repent.

But nobody did. Nobody did. When the flood came, scientists tell us there were three billion people on the earth at that time.

I'm not telling the truth or not. I have no reason to doubt it. Three billion people.

At least as many people as live on this earth now. And you know how many of them God Almighty destroyed, and sent to hell, and they're down there now, knocking on a door that's not there, haunted by the memory of passing by the only ark of safety, and frowning under their rebellion. They're all of them unrighteous, lawless living.

The cries of the prophet of God. Crying righteousness. They'll never get away from it.

God sent three billion of them to hell. Oh, I know. I know.

And we don't believe that. Oh, good God wouldn't send three billion people to hell one time, let's say two. But he did.

He did. God help us. Throw our Bibles away, just face it.

God's going to catch up with us some of these days. That's right. And we pass by, and Abraham says, remember, remember.

That's all I got to do, remember. Remember. Remember.

We pass on through the corridors of hell. And I see a man over there, and he said, take it away, take it away, take it away. But God said, won't somebody please come and take this awful thing away.

I'm committed by it. Please somebody take this thing away. And I say, who's that? Abraham.

He said, that's Herod. I said, what is he trying to do? He said, he's trying to get somebody to take the head of John the Baptist away. So he carries it around with him and tries to get somebody to take it.

It burns. He can't forget. I said, well, Abraham, I don't see the head of John the Baptist.

Abraham said, no, Rob, the head of John the Baptist is sitting in hell. But it's in the memory of Herod. He can't get away from it.

He remembers how he went out to get John the Baptist, preached, and he feared him, and called him a just man. And he quit chewing tobacco and drinking liquor and stealing money and a few other things. But! But! One day, John said, Herod, you're living in open lawless, adulterous relationship with your brother.

Why? And old Herodius would have killed him. But you couldn't. But Herod had a drunken party.

His stepdaughter thanked for him. And in his cup, she was pleased. And he was going to give her a present.

And she slipped in the curtain and said, Mom, what do you want me to ask the old man? He said, ask the head of that preacher. And so he came out and said, I'll give you everything you want on behalf of my

kingdom. He said, well, give me the head of John the Baptist.

He sent a couple of boys down and locked the jail door. And took John the Baptist, the greatest man that ever lived. That's what the scripture said.

And he laid his head down on a block like an old turkey topper and severed it off. And put it in a big charger and took it and brought it to that wicked woman. And old Herod, old Herod, is tormented by the head of the John the Baptist's wife.

Well, I'm speaking to you now. You can't get away from it. We pass by.

And Abraham said, son, remember. We pass on. And there's a man going around screaming, Oh, if I could just get it off.

If I could just get it off. If I could get it off. Somebody help me get this off.

And I said, Abraham, who's that? Well, that's Pilate. What's the matter with him? He's trying to get the blood off his hands. And I walk up close and I don't see.

Abraham, I don't see any blood. Oh, no. There's no blood on his hands.

It's in his memory. It's in his memory. He remembers.

He remembers being warned of his life. He remembers that experience. He remembers when he tried that fellow Jesus, according to the law of the Roman Empire, the justice law the world had ever known, and found not a thing on earth to condemn him over.

And he would have released him. But he said, no, sir. And there he was.

Will he defend Caesar? Will he defend the Jews? Or will he release that innocent man? And so he weighed the situation carefully. Some of you will have to weigh it tonight. That sore spot in your life, it's got to go.

If you get to Christ, you're going to weigh it. Some of you will trade your hope for salvation one more time for that rotten spot in your life that's kept you from Christ all these days. And so he got him a basin of water.

And he washed his hands. But he never did get rid of the blood. And it's still there in his memory.

He remembers. And Abraham and I pass by. And Abraham says, son, remember.

We pass on. And there's a little girl. And she looks up.

And she sees me. And she said, that's Ralph Fiennes. And I said, Abraham, I know that girl.

He said, yes, sir. Everybody in hell knows who you are. He said, that little girl just scrub him all the time.

Get Ralph Fiennes away. Get Ralph Fiennes away. And I won't see him again.

And I won't take home again. Get rid of him. Get rid of him.

I said, Abraham, I'm not in hell. No. No.

But you are according to her. You're in her memory. She can't forget you.

She can't forget that time in Arkansas. One night, the God fell on the congregation. Multitudes were swept into the kingdom of God.

The whole congregation became a choir. Choir meeting, Christians praying for souls and sinners, screaming for mercy. It was the work of the sovereign spirit.

And that little 16-year-old girl didn't kneel. But she stood there and grabbed the pew in front of her. Until it looked like the veins in her hands were burst.

And a giant pool of tears at her feet. And she held her own for dear life. And in that sort of atmosphere, why, God's people spoke to her.

And the spirit ordered it. And she stood there. And she trembled.

And she wailed. And that service passed away. And finally the people began to go home.

And I couldn't have kept from it if the devil and all his angels were there. As the congregation was melting, she kept standing there. Oh, and on to that seat and weeping.

And I flipped up to her and would have a word to say. And she turned and looked at me and said, no, don't talk to me. Said, I'm going to be saved tomorrow night.

Said, I'm going to get saved tomorrow night. Said, I'm not going to be saved tonight. Said, I know she talked to me.

I'm not going to be saved tonight. And the tears melted. And she turned loose.

And all I could think of was probably 271. Oh, not die separate tomorrow. Because I know it's not what her day will bring for her.

And she went home. And at 10 o'clock the next morning, she was a star basketball player, girl basketball player. And she was practicing.

And she got right in the exact middle of the court. And she gave a great agonizing cry. And fell over on the floor.

By the time the planes got to her, she was dead. Tomorrow she died. She said the night before, don't talk to me.

I'm going to get saved. Tomorrow night. Oh, my.

Tomorrow night she was in hell. Oh, and she can't forget. Abraham said she called probably 271.

Oh, not die separate tomorrow. Because I know it's not what her day will bring for her. I know people don't believe that.

But still, so. That little girl in hell is quoting that scripture. Trying to get people to get me out of hell.

I'm in her memory. And that scripture's in her memory. And that night's in her memory.

And those tears, the Holy Spirit produced her in her memory. Had to hang on to that seed. The key from Neal into the spirit buoy.

She'll never forget it. And we pass by the little girl. And Abraham says, son, remember.

I'm going to get into theology now. It's bigger than I am for just a minute. But the memory of the love of God will be the most terrible thing to torment you.

Oh, the love of God. Don't limit it. Oh, it's greater far than tongue or pen can ever say.

The thing that God so loved the world as to give. Men despise it. Take it for granted now.

It'll haunt them throughout the reaches of eternal days. I'm here. Despite the fact.

That God so loved. Bigger love for ten million worlds is the love of God. Yet I'm in hell.

The memory of the love of God. Men will never get away from it. In a sense.

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