

Only One Alternative!

by Bill Crews

When we talk to people about going to heaven, it is true that we are trying to get them interested in heaven, wanting and even longing to go there, willing to meet the conditions that are essential to going there, understanding what eternal blessings and beauties will be there. But we are not just talking to them about going to heaven. Since there is only one alternative to going to heaven, namely the unthinkable alternative of going to hell, we are also talking to them about avoiding hell -- a place of eternal darkness, unquenchable fire, perpetual smoke, everlasting torment, weeping & gnashing of teeth, where no memory can comfort and no desire can be satisfied, and no respite can ever come. Please read Matthew 25:30; 25:41, 46; 3:12; Mark 9:43-46, 48; Revelation 14:11; and Revelation 20:10.

Those to whom heaven does not appeal, and who, therefore, have no interest in going there, have a problem. For by that attitude they are choosing hell, God's wages for their sins (Romans 6:23; Revelation 20:14-15; 21:8). They reject His grace; they refuse His offer of forgiveness; they are ungrateful for the sacrifice of His Son. When we talk to people about going to heaven, we are also talking to them about escaping the only other alternative -- hell.

Popular Universalism!

by Wayne Goff

An article in *Time Magazine* asking "What If There's No Hell?" is actually promoting the humanistic doctrine of universalism -- everyone is okay.

Time Magazine is a most liberal publication in every sense of the word. Even when it publishes something religious in nature, it's going to give you the most absurd of all possibilities. It never advocates anything conservative, realistic, or mainstream religiously.

True to form, the April 25th issue sets forth "rogue pastor Rob Bell" who has written a book which advocates universal salvation, and therefore no hell. Bell is a 40-year-old son of a federal judge, and pastor of Mars Hill Bible Church in Michigan which has 7,000 people each Sunday. He would be grouped with those called "evangelical." The problem is that Bell is more comfortable with "expansive liberal tradition" which is just a nice way of saying that he doesn't believe much of the Bible as it is written.

The article is too long to review completely here, and I will probably develop a sermon on the subject. But notice that the author of the *Time* article points out that while Bell thinks people need to repent even though everyone is saved, the author says "Fair enough, but let's be honest: religion heals, but it also kills." So the real thrust of the article is to destroy biblical Christianity, promote a super human man, and have no standard whatsoever -- except the standard of no standard. **Beware brethren!**

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