

## The Good Sense To Be Scared

---

by Phil Roberts

Occasionally you will see some carefree youngster venturing fearlessly into some relatively dangerous situation such as the far extremity of a tree limb, and, then you will hear someone remark that he just doesn't have the good sense to be scared.

But did you ever stop to think how many people in this world just don't have the good sense to be scared as far as religious matters are concerned? Our world is filled with people who, day after day; dance on the brink of an eternity in hell, and most of them don't give the slightest indication of having any realization at all of the danger they are in. They just don't have the good sense to be scared.

This attitude of scoffing at the danger of hell has been magnified in recent times by those intellectuals (including many religious leaders) who tell people not to worry because there is really no such thing as hell or damnation anyway.

When I see such an attitude, I am always reminded of the great English literary figure, Dr. Samuel Johnson. Dr. Johnson believed the Bible. But he did not live by it. He knew he had not fulfilled the conditions of salvation. Thus, his conversation often revealed his engrossing fear of death. He had the good sense to be scared.

Moreover, he was filled with disdain for those "intellectual" friends of his who did not have the good sense to be scared. On the occasion of a conversation with a Dr. Adams, Johnson once blurted out that he was afraid that he would be damned. In his dilettante manner Dr. Adams asked Johnson what he meant by "damned." Johnson roared back at him, "I mean sent to Hell, Sir, and punished everlastingly."

Many of Johnson's friends thought him a bit crazy for his fear of death. But Johnson was smarter than them all. He understood with crystal clarity the significance of the statement that it is appointed unto man once to die, and after this the judgment (Hebrews 9:27). He knew that Jesus meant what He said about hell, torment, and the weeping and gnashing of teeth. he had the good sense to be scared. Do you?

### New Testament Scriptures on "Hell" —

- ☑ *"And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." (Matthew 10:28)*
- ☑ *"For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment;" (2 Peter 2:4)*
- ☑ *"The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will 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." (Matthew 13:41-42)*
- ☑ *"And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day;" (Jude 1:6)*
- ☑ *"The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will 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." (Matthew 13:41-42)*
- ☑ *"Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels.'" (Matthew 25:41)*