

Facilitating People into Hell

March 27, 2014

Just as the things we do and don't do as believers can hinder people from gaining heaven, so we also can *facilitate* them right into hell. And since facilitate means "to make easier," imagine making it easier for people to go through the broad gate to destruction—without Christ! What would that look like, and who would do such a thing? How and why? Is it more something that's done, or not? Be very sure, **it is spiritual warfare at its (lowest) height!**

Some world Philosophies...

Being happy is what's important
Amassing wealth is a life-goal
Be all you can be
I'll do it my way
You only live once—get all the 'gusto' you can out of life
Live life as if there is no tomorrow
There can be many ways to God—there's just got to be
All those people out there can't be wrong
In the end, surely God won't send people to hell
Anyway, what's the 'big deal' about sin?

versus God's Word:
and **Ecclesiastes 2:3; 2:26**
and **Proverbs 11:4**
and **Titus 3:3**
and **Isaiah 53:6**.
and **Proverbs 28:26**
and **Psalm 90:12**
and **John 14:6**.
and **Proverbs 12:15**
and **Hebrews 10:27**
and **Romans 4:8; 6:23**

We are fast approaching April Fool's Day...

"The fool says in his heart, 'There is no God.'" Psalm 14:1a

Prepare by Soaking in Scripture:

Ecclesiastes 2:24-25

Psalm 19:7

Romans 1:25

Romans 15:1-2

2 Corinthians 10:18

Scripture to Memorize:

1 Timothy 2:4 (God our Savior) "...who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth."

NOTES on Speaking Session:**Questions for Mentor-group Discussion:**

1. Is this topic eye-opening for you, or something you have thought about before? Put an X in the appropriate boxes.
 - I've never thought about my role in "*making it easier*" for people to go to hell.
 - I've not given a lot of thought about my participation in spiritual warfare.
 - I have thought about my actions as a Christian influencing others for Christ.
 - I'm concerned about my actions as a Christian NOT influencing others for Christ.
 - I am consciously aware that my words and actions are critical as an influence.
 - I am aware of the need to be daily armed—Christ's armor—for spiritual warfare.
2. As believers and followers of Christ, we know from God's Word what we are to do and not do to influence lost people—the dos and don'ts. Conversely, what are three things that we do, and three that we often fail to do that may *facilitate* the lost into hell?

DO: _____

DO NOT DO: _____

3. *Facilitating* people into hell can be equal to *pleasing* and *petting* them into perdition. Explain in just a few words what that means—J. I. Packer gives us a clue in his quote.

“To be sure the cruelty is not that of malice.
It is **prompted** rather by **irresponsible kindness**.”

Knowing God, J. I. Packer

Recommended Reading:

- Dropping Your Guard*, Charles R. Swindoll
The Journey, Rev. Billy Graham
The Purpose Driven Life, Rick Warren

Worldviews that lost people may embrace,
and what God's Word says:

- Being happy is what's important—and **Ecclesiastes 2:3** “*I tried cheering myself with wine, and embracing folly—my mind still guiding me with wisdom. I wanted to see what was worthwhile for men to do under heaven during the few days of their lives.*”
 - Amassing wealth is a life-goal—and **Proverbs 11:4**. “*Wealth is worthless in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death.*”
 - Be all you can be—and **Titus 3:3** “*At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another.*”
 - I'll do it my way—and **Isaiah 53:6** “*We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.*”
 - You only live once—get all the ‘gusto’ you can out of life—and **Proverbs 28:26** “*He who trusts in himself is a fool, but he who walks in wisdom is kept safe.*”
 - Live life as if there is no tomorrow—and **Psalm 90:12** “*Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.*”
 - There can be many ways to God—there's just got to be—and **John 14:6** “*Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'*”
 - All those people out there can't be wrong—and **Proverbs 12:15** “*The way of a fool seems right to him, but a wise man listens to advice.*”
 - In the end, surely God won't send people to hell—and **Hebrews 10:27** “*...but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God.*”
 - Anyway, what's the ‘big deal’ about sin? And **Romans 4:7-8** “*Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. 8Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord will never count against him.*” And **Romans 6:23** “*For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*”
- ◆
- The Apostle Paul in 2 Corinthians 10:2-5 “*I beg you that when I come I may not have to be as bold as I expect to be toward some people who think that we live by the standards of this world. 3For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 5We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.*”

Was It A Morning Like This?

by Sandi Patty

Was it a morning like this
When the sun still hid from Jerusalem?
And Mary rose from her bed
To tend the Lord she thought was dead.

Was it a morning like this
When Mary walked down from Jerusalem?
And two angels stood at the tomb,
Bearers of news she would hear soon.

CHORUS:

Did the grass sing?
Did the earth rejoice to feel you again?
Over and over like a trumpet underground,
Did the earth seem to pound:
"He is risen?"

Over and over in a never ending round
"He is risen, alleluia, alleluia!"

Was it a morning like this
When Peter and John ran from Jerusalem?
And as they raced toward the tomb,
Beneath their feet was there a tune? (Chorus)

REFRAIN:

Was it a morning like this,
When my Lord looked out on Jerusalem?
He is risen, alleluia, alleluia...alleluia!