

FIRE!!!

If you have seen the recent images of the widespread forest fires raging largely uncontrolled in Northern Quebec and Ontario, your first reaction has probably been: *"I would not want to be anywhere near those fires!"* And what about the poor people who actually live in the paths of those steadily advancing fires? They were being warned to leave their homes and their belongings in order to escape the fire and be evacuated to safer areas. They would have been very foolish to refuse that way of escape.

In the Bible, God speaks of *a lake of fire burning with brimstone (Revelation 19:20)*, and describes it as *everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels (Matthew 25:41)*. Do not be deceived by the lies of Satan, the devil, as he tries to make you believe that: *"There is no God"*, or that *"There is no such thing as Heaven or Hell"*, or *"There is no such thing as sin"* and *"The Bible is just a myth"*. Satan knows that God will eventually have him thrown into that lake of fire to be tormented there forever! And Satan wants you to end up there with him.

That lake of fire is God's punishment for sin. You and I, and Satan himself, deserve that punishment for all the sins we have committed. But God, in His great love and mercy toward you and me, has provided a way of escape from that punishment.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believes on him is not condemned: but he that believes not is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. (John 3:16-18)

Yes! Jesus, God's own Son, who could not sin and never did, suffered all the punishment of God for sin, on Himself, in three hours on the cross. He died and shed His blood, then He was raised back to life, and went back to Heaven. Jesus did all that so that you and I, by simply believing in Jesus as our Saviour and Lord, could have our sins forgiven, and live forever with Jesus in Heaven.

Remember, God prepared that lake of fire for Satan, not for you. God does not want you to go there. He wants you to be saved from that punishment. But if you refuse God's way of escape, that lake of fire will be where you end up. If you read the verses above in bold type, you will notice that one is not condemned for being a sinner but for not having believed on the name of the Son of God! Today, right now, ***Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you shall be saved (Acts 16:31)***.

Robert for Vision 2020 in 2023

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