

THE PATHFINDER

#316.20

THE LAKE OF FIRE AND THE SECOND DEATH

*"Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: **and they that hear shall live**. Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which **ALL that are in the graves shall hear his voice**, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of *damnation." **John 5:25, 28-29**. *damnation: Grk. krima, a decision for or against.*

*"And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. **And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This** (lake of fire) **is the second death**. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." **Revelation 20:11-15**. (Parenthesis supplied)*

There should not be a need to look any farther to see what this lake is or to make it sound like anything other than what the Spirit said that it is. The *first death* is cast into *the second death, the lake of fire*. The realm of the dead, *hell/hades*, is cast into *the lake of fire*; those whose names are not written in the *Book of Life*, those who are *dead in trespasses and sins*, the ones who *inhabit hell*, are cast into *the lake of fire*. This terminates death, hell, sin, and especially the breeding ground of it all – the carnal nature. God shall destroy all death and everything related to it in **His wonderful lake of fire**, and I say wonderful, since it is of God and does such a wonderful work. Here is what I mean:

*"I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but He that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: He shall baptize you with the **holy ghost**, and **with fire**." **Matthew 3:11**. Or just as accurately translated, "He shall baptize you with the **holy ghost**, **even fire**," indicating the *holy Spirit* and *fire* are the same.*

The HOLY SPIRIT of God is the HOLY FIRE of God; and whatsoever the HOLY FIRE OF

GOD touches, it either burns up, refines, or transforms. It either destroys, makes better or changes; usually all three. It will destroy the sin, makes the child of God better, and totally transforms the person. In this case, the Spirit is initiated and fire rains from the throne and springs forth from within the depths of the elect, forming the lake of fire from the fire water of God.

We read from the Bible that God is fire, His word is fire, and his ministers are flames of fire. A sermon ministered in and by the Spirit is a word of fire. A song that is sung in the Spirit is fire. An act of love is a flame of fire. There can be nothing said, sung, or done in the Spirit that does not change or destroy something inwardly or outwardly; for the Spirit is fire, and everything fire touches is effected by it one way or the other. Fire consumes wood, hay, and stubble while refining the precious gems and metals of the Lord.

The lake of fire, or let us say, *the lake of God*, is ablaze with *His Holy fire*. It burns fervently with His Word, it rises in anthem's of celestial flames as the song of the Lord, and in swells of glory! The fire roars, wave after wave of His blazing Word. His ministers of surmounting flames trumpet throughout the land of every soul by the breath of God's heated and determined passion that initiates godly sorrow unto repentance, transforming their lives. How can we malign or caricature such glory? How can we demean such wonders of the Lord? And how can we undermine His ability to save to the utmost? The answers are obvious.

For the *Last Adam* came to undo everything of the *first Adam*, and likewise, the *second death* unravels and brings an absolute end to the *first death* and everything to which it pertains. It is as Ray Prinzing wrote:

"The first Adam died to God and righteousness, and became alive unto sin. The last Adam died unto sin (Rom. 6:10), and liveth unto God, and so fulfilleth all righteousness. The first made all men sinners, the last makes all men righteous. The lives and the deaths of the two Adams are thus greatly contrasting the one to the other. The FIRST DEATH was a transition from life to death, the SECOND DEATH is a transition from corruption to incorruption, from mortality to immortality. We are transformed from the carnal mind to the spiritual mind, a mind filled with life and peace. The transformation is wrought by dying out to the one realm, to come alive to the higher realm. Because the second death is prepared to purge out and burn away sin and its results, and so doing cleanses all of God's universe.

Preston Eby shared this: *"It is true that some men are cast into the processing of the lake of fire. But what a disreputable lot! '...the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whore mongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.' These are men saturated with the power of the first death – dead in trespasses and in sins, sold under sin, slaves to every devilish passion, possessed of corrupt and perverse natures, obsessed with every evil device, unrelentingly driven by the spirit of the world, the flesh, and the devil. And nothing God has done has yet broken these stubborn wills or brought these men to repentance. The wages of*

sin has not broken them. The harvest of evil has not broken them. Hell has not broken them. The tender mercies of the Lord have not broken them.

"The Spirit has faithfully told us of a second death into which unbelieving and incorrigibly wicked men shall surely go. They go there with death and with hell. The second death will be an experience and a period of time similar to this first death we are now experiencing, but much more terrible and severe than anything we now know. The penalty of sin is very great. The processes of God to break the resistance of willfully wicked men are extremely severe. It can only be described as the 'lake of fire.' This terrible death is reserved for those who have not profited from the previous judgments and still need further correction to subdue them to the will of God." – End quote.

Every soul should be able to see that there is an appointed time for all men to stand accountable, and afterwards to live: "**Because he hath appointed a day, in the which He will judge the world in righteousness by that Man whom He hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that He hath raised Him from the dead.**" **Acts 17:31.** "**And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.**" **Hebrews 9:27.** With the resurrection of Jesus came the assurance for the same to all; and God has appointed a day wherein that assurance will come. In His time, he will bring judgment unto salvation.

He first appointed death to all, but they are not left there. After the appointment of death, judgment comes and destroys it. Along with death goes the sin that caused it. There is a judgment that abolishes all ***death – its root, fruit, and branch!*** This, dear friends, is the assurance of all men. In resurrection life there is no more death. Can we make it any more clear? It is as simple as the Psalmist said, "*Thou turnest man to destruction; and sayest, Return, ye children of men. For He hath looked down from the height of His sanctuary; from heaven did the LORD behold the earth; To hear the groaning of the prisoner; **TO LOOSE those that are appointed to death.**" **Psalm 90:3, 102:19-20.***

Simply put, **death will be forever destroyed.** Paul said it so plainly in **1 Corinthians 15:26** that a child would have no problem understanding it: "***The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.***" Therefore; there is no such thing as ***eternal death***; but many "wise" doctors of today's religious organizations say otherwise. We would think that this short statement of truth would set aright the felicitous dogmas that imprisons the mass of humanity in everlasting damnation of torment. They swallow this doctrinal camel with ease while straining and choking on this simple gnat of truth that the last enemy, death, will be forever abolished.

It is amazing that these doctors of religion proudly maintain that *eternal death* is part of the gospel (good news). They all err not knowing the scriptures. They cannot see that the lake of fire is judgment that will break the bounds of the first death. They are blind to the simple truth that ***there shall be no more death, Revelation 21:4. No more death – period!*** There will be no more first death, and there will be no more second death. There will be no need for even the second death. Those and everything making the lake of fire will remain, but not as a judging lake of ***Godfire.***

It would be the same with courts of law and prisons. If there were no one in the world committing crimes of any sort, all courts and prisons would be empty. Both would close their doors; but all the judges and prison guards would merely find other positions to fill. Therefore, when there is *no more death*, no more death of any kind, *the lake of fire ceases, but not those who were the lake.*

Moreover, since there is no more death more than suggests that there will be no more sinners, **for sinners are actually dead.** That is, *they are dead in trespasses and sins.* Also since there is no more death means that God has *burned up*, if you please, all the wicked and has mercifully not left them in that state of death, and neither are they left in them unseen, imperceptible realm of *hell.* for as long as any creature of God is in a state of death, it has not been destroyed. When there is no more death, clearly means that there is no more hell, for hell, rather than being the lake of fire as many believe are the same, is *the realm of the dead.* whether those in the *grave (sheol/hell) or the walking dead.* Therefore, since there is **no more death** means that there is no more ***the office of the lake of fire***; for ***the lake of fire is the second death.*** Finally, since there is no more death is to safely say that **there is no more sin!** Remember? "*The wages of sin is death.*"

Ah! No more sin, no more death, no more grave! What a day! What a time such as this!

Whether it is today or after the body has been laid in the grave, it is appointed for every soul to hear ***the Voice of the Son of God*** – without it there is no such thing as coming forth and living. It is by ***hearing His voice, the living Word of God*** that one is quickened to life. They don't live by hearing the trained voice of religious men, but upon ***hearing the Voice of the Son of God.*** Once Jesus opens His mouth and trumpets the sound to stand up, His voice will slice through the heavens of men's souls and pierce the depths of their carnal seas, awakening them from death. None shall sleep through this call to life.

Some will rise in the pleasure of Life, while the incorrigible will come forth in the fury of fire; but even so, the fury will end when they become corrigible and with a willing tongue confess Jesus as their Lord. They too will live, but much loss shall be suffered. There will be many losers in this great race for ***the prize of the high calling of God,*** but it shall never be as the professors of *eternal damnation* suppose. It is as simple as that, for they shall live; they will not, however, lay hold of the prize of the high calling. They shall not inherit all things. This prize is reserved for those who are overcomers, the ones who will not be hurt by the second death.

Although there will be a suffering and hurt in the midst of the lake, contrary to what some believe, there is something ***beyond that second death, and it is good.*** We rejoice that there is an end to all death, that there is something beyond the lake of fire; and that all shall know the Lord from the least to the greatest. Let us see what awaits those who find themselves sailing their wooden crafts, as it were, across those stormy waves of flaming fire.

"And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire. And I Saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was

no more sea" Revelation 20:14-15, 21:1.

Such an assurance! Such a promise! The heavens of their spirits and souls are made new, no longer being carnal, as well as the changing of the earth of their adamic bodies, and no more unstable sea of humanity. All things of the first Adam flee in the fiery presence of judgment. Sin and death are swallowed up by the life of the One who sits upon the throne. Painful? Yes, we are sure, but let us know it is for good, very good; for without it humanity would be left forever in *the straits of death.*

"And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God" (Rev. 21:3) The habitation of God is at last and forever with men – not with just the elect, not with just a chosen few, but with men – with MANKIND. Whatever is subjected to fire, whether it is a log in a furnace or a soul in the *lake of Godfire*, it has a way of changing things, and the change is good. The change in wood brings warmth and light, while the changed soul becomes the habitation of God, which also brings warmth and light.

In the fourteenth chapter of John, we read what Jesus said to the twelve: *"And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive (at this time), because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. At that day ye shall know that **I am in my Father, and ye in Me, and I IN YOU....and we will come unto Him, and make our abode with him.**" John 14:16-17,20,23.*

Did He not keep His promise, and did He not come as fire? *"And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven **tongues like as of fire**, and it sat upon each of them. And **they were all filled with the holy ghost**, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." Acts 2:2-4.*

In part, the 120 became the habitation of God, and they were changed by that holy fire. It changed them to such a degree that they spoke with the tongues of the heavens from where they were born. They were so changed that *they turned the world upside down* as noted in Acts 17:6, and this sweeping fire will continue until *every soul is thoroughly salted with it* Mark. 9:49.

This purging element is always grievous to the flesh, but once it has worked its work, and *their heaven and earth has been made new, they rejoice as God wipes "...away all tears from their eyes."* Praise His wonderful name! There will be joy to all! God will have it no other way! If it became otherwise His own designed purpose from the beginning would be thwarted, which by His own decree He said will never happen: *"Tell ye, and bring them near; yea, let them take counsel together: who hath declared this from ancient time? who hath told it from that time? have not I the LORD? and there is no God else beside Me; **a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside Me. look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else. I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in***

righteousness, and shall not return, that unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear." Isaiah 45:21-23 and "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please." Isaiah 55:11.

It is little wonder why there shall be *no more tears*, for the time will come when *the knee of every soul will reverently bow, and the tongue of every man will reverently swear/confess/covenant with Christ Jesus that He is their Lord to the glory of God their Father. Rom. 14:11, Phil. 2:11*. No one can prevent it; and be assured that *such a confession cannot be made except by the Holy Spirit* as Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 12:3. Once that *confession is made, He shall save them from their sin and death. Roman 10:9*. The lake of fire is necessary to prompt the confession from many, but when it is made, the gates of their own hell from within shall open wide. These well-guarded gates in every soul shall not prevail against the fire of the second death. No harbor will escape its relentless pursuit. Its flames shall find and destroy all hidden ships of sin, sorrow, and death; and every soul shall reach the distant shore of salvation, refined.

*"And **THERE SHALL BE NO MORE DEATH**, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." Revelation 21:4*. The old heavens and earth are consumed in the flames of the lake of fire. All things in every realm which pertain to hell and death are destroyed by the second death. Darkness and its activities cannot abide in the midst of a fiery blaze nor can wood remain unchanged in a burning flame. Hence no more death; and along with death goes every sorrow that has afflicted every soul, and all crying and pain will never again find a place to lodge.

Everything contrary to life, joy, laughter, and well-being is destroyed in the lake of fire. All the former things of Adam pass away. All sin and sorrow cease to be. If it is true that countless multitudes, or even one soul, is left eternally in the darkness of the misrepresented hell, in the gloom of the grave, or in torment of any kind – then *death, neither sorrow, nor crying, nor pain* shall ever pass away. Such a futile outcome would make God a liar and Jesus the greatest failure of all time. Don't belittle my Lord and Father of all by laying such upon either of them.

The agony of souls eternally tormented and the dreadful cries of sinful men, even if they are confined beyond our galaxy a billion light years away, brethren, this will not do. Regardless of how far removed they might be, as long as a cry or sorrow exists anywhere, then the lake of fire has not accomplished its purpose; for death, sorrow, crying, and pain still exist.

But praises be to our God, for we know that the One sent to be the Savior of **the world** will do exactly that! He will save it! He will not return to His Father void. His hands will not be found empty. He is a worthy captain and anchor of souls, of not ours only, but the Savior of all souls. If *He is the author and finisher of faith. Hebrews 12:2*. He starts it and He finishes it. *No one can come to the Son unless he is drawn by the Spirit (John 6:44)*, and *all that the Father gives to Him shall indeed come to Him (John 6:37)*. Every soul should rejoice when they hear such *good news/gospel* as this, but sadly many are angered by it.

What kind of God would knowingly create people He would never call, and of whom He

foreknew would burn them in hell forever? This is not the God we know By no means are we the sons of such a *god*. This is not the character of our Father. Try to dissuade me with your arguments if you please; but I have heard His voice, and I know His character. His character is infinite love, and His plan is to *put an end to all death, sorrow, crying, and pain*, **He will do in the lake of fire.**

*"And He that sat upon the throne said, Behold, **IMAKE ALL THINGS NEW.**" Revelation 21:5. He also said concerning this universal change: *"If I be lifted up from the earth, **WILL DRAW ALL MEN UNTO ME.**" John 12:32.**

Please know that this *drawing* is not a mere invitation, it is not a plea, and neither is it a threat. The Greek word is *helkuo* and more accurately means **TO DRAG**. Jesus said that *if He was lifted up from the earth, and He was, signifying what manner of death He should die, He would **DRAG ALL UNTO HIMSELF, along side Himself upon the cross**, and of course`, into Himself.*

Every man, woman, and child would someday take up their cross and follow Him. It is destined for every member of humanity to live in Christ, as ***Ephesians 1:10** so graciously reveals, but not before they come to the death of self. In righteous submission each one will either have their humble part upon the cross, as it was with their Lord before them, or their cross will be the lake of fire. If their death to self is not in the submissive spirit of the Lamb, their cross will come as corrective judgment in the lake of fire that will lead to salvation and righteousness. **"That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him."*

With some it may be at first with disdain, as it was with one of those that hung beside Jesus on the hill of Golgotha. Both ways work well in bringing one to the death to self, but one, the overcomer, inherits all things, while the other suffers great loss. We see this in the allegories of Jacob and Esau and Isaac and Ishmael. You see, the seed of the lesser was certainly not cut off *forever* and received an inheritance, while the seed of the elect inherited all things,

Let us look again at what Jesus declared to John: *"Behold, I make all things new."* Note, He did not say, *"I will make all new things."* If He had said it that way, it could imply that He might annihilate the bulk of humanity, and then make *new things* in their place. But it is all things made new, rather than all new things being made.

He is and will be the absolute conquering King of every enemy by finishing every work of faith He ever started or shall ever begin in every soul. His predestined purpose is to ***make all things new***. His purpose and goal does not reside in replacing even one soul with a new one. He is taking the old creation, the *first Adam*, and making him a new creation called the *last Adam*. Each member of *the First* shall ultimately be a member of *the Last*; otherwise, with missing body parts, *the Last* would never be complete. In the same way the entire individual person is saved upon confessing Jesus Christ as their Lord, from the top of their heads to the end of their toes, so it is with the many-membered body of Adam of *the old First* and *the new Last*.

"Behold," He said, **"I MAKE ALL THINGS NEW!"**

Can you believe it? If so, rejoice and praise God! If not, wait and see, and then praise God! But I do hope you believe this good report without having to wait – for it is liberating. "...*He said unto me, Write: for **THESE WORDS ARE TRUE AND FAITHFUL.** And He said unto me, **IT IS DONE.** I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end"* **Revelation 21:6.**

Who is the man who takes the Words of the living King of kings, the One sitting upon the throne of all thrones, and says it is not so? Brethren, don't be easily swayed or align yourselves with the camp of unbelievers. Just because they can't make all old and evil things good and new, and wouldn't if they could, doesn't mean that He can't and won't. His words are true and faithful and will continue through the ages until every jot and tittle is fulfilled. If he said there will be '*no more death,*' then there will be *no more death.* Since He said '*all sorrow, and pain, and every tear will cease,*' according to His word **IT WILL BE.** Since He said that His words are '**TRUE AND FAITHFUL,**' **IT IS SO.** And lastly, since He concluded with – **IT IS DONE,**' *the King's mandate. IT IS DONE!* His seal is upon it which is as good as it having been done! It will be carried out!

We also ask, who would choose not to believe such a report? The ones, perhaps, who fail to hear His Voice, that wonderful life-giving *Voice of the Son of God,* they may not believe – but they who hear have no trouble in believing. Some may give ear to another's voice, and in their religious wanderings choose to the contrary; but the called of this hour will hear, believe, and overcome. ***He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be My son,*** " but the *unbelieving will have their part in the lake of fire.* When one refuses to believe the words of our Lord, there is nothing left that will cause them to believe but the fire of God. Like nuclear fusion, the heat of this fire changes every vestige of carnal elements. Sounds impossible, doesn't it? But His word is true and faithful! We can't help from believing it! And you?

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