

THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM



HEAVEN & HELL

JEREMY BELL, TEACHING PASTOR

JOB 17:11-16 (NLT)

11 My days are over. My hopes have disappeared. My heart's desires are broken. 12 These men say that night is day; they claim that the darkness is light. 13 What if I go to the grave and make my bed in darkness? 14 What if I call the grave my father, and the maggot my mother or my sister? 15 Where then is my hope? Can anyone find it? 16 No, my hope will go down with me to the grave. We will rest together in the dust!"

2 THESSALONIANS 1:7-12 (NLT)

And God will provide rest for you who are being persecuted and also for us when the Lord Jesus appears from heaven. He will come with his mighty angels, 8 in flaming fire, bringing judgment on those who don't know God and on those who refuse to obey the Good News of our Lord Jesus. 9 They will be punished with eternal destruction, forever separated from the Lord and from his glorious power. 10 When he comes on that day, he will receive glory from his holy people—praise from all who believe. And this includes you, for you believed what we told you about him. 11 So we keep on praying for you, asking our God to enable you to live a life worthy of his call. May he give you the power to accomplish all the good things your faith prompts you to do. 12 Then the name of our Lord Jesus will be honored because of the way you live, and you will be honored along with him. This is all made possible because of the grace of our God and Lord, Jesus Christ.

NOTES

(THE STUFF THAT STICKS OUT TO ME)

**WE ARE CHURCH WHERE EVERYONE IS WELCOME,
AND EVERYONE IS WANTED...INCLUDING YOU.**

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GOING DEEPER

(SOME IDEAS TO PUT IT INTO PRACTICE)

QUESTIONS TO PONDER:

Read Job 17:11-16. What feelings come to you when you are faced with your own mortality? Is death scary? Why or why not? What images come to mind when you think of hell? How does the idea of hell affect the way you see God?

Read 2 Thessalonians 1:7-12. Jesus promises rest for his followers, but also talks about being “eternally separated” for those that don’t follow him. Are heaven and hell really about “streets of gold” and “fiery lakes”? What makes life with God now and forever “possible” according to 2 Thessalonians 1:12?

2 Peter 3:9 says God doesn’t want ANYONE to perish, but everyone to come to him. How does this change the way you see heaven and hell?

A VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

2 Peter 3:9 (CEV) - The Lord isn't slow about keeping his promises, as some people think he is. In fact, God is patient, because he wants everyone to turn from sin and no one to be lost.

TAKE A STEP:

Who in your life needs to hear about Jesus? What’s one step you can take to be intentional about sharing the gospel with them? Invite them to church, share a meal, and begin a conversation!

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ALL IN, TOGETHER

GENERAL OFFERING

2023 Weekly Budget: \$10,187
Given April 30th: \$10,032
Difference: (\$155)

2023 Annual Budget: \$529,724
2023 Budget YTD: \$173,179
2023 Given YTD: \$152,735
Difference: (\$20,444)

BUILD YOUR CHURCH FUND

BYC April 30th: \$1,373
BYC YTD: \$41,657
BYC Total Given: \$364,150

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