

# THE BELLEVILLE MESSENGER

November 27

2022

## Who Shall Populate Hell?

There are many people today who believe that hell does not exist. However, the Bible teaches that hell does exist, and it also gives us a preview of those who will populate it. So, with that sobering thought in mind, let's notice some of those who will be among the population of hell fire.

### **The Devil and His Angels Will Populate Hell.**

In Matthew 25:41, Jesus, concerning those who would be found unrighteous on the day of judgment said, "...Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels." You see, Jesus confirms the fact that hell is for real, and He also informs that the devil and his angels will be among those who will populate hell.

### **The Unrighteous Will Populate Hell.**

Now, not only will the devil and his angels populate hell, but also those who are found to be unrighteous on the judgment day will likewise populate hell (Matthew 25:41-46). In Revelation 21:7-8, we read, "*He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God, and he shall be My son. But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.*" You see, those who do not overcome unrighteousness will be found unfaithful on the day of judgment, and then they will be among those who will populate hell (Revelation 20:15).

### **Some Religious Folks Will Populate Hell.**

Believe it or not, there will also be some religious folks who will populate hell. How do I know this? Well, in Matthew 7:21-23, Jesus said, "*Not everyone who says to me Lord, Lord shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name? And then I will declare to them, I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!*" My friends, it is clearly evident from these passages that there will be some who profess to be religious, but fail to do the will of God, who will be among those who will populate hell.

### **Backsliders Will Populate Hell.**

Another group of people who will someday be among those who populate hell are backsliders. Unfortunately, there are some who turn their backs on the Lord, and become entangled again in the affairs of this world. However, the Hebrews writer warns, "*For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries*" (Hebrews 10:26-27). Think about that, and do not ever be one who gives up on faithfully serving the Lord, for if you do, and do not return, you will be among those who will populate hell.

### **Those Who Reject The Gospel of Christ Will Populate Hell.**

Last, but certainly not least, the Bible also informs that those who reject the gospel of Christ will be among those who will populate hell. In 2 Thessalonians 1:7-8, the apostle Paul declared that Jesus would take vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. He then said, "*These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power...*" (2 Thessalonians 1:9). Friend, take heed to those words of warning from the apostle Paul, and be one who knows and obeys God. For, if you choose to neglect to do so, you will someday be among those who will populate hell.

My friend, this is just a short preview of some who will populate hell. Therefore, take heed, lest you spend eternity there.

✍️ Brad Phillips

## Spiritual Tragedy

Melvin Gordon is dead. He loved his family, and was especially concerned for his sister who suffered from a serious kidney ailment. "I would do almost anything to restore my sister's health," he told his wife. So he drove to a local hospital, put a rifle muzzle to his head, and fired one shot. Pinned to his shirt was a note, "Get my kidney within one hour." A kidney, however, to be used for a transplant, must be taken at the moment of death and kept filled with flowing blood to avoid tissue deterioration. They found him too late. His kidneys could not be used. Melvin Gordon died in vain.

What a tragic story! And the story becomes doubly tragic in the realization that had Melvin Gordon taken the time to learn the facts, he could have helped his sister while continuing to live a normal life himself! But, he acted according to his feelings, on impulse, and as a result he is dead and his sister continues to suffer from her kidney ailment. He died in vain because he didn't take the time to learn the truth.

The tragic story of Melvin Gordon is being spiritually reenacted in the lives of millions of people throughout the world--people who are religious; who are zealous in their religion; who are giving liberally of their time, money, and talents; who would gladly die for the cause they have espoused; who both expect and desire to go to heaven; but people who have really given little consideration to what God has said concerning that which pleases Him. In fact, while many of them read the Bible every day, they frankly admit that they have little knowledge as to what the Bible teaches. They have plunged headlong into some cause without demanding book, chapter, and verse to show God's authority behind that cause.

These people vary widely in what they are doing. One person may have done one thing "to be saved," while another may have done something entirely different. One person may be caring for the day nursery for the church while another is playing on the

church softball team. But the one thing they have in common is that they are all "doing" without having taken the time to investigate what they ought to be doing.

Such action leads to spiritual tragedy. "Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity" (Matthew 7:21-23).

In the judgment, the question will not be, "Were you religious?" but, "Did you do the will of the Father in heaven?" Only those who are diligently studying God's will and are doing it can face that judgment with confidence. Don't give your life in vain.

*Bill Hall*

### Belleville church of Christ

5635 S County Rd 200E - Belleville, IN - (317) 539-5258

[www.bellevillechurch.net](http://www.bellevillechurch.net)

#### Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Study .....	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship .....	10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship .....	4:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study .....	7:00 p.m.

#### Elders

David Lockhart .....	(317) 714-6213
David Thomas .....	(317) 945-8539

#### Evangelist

Brad Phillips .....	(765) 720-2816
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