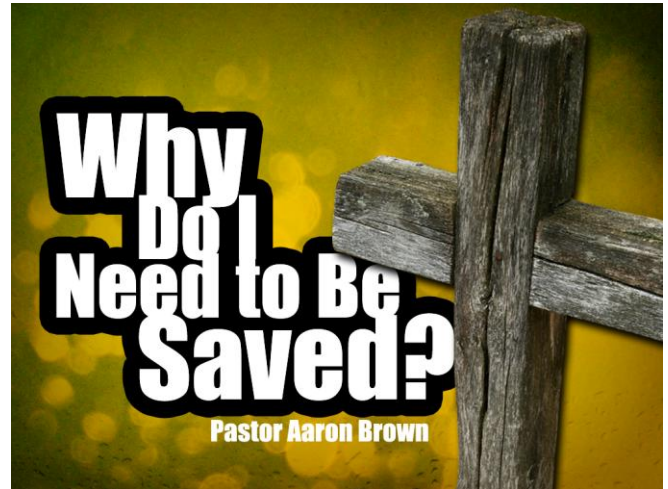


Discussion of Sermon



1. Compare these statements from Rob Bell and CS Lewis on the nature of Hell.

Telling a story in which billions of people spend forever somewhere in the universe trapped in a black hole of endless torment and misery with no way out isn't a very good story. Telling a story about a God who inflicts unrelenting punishment on people because they didn't do or say or believe the correct things in a brief window of time called life isn't a very good story. ...given enough time, everyone will turn to God and find themselves in the joy and peace of God's presence. The love of God will melt every hard heart, and even the most "depraved sinners" will eventually give up their resistance and turn to God. Rob Bell Love Wins

Some will not be redeemed. There is no doctrine which I would more willingly remove from Christianity than this, if it lay in my power. But it has the full support of Scripture and, specially, of our Lord's own words; it has always been held by Christendom, and it has the support of reason... In the long run, the answer to all those who object to the doctrine of hell is itself a question: "What are you asking God to do?" To wipe out all their past sins, and, at all costs, to give them a fresh start, smoothing every difficulty and offering every miraculous help? But He has done so, on Calvary. C.S. Lewis The Problem of Pain

2. What do these Scriptures tell us about sin and separation from God?

But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you... Isaiah 59:2

There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God... Romans. 3:23

Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. Psalm 51:5

3. What do these Scriptures tell us about the penalty for sin?

What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! For the wages of sin is death... Romans 6:21, 23

...you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die. Genesis 2:17

...just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned... Romans 5:12

4. Read the following Scriptures and make a list of things that Jesus says about hell.

*Matthew 8:12
Matthew 13:41-50*

*Matthew 25:30,
Matthew 25:41- 46*

*Luke 16:24
Luke 16:27-31*

5. Read the following Scriptures and make a list of things that other NT writers say about hell.

*Romans 2:3-9
1 Thessalonians 5:3
2 Thessalonians 1:9*

*1 Peter 3:19
2 Peter 2:17
Revelation 14:10-11*

*Revelation 20:11-15
Revelation 21:8*

6. Pastor Brown said there are at least three responses to the question: **How could a Loving God Send People to Hell?**

God did not create hell for humans: *Matthew 25:41, 46*

God's holiness and justice demands it: *Hebrews 9:27.*

God doesn't want anyone to go to Hell: *Ezekiel 33:11 and 2 Peter 3:8-9*