

# Only One Way to Escape!

Picture this situation. It is the middle of the night, you are sound asleep. There is a fire raging inside of your home. Your whole house is engulfed in flames. Suddenly you are awakened. All of your senses tell you that you are in mortal danger. You get up out of bed and begin to look for an escape. Time is short and your painful and horrid death is approaching. Every exit is closed off by the flames. The denseness of the smoke creates such a blackness making it impossible for you to find any way out of death's grip.

But then you see it. There is light penetrating through the thick black smoke. You see one way to escape... *only one way to escape!* You realize that you must run, there can be no delay or hesitation. While you are running, you are stumbling over things that the fire has caused to fall in your path. You wonder if you can make it but as you look around you and behind you, you know that if you don't run for your life, you are doomed to perish in the flames. You continue running through the thick smoke and flames toward the dim light. The faster you run, the clearer the light becomes. It is a bright searchlight that a fireman is using to help you see your way out.

Finally, you make it out of the house to safety. There is fresh air and a fireman hands you refreshing water. You look back and realize that you have lost everything but the charred clothing on your back. But you are alive! You were spared from a dreadful death!

That story illustrates a far more serious spiritual reality. You are in danger. You may not think so, but that is because you are spiritually dead, asleep to the things of God. But there are clear warnings in God's Bible. This message is like the fireman with the searchlight showing you that there is only one way of escape!

# Only One Way to Escape!

Picture this situation. It is the middle of the night, you are sound asleep. There is a fire raging inside of your home. Your whole house is engulfed in flames. Suddenly you are awakened. All of your senses tell you that you are in mortal danger. You get up out of bed and begin to look for an escape. Time is short and your painful and horrid death is approaching. Every exit is closed off by the flames. The denseness of the smoke creates such a blackness making it impossible for you to find any way out of death's grip.

But then you see it. There is light penetrating through the thick black smoke. You see one way to escape... *only one way to escape!* You realize that you must run, there can be no delay or hesitation. While you are running, you are stumbling over things that the fire has caused to fall in your path. You wonder if you can make it but as you look around you and behind you, you know that if you don't run for your life, you are doomed to perish in the flames. You continue running through the thick smoke and flames toward the dim light. The faster you run, the clearer the light becomes. It is a bright searchlight that a fireman is using to help you see your way out.

Finally, you make it out of the house to safety. There is fresh air and a fireman hands you refreshing water. You look back and realize that you have lost everything but the charred clothing on your back. But you are alive! You were spared from a dreadful death!

That story illustrates a far more serious spiritual reality. You are in danger. You may not think so, but that is because you are spiritually dead, asleep to the things of God. But there are clear warnings in God's Bible. This message is like the fireman with the searchlight showing you that there is only one way of escape!

# Only One Way to Escape!

Picture this situation. It is the middle of the night, you are sound asleep. There is a fire raging inside of your home. Your whole house is engulfed in flames. Suddenly you are awakened. All of your senses tell you that you are in mortal danger. You get up out of bed and begin to look for an escape. Time is short and your painful and horrid death is approaching. Every exit is closed off by the flames. The denseness of the smoke creates such a blackness making it impossible for you to find any way out of death's grip.

But then you see it. There is light penetrating through the thick black smoke. You see one way to escape... *only one way to escape!* You realize that you must run, there can be no delay or hesitation. While you are running, you are stumbling over things that the fire has caused to fall in your path. You wonder if you can make it but as you look around you and behind you, you know that if you don't run for your life, you are doomed to perish in the flames. You continue running through the thick smoke and flames toward the dim light. The faster you run, the clearer the light becomes. It is a bright searchlight that a fireman is using to help you see your way out.

Finally, you make it out of the house to safety. There is fresh air and a fireman hands you refreshing water. You look back and realize that you have lost everything but the charred clothing on your back. But you are alive! You were spared from a dreadful death!

That story illustrates a far more serious spiritual reality. You are in danger. You may not think so, but that is because you are spiritually dead, asleep to the things of God. But there are clear warnings in God's Bible. This message is like the fireman with the searchlight showing you that there is only one way of escape!

Here are the spiritual realities:

1. God is holy and just and hates all sin and the sinners that commit sin. (I John 1:5; I Timothy 6:15,16; Psalms 5:4,5; 11:4-7; Isaiah 5:16)
2. You yourself have sinned against a holy God (Romans 3:23; 6:23; John 3:19,20; Job 15:14-16; Psalms 51:5; Isaiah 64:6)
3. Therefore His anger is against you. (Romans 1:18,19; Isaiah 59:2; John 3:36)
4. You can't fix your situation by doing better or enough good works to earn salvation. (Job 14:4; Romans 3:9-19; 10:3; Proverbs 14:4)
5. You will face Him for judgment when you die. (Hebrews 9:27)

Here's the dilemma. You have sinned against God and broken His laws. He can't pretend that you never sinned against Him. His holy justice demands your death, separation and punishment in hell forever. That's how serious your sins are. How can He forgive you and still satisfy His holy justice?

The answer is that a sinless sacrifice must pay the price for your offenses against God. That sacrifice is Jesus Christ, God the Son, who was sent by the Father in love and mercy to pay the penalty for lost sinners. (John 3:16; Romans 5:8; Mark 10:45; I Peter 3:18; John 14:6)

The Father put His Son on the cross and poured out His wrath on His Son, treating Him as if He were us so that He could treat us as if we were His holy, sinless Son. (Romans 5:6-8; II Corinthians 5:21) Jesus Christ suffered the wrath of God by bearing sins for many so that all who repent and put their trust in Jesus Christ will be forgiven of their sins and the Father will count them as righteous. (I John 1:8-10; I Corinthians 1:30; Romans 3:21-26; 5:19) They will be made brand new and given eternal life! (II Corinthians 5:17; Romans 6:23)

There's Only One Way To Escape! Repent of your sins and place your trust in Jesus Christ for salvation. Ask God to save you. Time is short, your judgment is coming. Hell will have you for all of eternity. Get up, flee to Jesus Christ and escape the wrath to come. "How will you escape if you neglect so great a salvation?" (Hebrews 2:3)

Tom Rayborn

Here are the spiritual realities:

1. God is holy and just and hates all sin and the sinners that commit sin. (I John 1:5; I Timothy 6:15,16; Psalms 5:4,5; 11:4-7; Isaiah 5:16)
2. You yourself have sinned against a holy God (Romans 3:23; 6:23; John 3:19,20; Job 15:14-16; Psalms 51:5; Isaiah 64:6)
3. Therefore His anger is against you. (Romans 1:18,19; Isaiah 59:2; John 3:36)
4. You can't fix your situation by doing better or enough good works to earn salvation. (Job 14:4; Romans 3:9-19; 10:3; Proverbs 14:4)
5. You will face Him for judgment when you die. (Hebrews 9:27)

Here's the dilemma. You have sinned against God and broken His laws. He can't pretend that you never sinned against Him. His holy justice demands your death, separation and punishment in hell forever. That's how serious your sins are. How can He forgive you and still satisfy His holy justice?

The answer is that a sinless sacrifice must pay the price for your offenses against God. That sacrifice is Jesus Christ, God the Son, who was sent by the Father in love and mercy to pay the penalty for lost sinners. (John 3:16; Romans 5:8; Mark 10:45; I Peter 3:18; John 14:6)

The Father put His Son on the cross and poured out His wrath on His Son, treating Him as if He were us so that He could treat us as if we were His holy, sinless Son. (Romans 5:6-8; II Corinthians 5:21) Jesus Christ suffered the wrath of God by bearing sins for many so that all who repent and put their trust in Jesus Christ will be forgiven of their sins and the Father will count them as righteous. (I John 1:8-10; I Corinthians 1:30; Romans 3:21-26; 5:19) They will be made brand new and given eternal life! (II Corinthians 5:17; Romans 6:23)

There's Only One Way To Escape! Repent of your sins and place your trust in Jesus Christ for salvation. Ask God to save you. Time is short, your judgment is coming. Hell will have you for all of eternity. Get up, flee to Jesus Christ and escape the wrath to come. "How will you escape if you neglect so great a salvation?" (Hebrews 2:3)

Tom Rayborn

Here are the spiritual realities:

1. God is holy and just and hates all sin and the sinners that commit sin. (I John 1:5; I Timothy 6:15,16; Psalms 5:4,5; 11:4-7; Isaiah 5:16)
2. You yourself have sinned against a holy God (Romans 3:23; 6:23; John 3:19,20; Job 15:14-16; Psalms 51:5; Isaiah 64:6)
3. Therefore His anger is against you. (Romans 1:18,19; Isaiah 59:2; John 3:36)
4. You can't fix your situation by doing better or enough good works to earn salvation. (Job 14:4; Romans 3:9-19; 10:3; Proverbs 14:4)
5. You will face Him for judgment when you die. (Hebrews 9:27)

Here's the dilemma. You have sinned against God and broken His laws. He can't pretend that you never sinned against Him. His holy justice demands your death, separation and punishment in hell forever. That's how serious your sins are. How can He forgive you and still satisfy His holy justice?

The answer is that a sinless sacrifice must pay the price for your offenses against God. That sacrifice is Jesus Christ, God the Son, who was sent by the Father in love and mercy to pay the penalty for lost sinners. (John 3:16; Romans 5:8; Mark 10:45; I Peter 3:18; John 14:6)

The Father put His Son on the cross and poured out His wrath on His Son, treating Him as if He were us so that He could treat us as if we were His holy, sinless Son. (Romans 5:6-8; II Corinthians 5:21) Jesus Christ suffered the wrath of God by bearing sins for many so that all who repent and put their trust in Jesus Christ will be forgiven of their sins and the Father will count them as righteous. (I John 1:8-10; I Corinthians 1:30; Romans 3:21-26; 5:19) They will be made brand new and given eternal life! (II Corinthians 5:17; Romans 6:23)

There's Only One Way To Escape! Repent of your sins and place your trust in Jesus Christ for salvation. Ask God to save you. Time is short, your judgment is coming. Hell will have you for all of eternity. Get up, flee to Jesus Christ and escape the wrath to come. "How will you escape if you neglect so great a salvation?" (Hebrews 2:3)

Tom Rayborn