

Matthew 6:21

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

“Oh no, he going to ask us for money, I just know he is.” That may have been your first thought when you read today’s devotional verse. But that is the furthest thing from the truth. First off, I never asked anyone to give me money for this ministry. God has always supplied for it, and He always will. Secondly, you may be surprised at what my opening statement is in regard to today’s devotional, which is:

“Why would a good loving God ever send anyone to hell?”

That is a very good question that a lot of non-believers ask, because from their perspective, that’s what God is doing. But just like some thought I was going to ask for money, and after you read my response to that, you realized that was not true at all. So, by the time you finish reading this devotional, you will also realize that God does not send anyone to hell. In fact, it’s actually the opposite because the bible says that:

† **2 Peter 3:9** *The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.*

So if God does not want anyone to go to hell, no matter how much of a sinner he or she is, then the question is, why does He still send them there?

Think of it this way, if I tell my child I do not want them to go out and play in the street, and they go anyway, it’s not me sending them there, because my heart is for them not to go play in the street and get hurt. But the choice is the child’s, not mine. The same is true with God, He has shown us all the way to salvation, which is through His Son Jesus Christ, and as we just read that He does not want anyone to spend eternity in hell. Therefore if someone ends up there, it’s not God who sends them, but the person has decided that is where they want to go, and God will allow them to have what they chose.

Let’s put this into a more earthly perspective that we can all understand. Let’s say that I tell you about two different places that you can go live in for the rest of your life here on earth. So, as I tell you that, I also let you know that I have paid all the expenses for you to go to one of the places, and the other one you would have to pay for yourself if you wanted to go there instead. Also, one other point is that I would live in one of those places in the same neighborhood that you would live in and that we would hang out together a lot, but if you choose the other place, you will never see or hear from me again.

So, the first place I tell you about, which I paid for would be the Bahamas. I tell you about all the sandy beaches, and clear water and fresh fish that you can eat along with tropical fruit and

sunshine and all the goodness of living in the Bahamas. This would also be the place that I would be living near you if you choose to live there.

Now the second place I tell you about, and that you would have to pay for is, Death Valley, in Arizona. And I warn you that it gets really, really hot there, in the summertime it is over 120 degrees in the shade. There are no beaches there, no food source, and very little water, if you can find any. This is the place where if you choose to live here, you will never see or hear from me ever again.

Now, which one would you choose? Now I know that sounds like a no duh, because who in their right mind would want to go live in Death Valley? Maybe if some simply did not like me to the point that they hated me and never wanted to be around me for the rest of their life. But even then, is that much hatred towards someone good enough reason to pass up on paradise and end up in Death Valley?

That's the same thing we are talking about here. God has sent His Son, Jesus Christ to pay the price for us to live in Paradise, which is heaven with Him for all eternity. Yet, even though He has, still people will choose to live in hell, and they pay the way to go there with their sinful lifestyle.

Therefore, God paid the price so you can go to heaven, but if you decide you don't want to, that does not mean that God is sending you there. It's your choice and yours alone, and as today's verse says, that "***where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.***" the question is, where is your heart willing to spend eternity, because that truly is where your treasure is?

† **Matthew 11:28** *Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*

† **Isaiah 1:18-20** *"Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool. If you are willing and obedient, You shall eat the good of the land; But if you refuse and rebel, You shall be devoured by the sword"; For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.*

† **Ezekiel 33:5** *He heard the sound of the trumpet, but did not take warning; his blood shall be upon himself. But he who takes warning will save his life.*