



BIBLE NUGGETS

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A BIBLE NUGGET SPECIAL ADDITION

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A Dangerous Ecumenical Expansion – 1

Although Revelation was written nearly 2000 years ago, it still rings true with resounding clarity for churches today. In Revelation 2 the Lord Jesus addresses the church in Pergamos that compromised doctrine and was silent about sin. However, they were very motivational and Charismatic, but powerless against breaking Satan's grip. The great British preacher, G. Campbell Morgan, once said, "It is a remarkable thing that the church of Christ persecuted has been the church pure. On the other hand, the church of Christ patronized has been the church of Christ impure." Sadly, many in the church today live compromised lives.

Pew Research Center Study:

"More than 79% of historically black and evangelical churches still believe in the God of the Bible, while only 78% of whites. However, there are troubling signs that many young evangelical pastors are trending towards pluralism, as more and more theological institutions they learn from capitulate to a form of universalism."

The Perfect Heretic:

Michael A. Walrond Jr., is senior pastor at First Corinthian Baptist Church in Harlem, New York City, which has more than 10,000 members, has sparked shock online after stating that it is "insanity" to believe that the only way to heaven is to put your faith in salvation through Jesus Christ alone. Walrond, who is widely regarded as one of the most influential pastors in New York City, made the statements while delivering a sermon at First Corinthian. "There was a time when you would see people in the pulpit say, "Well, if you don't believe in Jesus you are going to Hell. That's insanity in many ways because that is not what Jesus even believes," the pastor said, adding, "And so the key is you believe in God. And whatever your path is to God. Personally I celebrate that."

The Lord's Warning:

To understand why the Lord Jesus would refer to converts of these modern-day Pharisees such as the Michael Walronds as "**children of hell**" (literally, "son of Gehenna"), we only have to look at the context of the Lord's words (Mt. 23:14-15), one of His seven woes. The Lord said: "**You shall receive the greater damnation.**" "You make (them) twofold more the (children) of hell than yourselves." "**I Am the way, the Truth, and the Life, no one comes to the Father, but by Me. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also**" (John 14:6-7).

Walrond is a board member of the National Action Network (NAN), the president and founder is Al Sharpton. Walrond was appointed the first National Director of the Minister's Division. He serves as a trustee and adjunct faculty member of Chicago Theological Seminary and currently serves as the Chair of the The Board of Visitors at Duke University Divinity School. Walrond served as weekly columnist for the New York Amsterdam News for over two years. He was named "One of the Lord's Foot Soldiers" by Newsweek Magazine.

Why is the idea of Eternal Damnation so Repulsive?

In the shifting winds of modern cultures, the idea of everlasting torment and damnation is difficult for many people to grasp. Why is this? The Bible makes it clear that hell is a literal place. Christ spoke more about hell than He did of heaven. Not only Satan and his minions will be punished there; everyone who rejects Jesus Christ will spend eternity right along with them. A desire to reject or revise the doctrine of hell will not mitigate its flames or make the place go away. Still, the idea of eternal damnation is spurned by many, and here are some reasons for it:

Contemporary Thought:

In this postmodern era, many go to great lengths to assure no one is offended, and the biblical doctrine of hell is considered offensive. It is too harsh, too old-fashioned, too insensitive. The wisdom of this world is focused on this life, with no thought of the life to come. Many contemporary pastors who believe in the doctrine of hell consider it simply too delicate a subject to preach on. This further contributes to the modern denial of hell. Congregants in churches where hell is not preached are ignorant of what the Bible says on the subject and are prime candidates for deception and the Lake of Fire.

A Downplaying of Sin:

Some find it shockingly unfair that the recompense for a mere lifetime of sinning should be an eternal punishment. Others reject the idea of hell because, in their minds, sin isn't all that bad. Certainly not bad enough to warrant eternal torture. Of course, it is usually our own sin that we downplay; other people might deserve hell – murderers and the like. This attitude reveals a misunderstanding of the heinous nature of sin. The problem is an insistence on our own basic goodness, which precludes thoughts of a fiery judgment and denies the truth of Romans 3:10; 6:23. Nearly two-thirds of Americans (64%) believe they will go to heaven. One in 20 adults (5%) claim they will come back in another form, while the same proportion (5%) contend they will simply cease to exist. Just 1% expect to go to hell. Remember, the Lord Jesus spoke more about hell and about heaven. "Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leads to life and few there be that find it" (Mt. 7:14).

GRACE BIBLE CHAPEL'S TEMPORARY LOCATION

Five Mile Road One Block West of Inkster Road
St. Paul Presbyterian Church
New Mailing Address: Grace Bible Chapel P.O. Box 51208
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Early Service 7:45/ Communion 9:30/Sunday School 10:30/2nd Service 11:30/ Wed. Study 12 Noon

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