

Why Will Ye Die?

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

Ezekiel 33:11. "Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?"

While this was speaking to Israel it also applies to us in this day. God wanted Israel to obey the commands of God and to be an example to the ungodly. God made provision for those of the gentile nations that would come to trust in the God of Israel. Instead of Israel leading the idol worshipping nations unto the Lord, they led Israel away from God. It is sad to think that people with the truth and the living God would give in to the desires of the flesh and follow idols. God had warned them against this, but the flesh won out over reason and righteousness.

The Lord had brought the flood upon the world of the ungodly. There was ample evidence that God would not tolerate sin. Sodom and Gomorrah and many other examples were given. Israel continued to alternate be-

tween following God and going after the idols of other nations. God would punish them; then, they would repent and follow God for a time; then turn to Baal or some other idol and the cycle would repeat itself.

People in that day, or today, have the same choice. We can go after the things of the flesh and the pleasures of this life, or seek life eternal. **Hebrews 11:24-26.** "By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward." There is sinful pleasure in this world, but only for awhile. Then there is death and the judgment of God. The lake of fire is not some imagined place, but a real destination for those who reject God.

Those who will live for the Lord and follow the way of life will live forever. As the Word of God tells us in **Revelation 21:4**, "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." The bible is clear - follow the world and have

everlasting death, or follow the Lord and have everlasting life. Consider this, right now the sinner is having the best time of his existence, and the Christian is having the worst time of his existence.

God asked the question of Israel, and of us, why would you live and die in sin while the Lord is offering life to those who come to trust in him? Look through the Bible at the nation of Israel. They followed the false gods of the heathen until they were punished by the true God. Then in their misery they called on the Lord to deliver them. Why? Because their so-called gods were nothing and could not help. In times of trouble they knew that the living God had, could, and would help them when they repented.

Today people are no different. Some talk big and mock the things of God, but when they face death then they say, "God help me!" I have witnessed those who were in accidents where they could easily have been killed. They often spoke of turning to God, not wanting to die lost. Some from war situations where they were being shot at; they too often thought that they needed to get right with God.

Will you turn to the Lord and live, or follow the ways of the flesh and face death and an eternity without God?

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483 Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of Exodus intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times.

MOSES AND PLAGUES OF EGYPT

WHEN MOSES RETURNED TO EGYPT AND ASKED PHARAOH TO LET THE ISRAELITES GO INTO THE WILDERNESS, PHARAOH ONLY MADE THE TASKS OF THE ISRAELITES HARDER...

HOW CAN WE MAKE BRICKS WITHOUT ANY STRAW? IT IS THE DECREE OF PHARAOH!

YE WISH TO SPEND TIME IN IDLENESS, THEREFORE WORK HARDER!

...AND THE ISRAELITES PUT ALL THE BLAME ON MOSES...

HAST THOU COME AMONG US TO CAUSE PHARAOH TO KILL US ALL?!

AND MOSES SPEAKS TO THE LORD WITH A HEAVY HEART. ...SINCE I CAME, PHARAOH HATH DONE EVIL UNTO THY PEOPLE... NEITHER HAST THOU SAVED THY PEOPLE AT ALL!

HAST THOU, THEN, COME TO PLAGUE ME ONCE AGAIN - I WILL NOT LET THE PEOPLE GO!

RISE, NOW, AND SEE THE SALVATION OF THE LORD! GO UNTO PHARAOH, THOU AND THY BROTHER AARON, AND SPEAK, AND DO ALL I HAVE COMMANDED OF THEE, AND I WILL YET DELIVER THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL OUT OF THE LAND OF EGYPT!

AND MOSES AND AARON DO AS THE LORD COMMANDES, APPEARING BEFORE PHARAOH IN HIS SUMPTUOUS COURT!

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