

ILLUSTRATED MESSAGE SERIES BY PASTOR RICHARD BASED ON
THE AZUSA STREET PAPERS

**The Azusa Street Papers Overview – Hells Flames of Eternal Torment?
Message 17, June 12th, 2022**

As we read from the title of this message, there is a question mark. Not that I question that hell is a place of eternal torment, but there is a false teaching that has been around, even from the Azusa Revival, that teaches contrary. That teaching is called the Doctrine of Annihilation. We're going to examine that today and bring the truth with Jesus' word of truth, which is the more sure word of prophecy.

AZUSA PAPERS says; *"We can see that there is no annihilation in God's Word for the wicked, but there is a blazing and burning hell awaiting them. Their home will be in everlasting flames, where they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. Rev. 20:10"*

Revelation 20:10 says; *"10 The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where[a] the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever."*

At the time of the Azusa Street revival, there were Christians who taught the doctrine of annihilation, a false teaching that says that Hell is not a place of eternal torment, but rather is a place where a person's resurrected body, soul and spirit is annihilated by fire at the Great White Throne Judgement and is no more, similar to that of a cremation, except without their remains being preserved for memorial.

Although the saints that gathered at Azusa Street were from many different Christian denominations, the founders did not except false teaching, regardless of how genuine these Christian lives were by attending church services. A false assumption many make in the church world is that just because they're in a church service, does not make them a genuine Christian. What made the Azusa Street Revival different, is that the primary focus was on the Baptism in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues, plus praying for the sick, casting out devil etc.

AZUSA PAPERS says; *"Jesus believed in hell, and warned men to flee from it. Why are the pulpits so silent today? Because we are in the latter day apostasy. Read the words of Jesus: "The Son of man shall send forth His angels, and they shall gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity and shall cast them into a furnace of fire, there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Matt. 13:41, 42."*

A good illustration of hell being a place of eternal torment can be found in the story of the Rich Man and Lazarus, where Jesus clearly talks about two individuals, one an unbelieving Rich Man and a believing poor sick man, who both died under the Old Testament Jewish Law. What was the difference; one was a believer and the other wasn't. That's not to say that the rich man didn't hear, but his riches preoccupied him. He had no time for God, he had to build more barns and store more riches.

In **Luke 16:19-31** we read about this story; *"19 There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and [h]fared sumptuously every day. 20 But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, 21 desiring to be fed with [i]the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. 22 So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. 23 And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom."*

This is not talking about the lake of fire, where after the Great White Throne Judgement, both Old and New Testament unbelievers are cast into for eternity, but is the precursor, or the next worse place that resembles hell called Hades, where unbelievers are tormented day and night while awaiting their judgment to be cast into Hell for eternity.

The rich man is very much aware of his surroundings, and can clearly see from where he is that Lazarus is in paradise with father Abraham and he himself is in Hades a place of torment.

The scripture continues; *"24 Then he cried and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.' 25 But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is*

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comforted and you are tormented. 26 And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.' ”

AZUSA PAPERS says; *“Many who have preached a no-hell Gospel will find out better when they die and come to the judgment, just as this man died, and in hell lifted up his eyes. May God help us to turn from sin and wickedness and not try to wrest the Scriptures, but take them just as they are written. This rich man was now a poor beggar in hell.”*

We see that the tables flipped, who is the rich man now? Lazarus. In the day and age we are living in, the rich men and women of the World Economic Forum are going to wake up in Hades one day, along with all the political world leaders who are following their agenda. Unless they repent of their sins and make Jesus Christ Lord of their lives, Klaus Schwab, Justin Trudeau and Chrystia Freeland will wake up one day to the reality of their own eternal torment in Hades while they await the Great White Throne Judgement of Christ. Their riches will not save them, their connections with the WEF will not save them. No money can keep sinners out of hell. Now they’ve become rich off of the pandemic and whatever other schemes are up their sleeves for population reduction that’s going on behind the scenes, then when in hell, where the fire does not go out and the worm does not die, none of their corrupt money will be able to save their souls for eternity. These men and women are the biggest and more influential globally, they are not born again.

AZUSA PAPERS says; *“The Word says: "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God." Chicago is going to stand up in the judgment; Los Angeles shall stand before the judgment, New York and Indianapolis shall be brought into judgment. After the white throne judgment, we are going to see men and women who have scorned this holiness and baptism, and they will be cast down into the burning hell. Today is the day of salvation. Today if ye will hear His voice, harden not your heart. O, accept this salvation.”*

We can add our own Town of Didsbury, our Mayor, all the leaders who have been since the founding of the town in 1906, exactly when the Azusa Street Revival was taking place. There could have been much scorn about the Revival even in Didsbury, because news and outpouring of the Azusa Revival spread all over the world.

Luke 16 continues in **verses 27-31**; *“Then he said, ‘I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father’s house, 28 for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.’ 29 Abraham said to him, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.’ 30 And he said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ 31 But he said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.’ ”*

There were many religious Jews that rejected Jesus even after He rose from the dead, and appeared unto His disciples for forty days before He ascended to Heaven. It even says in **Matthew 27:52-53**; *“52The tombs broke open, and the bodies of many saints who had fallen asleep were raised. 53 After Jesus’ resurrection, when they had come out of the tombs, they entered the holy city and appeared to many people.”*

It’s not clear that the rich man was a backslidden religious Jew, however he did know who father Abraham was when he saw him and we can conclude that he allowed his love of money to separate him from God while he lived in luxury and also to separate him from God for eternity in Hades, where he is now the poor beggar of comfort from the fire that does not annihilate him, but rather continually torments him.

How many people are doing the same thing today? Allowing their riches to get in the way of their relationship with God, they can’t go to church because they have other priorities. It’s true. Riches are getting in the way of Jesus, church fellowship, the worship of the almighty dollar, more concerned about where they’re going to get their retirement plan than they are concerned about where they’re going to spend eternity.

Paradise was only a temporary place for Lazarus and Old Testament saints to remain until Jesus redeemed them and gave them access to Heaven after His resurrection from the dead, so in heaven there is no longer any knowledge of those in Hades and those in Hades have no knowledge of them in Heaven. There is no communication with father Abraham, or God or their loved ones that are still living, but rather eternal separation from all that is good, in a place of torment while they await the Great White Thone Judgement. The only connection there may be is that they are eternally separated from heaven and those who are there, that’s possibly the greatest torment.

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There are many Christians today, who as a result of this recent scandemic, are in a place where they are daily laid at the feet of the World Economic Forum leaders begging for the crumbs that would fall off the rich men and women's tables. Some of them are so sick from the side effects of the vaccines as a result of trusting the science instead of trusting Jesus, that they are now dependent on the Government hand outs to stay alive. It's not God's will for them to stay in that state, for Jesus redeemed them from the curse of the Law, sickness, death and poverty, and they can take up their mat and walk and trust Jesus or they can trust the science and die in that state of co-dependence on the unbelieving rich, who see their death as a means to an end to bring about their wicked agenda of population reduction. This is the depravity of the wicked in our world today. Don't remain at their feet and remain in the dark regarding their agenda.

It doesn't say why or how the believer of God ended up as a beggar at the gate of the rich man, all we know is that regardless of his impoverished state, he went to Paradise and the rich man went to Hades (hell) and is still in Hades awaiting the Great White throne Judgement. That's over 2000 years, still awaiting that judgement.

Revelation 20:11-15 tells us about The Great White Throne Judgment; *"11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before [a]God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. 13 The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. 14 Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second [b]death. 15 And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire."*

We see that as Death and Hades are coming to life and being delivered to stand before Jesus at His White Throne for judgement day. Anyone who was not a born again Christian in Jesus, any Old Testament people who rejected the teachings of Abraham, Moses and the prophets, anyone today who has scoffed and mocked and rejected the gospel of Jesus Christ, will be cast into the lake of fire for eternity.

The doctrine of annihilationism teaches that it is here at the Great White Throne Judgement, that the unbelievers are burnt up in the lake of fire and are no longer a living body, soul and spirit. That may be comforting to think, but it's not the truth. Jesus makes it very clear in the following scripture that hell is a place of eternal torment.

Mark 9:43-48; *"43 If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life [a]maimed, rather than having two hands, to go to [b]hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched— 44 [c]where 'Their worm does not die And the fire is not quenched.' 45 And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame, rather than having two feet, to be cast into [d]hell, [e]into the fire that shall never be quenched— 46 where 'Their worm does not die And the fire is not quenched.' 47 And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into [f]hell fire— 48 where 'Their worm does not die And the fire is not quenched.'"*

Three times Jesus repeats this. The severity is so extreme, that Jesus is making a dramatic point here, that it's better to cut off your hand, foot or pluck out your eye and remove anything that's causing you to sin, that you may gain eternal life in heaven. We know Jesus wasn't literally saying for a person to harm their physical bodies, but makes a good visual statement for all to understand the severity of sin and its consequences. Don't allow anything to get in the way of eternity. If your hand, eye or foot is causing you to sin, deal with it, remove the temptation from your life and repent. Jesus is in essence saying; I want you to make it into heaven, I don't want to see you before the Great White Throne to cast you into hell for eternity. Your name has to be in the Book of Life, which has to be written in it before you die.

AZUSA PAPERS says; *"If the doctrine of annihilation were true, then this rich man would have been burned into ashes, and there would be no more of him. But we see in the Word of God, that Jesus taught a burning hell. We see the rich man that had had gold and silver and raiment and sumptuous food, tormented in hell, and his heart's cry was that his brothers might not come to that place of torment."*

It may be that this rich man was a bad influence to his other brothers and hence, he was begging father Abraham to send Lazarus back to them to warn them of the place of torment that he was in. Maybe he taught them to love money rather than God, how to be good sinners. Just a thought.

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It may appear that the rich unbelieving World Economic Forum elitists, the rich World Health Organizations and all the rich politicians that are on board with them, are getting away with the crimes against humanity, something that has been planned out, but the Bible clearly lays out that unless they repent and make Jesus Christ the Lord of their lives, life after death for them is in the lake of fire that burns for ever and ever. It's not God's will for any of these leaders around the world to be separated from Him for eternity, God wants them to spend eternity with Him in heaven, not in the lake of fire. God would desire for them to turn from their wicked ways, and use their finances for His glory. Being rich is not evil, let's be clear, but these men and women have made riches their god, at your expense. How much money do you think these elitists have made off of this scandemic through the big pharma companies? How much investment did they have in the stocks while all the money was coming in? How full are their bank accounts now compared to before? What's the next scheme they have to reduce the population? Maybe climate control or a new disease?

Jesus said in **Luke 12:4-5**; *"4 And I say to you, My friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. 5 But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him!"*

AZUSA PAPERS says; *"How will you miss hell if you stumble over this precious Gospel, if you ignore this Gospel which God has granted signs and wonders to follow? If you grieve the Holy Spirit, and trample upon the Blood of Jesus Christ, how will you miss hell? There is no way for you to escape hell if you reject the Gospel of Jesus Christ. God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him, should not perish but have everlasting life. O, my friends, the precious Blood is flowing for you. If you come to Him, He will wash away your sin, and cleanse you from all unrighteousness and carnality, and set up His throne in your heart."*

Please watch this video on [The Rich Man and Lazarus](#).

To read The Apostolic Faith (The Azusa Street Papers) please click on this link to read [Vol.1, No.5](#).