June 18, 2017 - The Life and Death of Mr. Badman

Chapter 19 – Future Happiness Not To Be Hoped In A Quite Hardened Death - Part 1

We continue on in this chapter with more of the reasons of certainty that Badman did not go to heaven. Let's look at the word, consternation. According to vocabulary.com, it means; "Consternation is a noun that can stop you in your tracks because it means "a sudden, alarming amazement or dread that results in utter confusion; dismay." If you have a sense of consternation you have become afraid, disoriented, or completely befuddled. It kind of sounds like Alzheimer's too doesn't it. It causes people to lose their memory, their mind, speaking things they wouldn't normally have spoken, their under fear etc. This is too what happens to people as they die.

Let's read a bit of what Wiseman says regarding the kinds of death that people die. WISEMAN Suppose one man should die quietly, another should die suddenly, and a third should die under great consternation of spirit; no one can judge of their eternal condition by the way they died. He who dies quietly, suddenly, or under consternation of spirit, may go to heaven or to hell; no one can tell where a man goes by the way he died.

Mr. Badman had no remorse for his sin and yet died with a peaceful look on his countenance and peaceful state on his body. The external does not determine the internal condition of the heart and whether they are right with God or not. There is strong deception in drawing conclusions about how a person appears emotionally when they die as we've just read. Assuming that someone is going to heaven solely based on their countenance at death, doesn't determine heaven or hell. This has to be very clear in the hearts of the reader today.

Let's continue to read what Wiseman says about suicide and by despair as Badmans two brothers did. "However, there is in some cases a judgement to be made of a man's eternal condition by the way he died. Suppose a man murdered himself, or live a wicked life, and, after that, died in utter despair. Without doubt, this sort of man will go to hell. And here I take the occasion to speak of two of Mr. Badman's brothers, for you know I told you before that he had brothers, and how they died. One of them killed himself, and the other, after a wicked life, died in utter despair. Now, I should not be afraid to conclude concerning both of them, that they went by and through their death to hell."

Suicide is a sensitive subject that most people shun from. Reality is, if someone commits murder, it leads to hell and eternal damnation, if not repented of. 1 John 3:14-15 says; "We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love his brother abides in death. Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him." Murder as we sees has it's root in hate. So whether it's hatred to others or self-hatred.

Wiseman describes in detail how Badman's brother committed suicide. People will justify suicide by saying that since it's their own body, they can do whatever they want to it. No, you're made in the image of God and there is no right to murder yourself. Murder is murder, whether it's someone else or yourself.

The conversation continues talking about a very famous King in the Old Testmant, that is King Saul. So let's read about him in 1 Samuel 28:3-19; "Now Samuel had died, and all Israel had lamented for him and buried him in Ramah, in his own city. And Saul had put the mediums and the spiritists out of the land. Then the Philistines gathered together, and came and encamped at Shunem. So Saul gathered all Israel together, and they encamped at Gilboa. When Saul saw the army of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart trembled greatly. And when Saul inquired of the Lord, the Lord did not answer him, either by dreams or by Urim or by the prophets. Then Saul said to his servants, "Find me a woman who is a medium, that I may go to her and

inquire of her." And his servants said to him, "In fact, there is a woman who is a medium at En Dor." So Saul disguised himself and put on other clothes, and he went, and two men with him; and they came to the woman by night. And he said, "Please conduct a séance for me, and bring up for me the one I shall name to you." Then the woman said to him, "Look, you know what Saul has done, how he has cut off the mediums and the spiritists from the land. Why then do you lay a snare for my life, to cause me to die?" And Saul swore to her by the Lord, saying, "As the Lord lives, no punishment shall come upon you for this thing." Then the woman said, "Whom shall I bring up for you?" And he said, "Bring up Samuel for me." When the woman saw Samuel, she cried out with a loud voice. And the woman spoke to Saul, saying, "Why have you deceived me? For you are Saul!" And the king said to her, "Do not be afraid. What did you see?" And the woman said to Saul, "I saw a spirit ascending out of the earth." So he said to her, "What is his form?" And she said, "An old man is coming up, and he is covered with a mantle." And Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he stooped with his face to the ground and bowed down. Now Samuel said to Saul, "Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?" And Saul answered, "I am deeply distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God has departed from me and does not answer me anymore, neither by prophets nor by dreams. Therefore I have called you, that you may reveal to me what I should do." Then Samuel said: "So why do you ask me, seeing the Lord has departed from you and has become your enemy? And the Lord has done for Himself as He spoke by me. For the Lord has torn the kingdom out of your hand and given it to your neighbor, David. Because you did not obey the voice of the Lord nor execute His fierce wrath upon Amalek, therefore the Lord has done this thing to you this day. Moreover the Lord will also deliver Israel with you into the hand of the Philistines. And tomorrow you and your sons will be with me. The Lord will also deliver the army of Israel into the hand of the Philistines."

King Saul initially was doing what God had commanded him to do by removing the wickedness from the land, including spiritists and mediums. But as he had lost favour with God, God wasn't speaking to him anymore, he goes to enquire of the demonic realm through this witch. The spirit who was brought up from the dead, was not the prophet Samuel, it was a demon, a familiar spirit, clothed to look like Samuel.

Once you've died, you cannot go back to earth unless God raises you from the dead, which Jesus did and has been done throughout history in His name. **Hebrews 9:27** says; "And as it appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." But conjuring up someone who has died and is buried in the ground, their spirit cannot return to even talk or communicate with the living. Oh, mediums and the demons will say that they're that person, but they're not.

So here are the lies and the deception that came upon King Saul; he not only had God depart from him because he rebelled and didn't do what God had commanded, he's now consulting witches, talking to demons and does die as the demon said he would. If God had forsaken Saul, do you think He'd turn around and give him direction through a witch? No. How deceptive of the devil to say that that very day, King Saul and his sons would be with him. Saul thought he'd be in Paradise with Samuel so it brought him comfort, but no, he'd be in hell with the devil. The devil wanted to take King Saul out, so he coerced him by going into battle and hence Saul died.

I'd like to share what Matthew Henry's Commentary says about this story. "We have here the conference between Saul and Satan. Saul came in disguise (1 Sam. 28:8), but Satan soon discovered him, 1 Sam. 28:12. Satan comes in disguise, in the disguise of Samuel's mantle, and Saul cannot discover him. Such is the disadvantage we labour under, in wrestling with the rulers of the darkness of this world, that they know us, while we are ignorant of their wiles and devices. I. The spectre, or apparition, personating Samuel, asks why he is sent for (1 Sam. 28:15): Why hast thou disquieted me to bring me up? To us this discovers that it was an evil spirit that personated Samuel; for (as bishop Patrick observes) it is not in the power of witches to disturb the rest of good men and to bring them back into the world when they please; nor would the true Samuel have

acknowledged such a power in magical arts: but to Saul this was a proper device of Satan's, to draw veneration from him, to possess him with an opinion of the power of divination, and so to rivet him in the devil's interests."

Is this going on in the body of Christ today? Are mediums working in your midst? There is a tragic end to Sauls life as we read in 1 Samuel 31:1-6; "Now the Philistines fought against Israel; and the men of Israel fled from before the Philistines, and fell slain on Mount Gilboa. Then the Philistines followed hard after Saul and his sons. And the Philistines killed Jonathan, Abinadab, and Malchishua, Saul's sons. The battle became fierce against Saul. The archers hit him, and he was severely wounded by the archers. Then Saul said to his armorbearer, "Draw your sword, and thrust me through with it, lest these uncircumcised men come and thrust me through and abuse me." But his armorbearer would not, for he was greatly afraid. Therefore Saul took a sword and fell on it. And when his armorbearer saw that Saul was dead, he also fell on his sword, and died with him. So Saul, his three sons, his armorbearer, and all his men died together that same day." King Saul tried to commit suicide by falling on his sword but he didn't die, so he asks his armourbearer - but he didn't and as we read in the following scripture, he asks for his enemy, an Amalakite to finally kill him.

2 Samuel 1:1-16 tells us about how the news of Saul's death reached David. It says; "Now it came to pass after the death of Saul, when David had returned from the slaughter of the Amalekites, and David had stayed two days in Ziklag, on the third day, behold, it happened that a man came from Saul's camp with his clothes torn and dust on his head. So it was, when he came to David, that he fell to the ground and prostrated himself. And David said to him, "Where have you come from?" So he said to him, "I have escaped from the camp of Israel." Then David said to him, "How did the matter go? Please tell me." And he answered, "The people have fled from the battle, many of the people are fallen and dead, and Saul and Jonathan his son are dead also." So David said to the young man who told him, "How do you know that Saul and Jonathan his son are dead?" Then the young man who told him said, "As I happened by chance to be on Mount Gilboa, there was Saul, leaning on his spear; and indeed the chariots and horsemen followed hard after him. Now when he looked behind him, he saw me and called to me. And I answered, 'Here I am.' And he said to me, 'Who are you?' So I answered him, 'I am an Amalekite.' He said to me again, 'Please stand over me and kill me, for anguish has come upon me, but my life still remains in me.' So I stood over him and killed him, because I was sure that he could not live after he had fallen. And I took the crown that was on his head and the bracelet that was on his arm, and have brought them here to my lord." Therefore David took hold of his own clothes and tore them, and so did all the men who were with him. And they mourned and wept and fasted until evening for Saul and for Jonathan his son, for the people of the Lord and for the house of Israel, because they had fallen by the sword. Then David said to the young man who told him, "Where are you from?" And he answered, "I am the son of an alien." So David said to him, "How was it you were not afraid to put forth your hand to destroy the Lord's anointed?" Then David called one of the young men and said, "Go near, and execute him!" And he struck him so that he died. So David said to him, "Your blood is on your own head, for your own mouth has testified against you, saying, 'I have killed the Lord's anointed."

Saul was ultimately killed by someone, an Amalekite, from the same tribe that God gave Saul instruction to totally destroy but Saul disobeyed God and did not follow his orders, and lost his kingdom and in the end was murdered by that enemy, after a failed attempt of suicide. Look at the damage and trouble that King Saul was in as a result of not dealing with the enemy that God commanded him to deal with in his life. After his failed death in falling on his own sword, Saul requests this Amalakite to finish him off. Today we could call it assisted suicide.

So let me ask you today, what are the areas in your life that God wants you to utterly do away with before they gain entrance into your life and destroy you? Some examples could be keeping bad company, secular

entertainment, social media sites that are bombarding your life with all sorts of temptation; be it sexual sin, materialism, secular humanism, seeker friendly comfort churches that don't talk about sin, etc. Whatever the situations that are setting you up to sin, if they are not dealt with and done away with in your life, they can and will lead you down a road of destruction, like that of Saul.

Matthew 7:13 says, "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it."

Let's look at some examples in the Bible of those who committed suicide.

- 1. Abimelech, who was one of the sons of Gideon and also one of the Judges in Israel. He committed suicide as it says in **Judges 9:54**; "Abimelech called hastily unto the young man his armour-bearer, and said unto him, Draw thy sword, and slay me, that men say not of me, A woman slew him. And his young man thrust him through, and he died."
- 2. "And Samson said, Let me die with the Philistines. And he bowed with all his might; and the house fell...upon all the people that were therein (<u>Judges 16:30</u>)."
- 3. "Saul took a sword and fell on it (1 Sam. 31:4)."
- 4. "When [Saul's] armour-bearer saw that Saul was dead, he fell likewise upon his sword, and died (<u>1 Sam</u> 31:5)."
- 5. "When Ahithophel saw that his counsel was not followed, he...got him home to his house, to his city, and put his house in order, and hanged himself, and died (2 Sam. 17:23)."
- 6. "It came to pass, when Zimri saw that the city was taken, that he went into the palace of the king's house, and burnt the king's house over him with fire, and died (1 Kings 16:18)."
- 7. "[Judas] cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself (Matt. 27:5)."

I'd like to continue to read what Wiseman says; "I must confess, I am no admirer of sick-bed repentance, for I think truthfully it is seldom good for anything. But I say, he who has lived in sin and profaneness all his days, as Mr. Badman did, and yet dies quietly — that is, without repentance — enters in between life and death, and has assuredly gone to hell and is damned. This was so in Mr. Badman's case. He had behind him a sinful life, and that to the very last, yet he died quietly and without repentance, and has gone to hell and is damned. For the nature of repentance, I have touched on that already, and shown that it is never present in a quiet death where the life has been accompanied by sin; and therefore Mr. Badman has gone to hell."

So the conclusion that we can draw from the above examples, is that they didn't go to heaven, but to hell. It is a spirit of murder that is behind this when people commit suicide.

Romans 8:14-16 says; "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God." If you are a born again

Christian - truly - you will not consider taking your life because you know beyond a shadow of a doubt that God is your heavenly Father and He loves you and you love Him!

John 8:31-47 says; "Then Jesus said to those <u>Jews who believed Him</u>, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can You say, 'You will be made free'?" Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed. "I know that you are Abraham's descendants, but you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you. I speak what I have seen with My Father, and you do what you have seen with [a] your father." They answered and said to Him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham. But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Abraham did not do this. You do the deeds of your father." Then they said to Him, "We were not born of fornication; we have one Father—God." Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? He who is of God hears God's words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God."

These were the religious leaders who said they believed in Jesus, but really didn't, as Jesus saw their hearts. What it comes right down to is this; are you serving your father in heaven on earth leading you to eternal life in heaven or are you serving your father the devil on earth leading you to eternal life in Hell? There's no in between, no middle ground, no half stepping it as a Christian. There has to be a lifestyle of repentance that leads to salvation. Being a Christian requires repentance of your sins.

Revelation 3:15-22

"I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked—I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.""

Jesus is talking to the churches in this scripture, not to unbelievers. A lukewarm Christian is the one Jesus will vomit out of his mouth, not thinking that you don't need a lifestyle of repentance in order to enter the kingdom of heaven. Jesus says, be zealous and repent! 1 John 1:5-10 says; "This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He

is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us."

There is such a need of confession of sins that leads to repentance. Your Christian life and walk has to be walked out daily. It's not a onetime prayer, you work out your salvation with fear and trembling. Jesus told his disciples to forgive up to 70 times 7 in a day! Don't think you don't need to be walking in forgiveness and repentance on a daily basis. We can't say that those who commit suicide have mental illness, depression or any other name; no, it's a spirit of murder, self-murder. If repentance of sins occurs, suicide will not take over your life because you no longer live for self but to serve the Lord Jesus.