

Who will be

BARRED

from Heaven?



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In His Word God makes it abundantly clear that many will be barred from heaven because of their sin. Let's look at several passages that are quite specific about this. We will begin with I Cor. 6:9-11: "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God." Let's look at the ten areas of sin mentioned:

Fornicators – looseness in the sexual realm, immorality including pornography. People who live in that are lost. They are not in the kingdom, but if they repent they can be delivered from being a fornicator.

Idolaters – anything that means more to you than God is idolatry. That is Dwight L.

Moody's definition. Idolaters are lost people.

Adulterers – those who are into sexual sins where they are violating their marriage vows are lost. I know some of these people say they are saved, but God said that I am not to be deceived.

Effeminate – men who act like women. They were born men but don't behave like men. God says they are lost. They need to repent.

Abusers of themselves with mankind – that includes all areas of homosexuality and sexual abuse in its various forms.

Thieves – stealing from God, other people, the government or employers. I'm not saying that a Christian never steals something, but believers are indwelt by the Holy Spirit and He will not remain silent on this.

Covetous – living for things, including money.

Drunkards – it may be on alcohol, drugs or many other addictive influences. It produces an altered state of body, mind and behavior.

Revilers – these folks are constantly tearing others down.

Extortioners – these seek to obtain by wrong means things that should come by honest labor, investment or creativity.

Don't be deceived. None of these shall inherit the kingdom of God. You must repent of that of which you are guilty. That is what the Bible teaches.

Gal. 5:21b explains, "Of the which I tell you before, as I have told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."

Here God expands the list of things that bar people from His kingdom. What are these things? Verse 19, "Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness (all types of filthy sin), lasciviousness (means I have license to do as I want)". Verse 20 goes on, "Idolatry, witchcraft (involves supernatural forces that are not of God), hatred (is in direct contrast to the love God puts in the heart of believers), variance (some people are just argumentative, a nice

word for variance), emulations (the attempt to duplicate or surpass others. It comes from a heart of pride and rejection of humility), wrath (operating with anger instead of God's peace, always fighting something or someone), seditions (involve undermining others, never satisfied to see things run smoothly), heresies (result in taking an area of the truth to an extreme and neglecting God's balancing truths). Continuing in verse 21, "Envyings (dissatisfied with what they are or have, wanting what others have or are), murders (that can be done with the tongue as well as with a sword), drunkenness, revellings (a life of continual partying). Then the scripture says, "and such like". All the things we have seen in these verses are marks of lost people.

Now we want to look at Eph. 5:5 where we have a list of sins that evidence lostness. We are warned not to allow vain words to be used to deceive us. These people have no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. "For this ye know, that no whoremonger (men who prey upon

women, particularly whores), nor unclean person, nor covetous man....” We should never be deceived about these sins that are bars to God’s kingdom. They must first be repented of. God tells us these people are not His children, but children of disobedience.

II Tim. 3:8 states, “Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith.” Reprobate means God rejects them regarding their faith. They may well say that they have faith, but God says they are lost. Verse 5 explains, “Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.” It is clear that the list of sins in vss. 2-4 are marks of the lost and we are to turn away from them. Similar warnings are in the contexts of I Cor. 5 & 6, Galatians 5 and Ephesians 5. The 18 marks in verses 2-4 are evidences of a faith which God rejects and we should likewise. They show the results of the lack of God-given repentance.

II Tim. 2:25,26 tells us, “In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if

God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; and that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will." American churches are filling up with unrepentant sinners who have a faith that doesn't bring a changed life.

Soberly consider Rev. 21:8, "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone." Here are further evidences of those being lost. The fearful - fear is the opposite and destroyer of faith. God has not given us the spirit of fear (II Tim. 1:7). He has replaced it with power, love and a sound mind. The unbelieving are those without a God-given Biblical faith. The abominable - God explains this by the various things He calls abominations in His Word. Murderers, whoremongers, sorcerers and idolaters are also listed here. Finally, all liars are those not governed by honesty and truthfulness.

God makes it clear that, without exception, those who die in such a state are destined to burn in the lake of fire.

Some people view Jesus as one who might be able to assist a little with their sin problems. The Bible says He came to save His people FROM their sins. He will help you repent; the Holy Ghost will make you sorry enough that you can repent. Something great happens when God saves a sinner. A great Savior does a great job. Repentance will lead you to faith in that great Savior. You may think that with man it is impossible, but the echo comes back from heaven, "But with God all things are possible." We need to teach, preach, and present repentance to lost sinners, because only then will they see their desperate need for our great Savior. Jesus said, "I tell you, Nay: but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." (Luke 13:3) He is near unto all those who call upon Him in truth.



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