

March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
Pinecrest Baptist Church  
a.m.

Sermon Series: No Place Like Hell  
Sermon #4 Title: - Who It is For  
Sermon #4 Text: (Isaiah 14:4-17)

As we finish our study on the bad news of hell, today, I hope and pray that you have listened through this preacher to hear what the Lord has explained to us.

W.A. Criswell, the late pastor of the First Baptist Church in Dallas once said, “Is hell a place of fire and brimstones? Is heaven a place of gold and pearl and beautiful mansions? When I speak of these things, I ought to use the language of God. I have never been to heaven; I have never been to hell. I must trust God’s revelation.... I must speak God’s language and when I do, I find that I am speaking in the power and unction of the Lord.”

- Now that’s what I hope happens here – that we have just used the language of God to reveal the truth as God wants it revealed.

We have looked at What Hell Is, Why Hell Is, How Hell is, and finally today, I want to take you to passage that highlights for us Who Hell is For. – And if you get absolutely nothing out of this message you ought to be able to get this – God didn’t make it for you!

This morning we look at a prophecy of Isaiah concerning a man who is in hell today. We know his name, and we know when he went there, and we know who he followed there.

What Isaiah wrote in chapter 13 and 14 would not occur in history for over 170 years later. Over a century and a half before the kingdom of Judah would be carried off into Babylonian exile, Isaiah spoke of the day that the exile would end, relief would come, and the king of Babylon would be escorted into hell for ever.

- But in these 13 verses, Isaiah in great prophetic fashion, spoke both TO the king of Babylon, and through the king of Babylon to the real power behind his throne, the pinnacle angel of evil, Lucifer himself.

All throughout history the world has endured Leaders from Lucifer that have built empires and kingdoms in defiance to the person, power, and people of God. – In short, we may have what we call World War I, and World War II, but the reality is that since the days of Adam, the World has been at War with God!

- This is the sum total of thought in the second Psalm  
- “Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.”

Psalm 2:1-3

Now that being said, all of those kings and rulers and governments and congresses that have taken part in that war were Leaders from Lucifer, and spirited by Satan . . .

- That being said, it was not uncommon for a prophet to address Lucifer himself by addressing the leader he was using.

- at least twice we have prophets speaking not to the leader but through the leader to Lucifer behind the leader.

- Isaiah does it in this chapter addressing the King of Babylon, and according to history, the last king of Babylon that lost the kingdom to the Medes and the Persians was Belshazzar on the night of the handwriting on the wall.

- Ezekiel in Ezekiel 28 addresses Lucifer through the King of Tyre, speaking again of his demise to come.

- The prophets were the only one to speak to Lucifer through a leader, but the Lord Jesus addressed the spirit and attitude of Satan once when speaking to the Apostle Peter. Peter tried to forbid Jesus from going to the cross, and Jesus rebuked Peter saying "Get thee behind me Satan" - (Matthew 16; Mark 8)

So here in Isaiah, the prophet peels back the veil, opens the blinds, and lets us see 2 things: - (1) What happens when the king of Babylon is escorted into hell. (2) the destiny of the devil and the reality of his future.

As Isaiah speaks to the king of Babylon and announces his destiny and entrance into eternity, he describes in verse 9 the satanic scene and sickening scenario as Belshazzar is cast into the abyss.

- Belshazzar's entrance also serves as a prototype picture of when Lucifer himself will finally be paraded to the bottom of the hole in the eternal lake of fire.

In these verses, there are three final things about this place called hell, that every listener needs to listen to, and every knower needs to know . . .

I. The Prepared Place of Hell – "Hell from beneath is moved for thee at thy coming." Vs 9

\*Note – the very first thing that anyone needs to know about hell is that it is not an accidental consequence of creation, it is a fundamental intention of the Creator. –

Matthew 25:41 – the Bible tells us that at the judgment of the nations, "Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, **prepared for the devil and his angels:**"

- Now note the irony – Jesus said to His disciples that heaven is a prepared place.

- John 14:2 – "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. **I go to prepare a place for you.**"

- Now just as sure as Jesus prepares a heaven for His disciples, He has prepared a hell for the devils, and both will arrive at their place right on time.

- But now in our text, note what we learn from it.

**A. A Defined Place** - the word here for hell is the word, Sheol, in fact many of you who may not be reading the King James Bible may have it stated as "Sheol" – the cemetery for the soul. – The Greek word is Hades – and it speaks nothing more than the place the soul resides when the body goes to the ground.

- before the resurrection of Jesus, every man, every woman, departed this life, their body went to the grave, and their person, their conscious being, went to Sheol.

**B. A Divided Place** – Sheol, was a divided into two places.

1.) Paradise

a.) the day that Jesus died on the cross, He spoke to the thief next to Him and told him, “Today, thou shalt be with me in paradise.”

b.) this is the place in the story of the rich man and Lazarus where Lazarus is said to have gone into Abraham’s bosom.

Paradise seemed to be the abode of the redeemed, before the resurrection. – We are told very little about it, except it was the place that Jesus went when He died.

2.) the Pit

- Literally the abyss
- This is the place the king of Babylon was going. This is the place where Lucifer was headed.
- vs 15 – “thou shalt be brought down to the sides of the pit.”

\*Note – Nearly fifty times in the Bible, the term or phrase, “the pit” is used in reference either to the grave itself or to the final abyss of the lost.”

\*Note – 7 times in the book of Revelation the holding cell for satan’s army and angels and followers is referred to as the “bottomless pit.”

\*Note – It is this part of Sheol that the king of Babylon is being directed to, and escorted to, and as we speak this morning where he is residing, fully conscious, and fully awake . . .

**C. A Detached Place**

1.) “Hell from beneath”

a.) “beneath” – “tachath” – underneath, or below, or under.

\*Note – Practically every single reference in the Bible that addresses the direction, or location of hell, places it down, and under, and below, and beneath. –

- Beneath of what, and as opposed to what? – Heaven!

b.) Hell is in the polar opposite direction of the place called heaven.

\*Note – Now notice something.

- The Bible speaks of the place, and location, and direction of heaven, in several places. – It speaks of it as being “in the north.”

- That’s where Lucifer was trying to go – “to the sides of the north.”

- Psalm 75:5-6 – “For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.”

- what is this “sides of the north” and “sides of the pit”

#1 – The sides of the north were ascribed to Mount Zion in Jerusalem – God’s capital on earth. His chosen place. That being on earth, was representative of that which is in heaven.

- the word for “sides” is the word that means, “borders, or coasts.” – We might say the eastern side of the north, and the western side of the north. – how much distance in between no one on earth knows.

#2 – The sides of the pit, also describe the borders or coasts of the pit – “eastern side, and western side” maybe. – But it is in the farthest opposite direction one can get from heaven.

- it is the farthest from the Father

- the farthest from His Family

- the farthest from His Favor
- the farthest into Forever

\*Note – Now when you flesh out the phrase, “Hell from beneath” – you find a great deep of information.

- The Prepared Place of Hell

II. The Main Prisoner of Hell “Hell from beneath is moved for thee to meet thee at thy coming.” – vs 9

\*Note – Now I remind you . . . the Lord God is speaking to the king of Babylon, and the Lord God is speaking through the King of Babylon.

- In verse 9 – He is speaking to the last king of Babylon – Belshazzar.

- In verse 12 – He is speaking through the last king of Babylon to the first criminal of Creation – Lucifer.

- The king’s historical admission into hell, pictures for us the inevitable entrance to come for the first Light Bearer – Lucifer.

\*Note – Now here is the Criminal with a Custom Built Prison! – God built it in his honor, - for him, and his lemmings – the fallen angels.

- Now know this . . . Every lost soul winds up a permanent trespasser when they go to hell . . . they wind up intruding into a pit not built for them...

Who is “thee”?

**A. Belshazzar on the Outside** – “Hell from beneath is moved for thee.”

1.) The last king of Babylon – Belshazzar was killed on October 12<sup>th</sup>, 539 BC by the invading Medes and Persians – This was the night the Lord reached down from heaven, and wrote on the wall of the palace with His own hand, Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin! – They did not know

what it meant, and so called Daniel to interpret – to which Daniel explained, - “Thou art weighed in the balances, and found wanting.”

- Listen to the list of Charges Daniel read against Belshazzar from heaven . . .

“And thou his son, O Belshazzar, hast not humbled thine heart, though thou knewest all this; But hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of his house before thee, and thou, and thy lords, thy wives, and thy concubines, have drunk wine in them; and thou hast praised the gods of silver, and gold, of brass, iron, wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know: and the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified”: 5:23 - vs 30 – “In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain.”

- Those are the words the Lord spoke to him before he died –

- These are the words spoken to him in hell that night – “Thy pomp is brought down to the grave, and the noise of thy viols, (stringed instruments) – (Jewish historians tell us that on that night, that Belshazzar had his party using all the holy vessels of the temple for binge drinking, and carousing, that his orchestra played the hymns and songs of the heathen gods) – the worm is spread under thee, and the worms cover thee.”

- He was met at the front door of hell, with his music ringing in his ears, his hedonism, his pride, his defiance, his arrogance, and the reality of having the full color character of the devil himself.

**B. Beelzebub on the Inside**

1.) After speaking to Belshazzar in verse 11, he drops the veil and speaks through him in verse 12 – “How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, the son of the morning! How art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations.”

\*Note – Belshazzar had lived out the very nature of Lucifer himself.

a.) Lucifer – means “light bearer” or “morning star”

(1) Morning Star, or Day Star is a New Testament title for the Lord Jesus.

(which is how the antichrist will present himself when he comes – as a morning star)

(2) He was the brightest star in God’s creation, till iniquity was found in him, as described in Ezekiel 28.

What was his iniquity? Verse 13-14 – read!

- this is the preeminent sin of man, the ultimate defiance of God, the fullness of the evil in every way – “I will.”

- 5 times, Satan said, “I will – I will – I will – I will – I will.”

- He declared his “independence” from God

- He displayed his “insolence” before God

- He detonated his “arrogance” in the face of God

- He defied the “omnipotence” of God

- He defiled the “magnificence” and “benevolence” of God.

- Through the prophet Ezekiel the Lord spelled it out to him in a way there is no mystery to solve, no poetry to decipher,

no parable to interpret – it is as plain and bright as the noon-day sun –

Ezekiel 28:14-17 – “Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.”

- Friend you are never more like Lucifer than you are when you are Saturated with your Self, Filled with Pride and Rebellion, and Independent from God insisting on living by your “I wills”

- You are never more like Jesus, than when you break from your pride, bow down your life, and say “Not my will, but thine be done.”

III. The Furious Passion of Hell – “Hell from beneath is moved for thee to meet thee at thy coming.”

\*Note – This is perhaps one of the best passages of scripture to tell us about the vindictiveness and cruelty of the atmosphere in hell.

- Some of your translations may say, “Hell is excited” to meet thee. Or Hell is “eager to meet you.”

- The word is “Ragawz” and it means to be “agitated” to “tremble” or to “quiver” – it is not the term

excitement in a pleasing anticipation, but shaking with agitation, or trembling.

- "It stirreth up the dead for thee."

- Here is what Isaiah said of Belshazzar

- you will be paraded in, and all the other dead will watch . . .

**A. Bitter Stares** – "for thee, or at thee"

1.) note who gets stirred up for him

\*Note – Here is the general population of hell. Rich and Poor, movers and shakers – known and unknown – healthy and sick – and they are all "stirred up to see" Belshazzar here, and Lucifer ultimately.

a.) the dead

b.) the chief ones

c.) the kings of the nations

\*Note – Specifically speaking toward Belshazzar – there was a generation of those "dead kings" killed by Babylon. There was a generation of those chief ones – Killed by Babylon – there was a generation or sampling of those "dead ones" – killed by Babylon.

- Some of those people that were sent to hell by Belshazzar – were there to welcome him.

**B. Taunting Speech** – "And they shall speak and say unto thee,"

\*Note – Before we move on, what does that tell you about life in hell? – there is seeing, there is speaking, there is hearing, there is communication, and as Jesus added wailing, and gnashing of teeth –

a.) thou are become as weak as we!

b.) art thou like unto us

c.) Your pomp is brought down and your party is over! (No more noise of your music)

This may be what Daniel was referring to when he wrote in Daniel 12:2 – "And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt."

- When Daniel used the word Shame it is the word for "disgrace;" the word he used for Contempt is the word that means "object of revulsion."

Do you know what that means? – There will be no pity, no empathy, no sympathy, no gentleness, for those in hell, from those in hell, or from those in heaven.

- Right now the Lord and His people who are right hearted, look at lost people with longing hearts and pleading souls, for them to stop going their own way, put down their sin and pride and repent and come to Jesus . . .

- But then . . . when it is all said and done, there will be none of that . . . until the Lord causes us to remember no more, there will be nothing but contempt and reproach from those not in hell, as well as the atmosphere of those in hell.

Conclusion: - I looked through the rest of this passage and prophecy to find a light in the darkness. There wasn't one. It was final for Belshazzar, it will be final for Beelzebub, once there, it is an unchanging, unaltered eternity.

- There is no Good News about Hell

- There is Good News for those still Living – No one HAS to go there.

Matthew 1:21 – "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins."