# Getting Past The Sympathy Card

**Tony Mauck** · Isaiah 55:8–9

## INTRODUCTION

- No one who properly understands these two spiritual destinies would have one ounce of joy over the prospect of any soul being lost.
- Because it just seems impossible or inconceivable to our minds, it just must not be so. We must be careful not to reason upon that basis.

## 1 Jesus Not Greatly Concerned How People Might View God

**Matthew 25:46; Luke 16:23–24; Revelation 20:10**

- And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.
- If we're concerned about the prospect of eternal torment, then we need to be about the business of being righteous, because it is the righteous who received everlasting life, not everlasting torment.
- The devil who deceived was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are also. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.
- If the sympathy card is played for the persistent sinner, why is it not also played for the devil and his angels?

## 2 Fear Is a Powerful Motivator

**Acts 24:25; 2 Corinthians 5:10–11; Hebrews 10:26–31**

- Perhaps another reason why folks are not asking the question, what must I do to be saved, is because they've ruled out the prospect of hell.
- I want to further suggest to you tonight that fear is a powerful motivator as well.
- Now, what was it in Paul's preaching that made Felix tremble? It was the prospect of eternal punishment.
- Knowing the terror of the Lord, we persuade men.
- How much severer punishment do you think he will receive?

## 3 Just How Bad Is Hell

**Mark 9:42–48; Luke 17:1–2**

- Hell is worse than living without a hand, a foot, or an eye.
- If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than having your two hands to go into hell into the unquenchable fire.
- We just have to throw out the whole new testament if we remove the doctrine of hell.
- He's saying, you better take the subject of sin seriously. And take measures at all costs to avoid.

- There's not a word we can choose out of the English language that is strong enough and horrible enough to describe being lost forever.

## 4 Shall Not the Judge of All the Earth Do Right

**Deuteronomy 32:3–4**

- God did not concern himself with sinner sympathizers, and about how all this sounds to their justice and fairness.
- Shall not the judge of all the earth do right. That was his confidence in God.
- Whatever God decides, it's going to be right and it's going to be just.
- His work is perfect. For all his ways are just. A God of faithfulness and without injustice, righteous and upright is He.
- There is a broad gate and a broad way that leads to destruction, and many are going in thereat.

## 5 His Expectations Are Not Unreasonable

**Romans 12:1; 2 Timothy 1:12; 2 Peter 3:10–12**

- They have the New Testament. Listen to it.
- He's not asking us to do the impossible or to jump through hoops that no man can attain.
- He's asking for our effort to serve him and be loyal to him. A faithful response is reasonable.
- Present your body as a living sacrifice, Romans chapter 12 and verse 1, which is your reasonable service.
- Let us persist, not in willful sin, but let us persist in righteous conduct.

THE CHALLENGE

If the flames of hell have been licking at our feet tonight, we should be about the business of making preparation.

MY NOTES