Could Not Figure How to Get Him To Heaven

A Listener's Comments about a Funeral Message

"The preacher could hardly believe that his friend was in hell"

"But he could not figure just how to get him to heaven"

"There seemed to be enough sin to get him to hell"

"But not enough grace to get him to heaven."

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Could Not Figure How to Get Him to Heaven

I. "There seemed to be enough sin to get him to hell"

A. Original sin

Rom 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

B. Sin by nature

- Psa 58:3 The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies.
- Psa 51:5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.
- Gen 8:21 ... for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth...
- Eph 2:3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

C. Sin by practice

- Rom 3:10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:
- Rom 3:11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.
- Rom 3:12 They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.
- Gen 6:5 And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.
- Exo 20:17 Thou shalt not covet...
- Jas 4:17 Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.
- Jas 2:10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.
- 1 In 1:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

II. "He could hardly believe that his friend was in hell"

A. Belief is evidence of going to heaven

- 1 Jn 5:1 Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God...
- Joh 5:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.
- Eph 1:19 And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,
- Eph 1:20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead

B. Love is evidence of going to heaven

- 11n 3:14 We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.
- 1Jn 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

C. Deeds of righteousness are evidence of going to heaven

- 1 In 2:29 If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him.
- 1Jn 3:10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.
- Eph 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

III. "But he could not figure just how to get him to heaven"

A. God planned it a long time ago

- Eph 1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:
- Eph 1:5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will.
- Eph 1:6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

B. God paid for it a long time ago

- Eph 1:6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.
- Eph 1:7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

C. God applies it all over the world

Eph 2:5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

IV. "But not enough grace to get him to heaven."

A. Grace enough to get you to heaven

- Rom 5:20 Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:
- Rom 5:21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.
- Act 15:10 Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?
- Act 15:11 But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they.

- Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- Rom 11:5 Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.
- Rom 11:6 And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work.
- Rom 3:24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

B. Grace enough to get you through today

- Jas 4:6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.
- 2Co 12:9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.
- 2Co 9:8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:
- 1Co 15:10 But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

C. Grace to save and grace to know you are saved

- 2Ti 1:9 Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,
- 2Ti 1:10 But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:
- Luk 1:76 And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;
- Luk 1:77 To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins,
- Luk 1:78 Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us,
- Luk 1:79 To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.
- 2Co 5:18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;
- 2Co 5:19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.
- 2Co 5:20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.
- 2Co 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.