

Faith

Hell is real, and you don't want to go there

By Dan Nixon
First UMC, Butler

BUTLER -- Several years ago, while walking up a sidewalk to a hospital, I found myself walking behind two women discussing the weather. One woman said to the other "If it's as hot as this in Hell, I don't want to go!"

Hell is a real place! It is a place so terrible that God sent His Son Jesus to die on the cross, in order to give each person on earth a way to escape its

horror. Hell is a place where those who dwell therein are tormented forever. Hell is not a place to party, or a place to see old friends. Hell is the "Lake of fire prepared for the Devil and his angels." (Matthew 25:41) It is a place of punishment and torment, and is a place of everlasting pain and suffering.

Hell is not the grave. Hell is a place that will be occupied in the future. If hell exists today, it is empty. The devil is not there, he has been cast down to earth. (Luke

10:18) Hell is the place where the devil, his demons, the false prophets, the anti-Christ, and everyone who rejects Jesus as Savior, goes after the Great White Throne Judgment. (Matthew 25 and Revelation 19-20).

When Jesus mentions Hell 12 times in the Gospels He refers to a particular place known as the Valley of Hinnom, or Gehenna. This was a valley to the south west of Jerusalem. This is where Solomon allowed idols to be introduced to Israel. This valley became a place

where human sacrifices were made to the god Molech. Jerusalem was destroyed in 587 b.c.e. When the Jews returned some 70 years later, the Valley of Hinnom was turned into the city garbage dump.

It was there that fires burned continuously, rats, and many other types of vermin lived and ate what was edible there. The Valley of Hinnom was also the place where the bodies of criminals were disposed. To the Jew it represented the most vial and reprehensible place on

earth.

In depicting this place as hell, Jesus describes hell as being the "garbage dump" of the universe. Hell is the place where all things useless to God will be put. By reading Revelation, chapter 20, one will find that the last two items thrown into hell will be death and Hades (the abode of the dead, or the grave).

Death and Hades are throne into the Lake of Fire because they are no longer needed. Those in Heaven will never die again. There will be no

graveyards in heaven.

What will be in Hell? The Devil, his angels, the wicked, those who die without Christ as Savior, fire, outer darkness, pain, suffering, weeping and despairing rage, bitterness, anger, regret, and all other forms of grief will also be there. The Bible also lists several things that will not be there: God, those who accepted Christ as Savior, His angels, light, love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, gentleness, meekness and self-control. Where will you spend eternity?

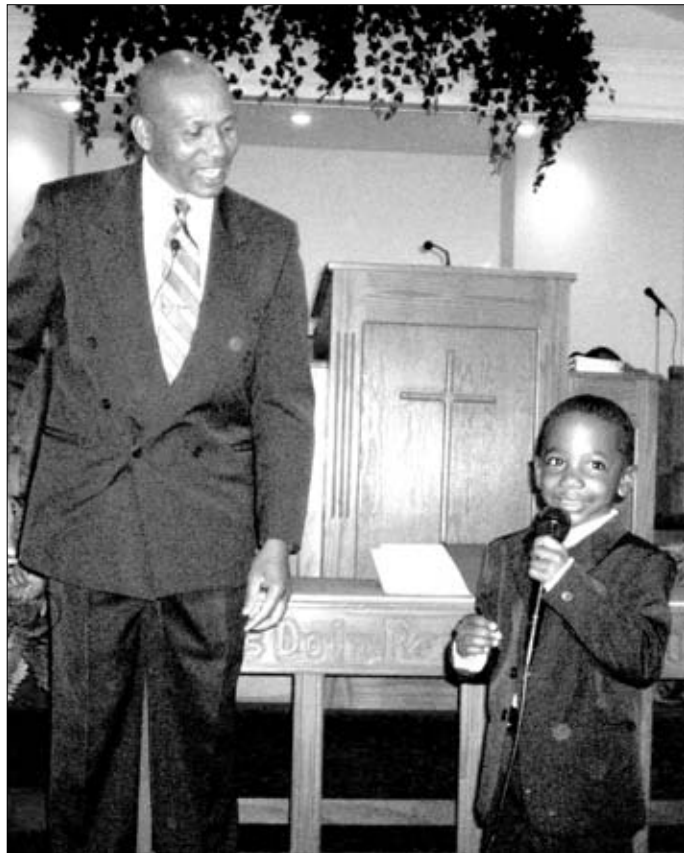


Photo by Sherry Taylor

Easter celebrated by Mt. Mariah youth

MELVIN -- Little Leyton Taylor, on right, welcomed the crowd to Mt. Mariah Baptist Church in Melvin on Easter Sunday. The event was a special celebration that included many of the church's children and youth. Pictured with Leyton is Pastor Tim Pearson.



Submitted photo

Taylor attends Florida women's conference

PENSACOLA, Fla -- Minister Sherry Taylor, left, attended the Sister Keeper Crusade in Pensacola, Florida last week, featuring founder and speaker Dr. Yvonne Capehart, pictured on right. The event, called 'Destiny's Calling You', was held at the Believer's Life Center and drew hundreds of women from throughout the southeast.

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For Bid Package and Information, Contact

Graham Forestry & Appraisal Services
John L. Graham, Jr.
Registered Forester: MS#1204, AL#1436
Certified General Real Property Appraiser: MS#CA-300, AL# 0200275
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Office: 205-459-2472 Home: 205-459-2321 Fax: 205-459-2914 Email: gforest@galaxycable.net

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KID'S KRUSADE

Heritage Church of God
Wed. - Fri. April 25-27
Time: **6:30 P.M.**
With Dana Sowell
From: North Columbia Church of God

U-A-G-O AND REACH ALL GOD'S EARTH

Sat., April 28, 6:30 P.M.
Youth Night:
Rev. Brock Brown
From: Lee University
Cleveland, Tenn.
Sunday, April 29
Guest Speaker:
Rev. Brock Brown

Pastor: Rev. Clovis Lewis
Main Street, Gilberttown, AL

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