



*Dear Andrew\*,*

Today, we are dealing with a “hot” topic. What do you think that I think about hell? It is absolutely necessary to have clarity on this subject.

Because God’s character is on trial here. Thus, we have to understand from the most reliable source – the Bible – what it means.

Let’s assume that an innocent girl of about 16 dies, who hasn’t accepted or not yet accepted Jesus as her Savior. Now, if God would torment her for all eternity in a flaming hell, then He would be a sadistic monster. And that is exactly what Satan wants to insinuate about God with the popular teaching of hell.

Imagine that someone spread the lie about your mother in the neighborhood: “She is a sadist! When her children don’t obey her to the letter, then she presses their hands on the hot stovetop!”

That would be terrible slander! As a consequence, your mother’s character would be awfully marred. You would do everything you could to clear up this slander and eradicate this lie, right?

The topic of “hell” has discredited God’s character: Is God entirely loving and just?

### What does God do?

A text in 2 Peter 2:9 NKJV:

*“Then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment.”*

The unjust are then being reserved **for the day of judgement**. What for? For punishment!

It is clear that when God is reserving the wicked for the day of judgement, then we have to ask the question: When is the day of judgement?

\* Andrew according to the biblical Andrew in John 1:41-42.

I consider it an act of justice when offenders are brought before court before they are sentenced and punished. Even our judiciary system first takes the defendant to court with a defense lawyer before a sentence is made and the offender possibly has to go to prison.

Do we want to accuse God of punishing people before their case has been thoroughly examined? Or that He even condemns them to never-ending burning torture – without a verdict or a trial?

### **When does God hold judgement?**

When will this official trial take place?

We read in Acts 24:25: *“And as he (Paul) argued about justice and self-control and future judgment, Felix was alarmed and said, ‘Go away for the present; when I have an opportunity I will summon you.’”* (NKJV)

The apostle Paul said this more than 1900 years ago. At that time this judgement was still in the future. When he wrote this, more than 4000 years of human history had already passed and the final judgement still hadn't taken place.

Thus, it is obvious that up until this point in time no one had been sent to any sort of “hell”.

Jesus Himself mentioned clearly the time of judgement in John 12:48:

*“He who rejects me and does not receive my sayings has a judge; the word that I have spoken will be his judge on the last day.”* (NKJV)

By what is a person judged? By the Word of God! Through the word that Jesus preached. When? On the last day.

The last day is the last day of this world and not some random day. The day a person dies is not “the last day”, but rather “the last day” is an official appointment at the close of the world's history (Matthew 16:27).

*“For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.”* (Matthew 16:27 NKJV)

When will Jesus reward each person? When He comes again to this earth. The apostle Paul emphasizes Jesus' words:

*“I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom.”* (2 Timothy 4:1 NKJV)

Or in another translation:

*“In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and because he is coming to rule as King, I solemnly urge you.”* (GNT)

There is no judgement, no sentence, no reward and no punishment before Jesus Christ appears in glory with His angels in the clouds of the heavens.

*“Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him ...”* (Revelation 1:7 NKJV)

What does it say here? All eyes will see Him. Since Jesus Christ will come visibly, then we would have had to have seen Him if He had already come. We haven’t seen Him yet, He hasn’t come yet, there has been no final judgement.

### How many are in hell at the moment?

Not a single person! This is the Bible’s clear answer. Not even the worst criminal is there. Just image this misery – someone suffering torture for thousands of years! Without a trial, verdict or official sentence!

Suppose that Cain was banished to hell when he died, then he would have now endured about 6000 years of flames and heat and his blood would flow like cooking oil through his veins. Then one of the hellish guards would come and tap him on the shoulder and say: “Hey Cain, your trial is starting before the final judgement. You are the first person, so go and get your verdict.”

I think Cain would be very angry! “It is about time. I have been roasting here for 6000 years and have suffered incredibly – and only now my case is being judged and decided if I even belong here?” Wouldn’t it be both ludicrous and terribly cruel? But the Bible assures us that the wicked will be judged and sentenced in the future – after a thorough investigation.

### Where are we after death?

Now the question arises, where are the wicked after death, when they aren’t in hell fire?

The Bible gives us a clear answer in Job 14:10-12:

*“But man dies and is laid away; indeed he breathes his last and where is he? As water disappears from the sea, and a river becomes parched and dries up, so man lies down and does not rise. Till the heavens are no more, they will not awake nor be roused from their sleep.”* (NKJV)

How long will they not wake up, be resurrected? As long as the heavens remain. How long will the heavens remain?

We read in 2 Peter 3:10: *“But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.”* (NKJV)

A person dies and isn’t resurrected until the heavens pass away. The heavens will pass away when Jesus Christ comes again.

Thus, the dead sleep in their “graves” until Jesus Christ comes again. What happens then? In John 5:28-29 stated: *“Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.”* (NKJV)

All the dead will come out of their graves again.

## Resurrection

The righteous are resurrected first. That is why this event is called the “first resurrection” and they are resurrected to eternal life. The people who have rejected God’s plan of salvation will be resurrected later. The purpose of their resurrection is so they can go on trial and receive their sentence.

We read in Acts 24:14-15: *“But this I confess to you, that according to the Way which they call a sect, so I worship the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the Law and in the Prophets. I have hope in God, which they themselves also accept, that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust.”* (NKJV)

The one group rejoices when they are resurrected at Jesus’ second coming, but the others will be resurrected whether they want to or not.

## What is the reward?

Many people think that the unjust will have an eternal life of agony, but that isn’t what the Bible says.

Eternal life is a gift of God, which only the redeemed receive, those who are called “righteous” by Jesus.

Beware: If the wicked were eternally tortured in a hell, then they would need “eternal life”. They would have to be immortal so that they could be tormented for all of eternity.

The Bible tells us what the wages of the wicked or the wages of sin is in Romans 6:23: *“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”* (NKJV)

The word death means final death and not life. When a person is dead, he doesn’t live anymore.

Many people believe that they can become unconscious from an accident. But then they die and they suddenly have complete consciousness again, as if the “immortal” soul continues to live.

Let us note: When a person is dead, then he is really dead and only God can raise him up, because He alone is the Lord of life and death. An “immortal soul” doesn’t exist – the Bible says that only God possesses immortality. Even the angels and the devil are mortal beings.

Everyone will be raised from the dead, the good and the wicked, but the wicked for damnation, which according to the Bible is the “second death”, which is final and irreversible – their existence will be destroyed without a trace.

Naturally, the punishment will be adjusted according to how a person lived.

The ultimate wage of sin is the second death, which is different than the sleep of death, which is the natural result of sin.

We want to read a few Bible texts on the topic, since biblical truth is much less popular than human ideas and false doctrines.

*“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death.”* (Revelation 2:11 NKJV)

Thus, whoever has Jesus Christ, can only die once and isn't affected by the second death.

Let's read another text in Revelation 21:8: *“But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”* (NKJV)

The difference between the first and second death: There is a resurrection from the first death, whoever dies the second death will never again be resurrected, because he is permanently “gone”. This means that the reward for the wicked is this second, eternal death. There is not a single text in the Bible, which says that a person will eternally burn in hell and never die. Texts, which imply this have been inaccurately translated.

### **Who receives life – meaning eternal life?**

*“He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.”* (John 3:36 NKJV)

There are a few Bible texts, which might cause us a few difficulties on this topic, because you can apparently deduce from them that the wicked will be eternally tormented.

For example, Matthew 25:46: *“And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”* (NKJV)

We said: the punishment for the wicked is (eternal) death. Let's substitute the word punishment with the word death in above sentence and read it again:

And these will go away into everlasting death, but the righteous into eternal life.

The death of the wicked lasts just as long as the life of the righteous – eternally. They will never live again – their punishment of death will last eternally.

The Greek word used here for punishment or anguish is “eternal cutting-off”, meaning they are permanently and irreversibly cut-off from God the source of life.

### **Translation Problems**

For many people who speak English, the study of the Bible has become more difficult because the translator then, who believed in the concept of hell, translated four different expressions as hell. In the Hebrew Bible the expression “Scheol” is used 68 times, which is “Hades” in Greek. In English it means grave or abode of the dead.

The difference is as follows:

When a person dies and is buried, then his grave is known. But if he, for example, is eaten by a shark, then his grave can't be found and then you say: he is in the abode of the dead.

Then there is the expression “tartarus”, which is also translated as hell. Tartarus is referring to the air atmosphere around this earth, which describes the dwelling place of the fallen angels.

In addition, the expression “gehenna” is used 12 times. This is the only word that should be translated as hell, because it means fire judgement.

### What is hell?

If hell isn't eternally burning fire, then what is it? Some people now think that I don't believe in a hot, burning hell as the final judgement. That isn't true! I believe in a hot hell with fire and sulfur, a much hotter hell than what most people might imagine.

What is hell? Again, a few Bible verses on the subject.

*“For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, and all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, that will leave them neither root nor branch.”* (Malachi 4:1 NKJV)

Or in another translation:

*“Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and the day that is coming will set them on fire, says the LORD Almighty. Not a root or a branch will be left to them.”* (NIV)

Who said this? God Himself did. The Lord of hosts said this.

What will happen to the wicked? They will be set on fire as in “burned”.

Everyone knows what stubble is and what is left over after it is burned. The wicked will burn just like stubble.

There are people who teach that the wicked will burn, burn and keep on burning, but never burn up. But God's Word tells us: The wicked **will be consumed by fire**. I personally prefer what God's Word says.

To be consumed by fire is completely different as only burning. To be consumed means: It has to do with a complete event, which is or will be finalized. When stubble is burned up, then the fire dies out.

I wonder why this text emphasizes that neither root nor branch will remain? The life of a plant is in its roots. When the roots of a plant aren't destroyed, then the plant can grow again.

Many would view the root of a person as their soul. But the soul will also be destroyed in hell. We read:

*“And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”* (Matthew 10:28 NKJV)

Both soul and body will be destroyed in hell and will never live again.

How much of the wicked will be left over after the fire judgement, after this hell fire?

*“You shall trample the wicked, for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day that I do this, says the LORD of hosts.”* (Malachi 4:3 NKJV)

Or in another translation:

*“Then you will trample on the wicked; they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I act, says the LORD Almighty.”* (NIV)

God doesn't say that they will be like ashes, but rather they **will be ash, dust**. A small gust of wind and it is gone. So, hell is God's fire judgement at the final judgement.

### Where will hell be?

An interesting question! There is a Bible verse, which can be placed after the resurrection of the wicked.

*“They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them.”* (Revelation 20:9 NKJV)

Not only the wicked, but also the entire plant and animal world will be destroyed. In 2 Peter 3:10 we read: *“But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.”* (NKJV)

Or in another translation:

*“... and the earth with everything in it will vanish.”* (GNT)

When God's judgement is executed, then there will be no more evil, no death, no sickness and no misery.

Then everything is obliterated that was corrupted by sin. This also applies to people, who didn't want to separate themselves from evil, but rather kept hanging on to it. Whoever doesn't want to get rid of their guilt through God's forgiveness, then it weighs them down like a heavy backpack. And this backpack pulls them into the destroying fire. As soon as everything is burned up, then the fire goes out. Conclusion. The end.

### Unquenchable Fire

But doesn't the Bible speak about an unquenchable fire? What about that? It is mentioned in Matthew 3:12: *“His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”* (NKJV)

The text doesn't say that this fire will never go out – it only says that it is unquenchable. That means that no one can or will put this fire out – it is God's destroying fire.

Years ago, a large fire raged in a sugar factory warehouse in Stuttgart. The newspapers called in an “unquenchable” fire. All the fire departments were powerless against these burning sugar masses. But if you were to visit Stuttgart today, you would find out that it isn’t burning anymore. After everything flammable war burnt up, then the fire went out.

### What does “eternal” mean?

What does the expression “eternal” mean in the Bible?

*“He will also say to those on the left hand, Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels.”* (Matthew 25:41 NKJV)

This everlasting fire doesn’t burn for all eternity. Rather, when the wicked and everything sinful has been burnt up, then the fire will go out. But this fire will have eternal repercussions because it burns all evil and all its traces irretrievably.

How do we know that?

*“And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day; as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.”* (Jude 6-7 NKJV)

The demise of Sodom and Gomorrah is used by God as an example of what “eternal fire” means, which is the punishment for those suffering the “second death”. The results of this fire for the landscape was final and irreversible. Today, the Sodom desert is a light-colored salt desert, which is in stark contrast to the surrounding deserts. Nothing grows there and there is also no fire burning there anymore. When everything flammable had been burnt up, then the fire went out.

In the same way, God’s mighty fire on the great day of wrath will also go out when everything flammable has been consumed. But no one will be able to put this fire out. The results of this fire are irreversible. God is letting sin mature. Because He is full of love, He will one day end all sin and godlessness. Every person, who persists in their sin and isn’t willing to let Jesus free them from their burden of guilt, is guaranteed to land in this lake of fire and God’s mercy will not extinguish this final destroying fire.

### An Earth without Sin

God will definitely not allow anymore sin on the new earth. Whoever holds fast to their sin will with certainty be destroyed together with their sin. But God doesn’t want to destroy any people. He does everything so that each person can be saved, but in His great love and justice He has to ultimately destroy sin.



Otherwise evil would be immortalized and hunger, epidemics, child abuse, murder, war, misery and death would continue endlessly. In God's world sin has no right to exist – it will be stopped and terminated!

Some think that God has waited too long. Let's read 2 Peter 3:9: *"The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance."* (NKJV) (Repentance = about-turn, rethinking, new behavior)

### God Wants to Save

God wants to save everyone, He wants everyone to come to repentance.

It depends on us, if we accept His offer of love or not. God has given mankind the chance to cast off their sins. He gave them a Savior – Jesus Christ. He wants to forgive our guilt. He enables us to let go of the guilt others have placed on us. And He wants to cleanse us from all uncleanness – meaning to free us from everything that is contrary to God's will and injures us and others. Eternity is at stake for each of us.

Two powers are fighting around us our whole life: God and Satan. Sin and grace! By our free will we either connect ourselves to God and His saving grace or we remain slaves of evil, victims of Satan's art of seduction and will go together with sin into the lake of fire. Do we want to surrender to sin and undergo God's judgement or do we want to accept God's gift – eternal life?

To illustrate here is a story about a young man, who couldn't save his mother:

Many years ago, a group of gypsies was on its way to pick hops. They had finished picking one field and wanted to go to the other side of the river to pick the next field. They got into their wagons and started out with singing and laughter.

They soon arrived at the wooden bridge over the river. They needed to cross to the other side. The water in the river was very high and was already flooding part of the way. This scared the women and they started to scream and squeal. This made the horses nervous, they then broke through the wooden railings and everyone fell into the river. A brave young man jumped into the river when he saw his mother surface in the water.

He swam towards her with all his strength, but she wasn't willing to let go of her bag. With her free hand she clutched his neck so hard that he couldn't breathe. He broke loose from her grip and his mother went under the water and then he wasn't able to pull her out any more. At the funeral the young man knelt beside his mother's coffin. He wept bitterly and cried: "Mother, I tried to save you. I did everything a person could do, but you wouldn't let me save you."

When God holds judgement, Jesus Christ will have to say to some people: "I did everything in God's power to save you, but you didn't let yourself be saved."

## God's Great Offer

How can we avoid “hell”? What is God’s plan for salvation? He throws each of us a lifesaver free of charge and calls: “Cling to Jesus and never let Him go!”

Preparations for a glorious life with God starts now! The home of the redeemed is paradise – a perfectly beautiful surrounding. We can’t even imagine its splendor. After Jesus’ death – for us – He returned to heaven after His resurrection and created this incomparable place for us. Are we fit for heavenly society? Or do we still need quite a number of “changes” to our attitude? Only Jesus can free us from the sin clinging to us, from the power of Satan and the results of evil. At His second coming He will “change” us and also take away our inclination to evil. He is already starting this process now through the Holy Spirit changing and cleansing us.

Let’s use this opportunity instead of being distracted more and more by the temptations of the world. So many today are entrapped by sexual excesses, pornography, constantly changing relationships or only have amusement, fashion, money or profits on their minds, as if this could give them enduring happiness!

Instead of accepting Jesus, who came to save us from being lost, people mocked Him, spat on Him and nailed Him to a cross. Because of sin, Jesus Christ suffered pain and death on the cross. But God is determined to settle with sin and wipe it out forever.

Jesus said with divine love in John 5:39-40:

*“You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life.”* (NKJV)

The pharisees studied God’s Word zealously and thought that they could thereby endear themselves to God. At the same time, they rejected Jesus and didn’t want to accept Him as the Savior sent by God.

*“Say to them: As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?”* (Ezekiel 33:11 NKJV)

After a lecture on hell, a lady said to the pastor: “My husband is a horrible man and continually commits terrible sins. If he were to find out that he didn’t have to burn for eternity in hell, then he would never be saved.”

This woman regarded heaven as a getaway from the anguish of hell. But that is the wrong perception of heaven. Fear of hell isn’t the ticket to heaven.

The Bible says that God’s goodness leads us to repentance.

*“... not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?”* (Romans 2:4 NKJV)

We are saved by God's love, when we respond to His love with requited love and trust Jesus Christ.

It isn't the fear of hell that draws us to Jesus, but rather God's love. God hates sin so much that He would never tolerate an eternally burning hell, because it would constantly remind Him and the saved of sin. If there were an eternally burning hell, then God would have to watch how billions of men, women and children shriek, cry and writhe in pain – until all eternity! He would have to hear how they whimper for mercy day after day, year after year until all eternity. This eternally burning hell would be unbearable for God – truly hell!

### The Results of a False Doctrine

God is loving and abhors torture and agony. He is neither cruel nor sadistic.

With this false teaching of hell, Satan has masterfully painted a false image of God for mankind, as if He were a heartless monster. As a result, many don't want anything to do with God.

Indeed, this false teaching has drawn more people into unbelief than all the other false teachings put together.

There are more than 20 Bible texts, which clearly state that the wicked will be completely obliterated. It is as clear as glass and so conclusive in the Bible that every impartial person can clearly understand it. Some texts on the subject:

*“But the wicked shall perish; and the enemies of the LORD, like the splendor of the meadows, shall vanish. Into smoke they shall vanish away.”* (Psalm 37:20 NKJV)

Or Psalm 37:10: *“For yet a little while and the wicked shall be no more; indeed, you will look carefully for his place, but it shall be no more.”* (NKJV)

The Bible also says in John 3:36: *“He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.”* (NKJV)

*“And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”* (Revelation 21:4 NKJV)

It is a false doctrine that God would eternally burn and torment sinners in hell. Who would want to live together with a sadist for eternity? And it slanders and insults God's character.

### God's Solution for Sinners

God will destroy sin, but He has made a way out for sinners: Jesus Christ.

It is better to let Jesus forgive our sins than to be burned together with our sins.

Remember the 16-year-old girl at the beginning of the letter? She died young and innocent. But she never accepted Jesus Christ and according to the popular notion she will go to purgatory or hell.

There, this girl would be together with criminals, murderers, and child abusers and would be tortured for all eternity. She couldn't flee nor could she die. Who would want anything to do with a God that tormented this girl for her short life for eternity and in such a place? What use would the whole thing actually have? When God sometimes permits people to suffer as a result of their wrongdoing, then it should help them gain insights and help them change. God's "punishments" are usually "learning aids".

What will God do with people, who haven't accepted Jesus, but were in a manner of speaking harmless sinners?

We read in Obadiah 15-16: *"For the day of the LORD upon all the nations is near; as you have done, it shall be done to you; your reprisal shall return upon your own head. For as you drank on My holy mountain, so shall all the nations drink continually; yes, they shall drink, and swallow, and they shall be as though they had never been."* (NKJV)

There are varying degrees to God's punishment, according to what each individual person thought and did.

And these "harmless" people will be wiped out in the blink of an eye, without noticing anything about it. However, others will have to suffer very deliberately for their sins, because they have harmed others and themselves and destroyed nature.

God doesn't want to torture anyone for eternity, but God gives each person the punishment that they deserve.

What will God do with this earth after He has purified it by fire? We can read the answer in Isaiah 65:17: *"For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former shall not be remembered or come to mind."* (NKJV)

God will create a new heaven and a new earth, where there is no injustice nor sin, but rather complete harmony and joy with eternal life.

Because God wanted to save and purify this old world, He sent His only Son. Jesus lived in this corrupted world and was subjected to the merciless cruelty of mankind. They ripped His clothes off, that spat on Him, they beat Him and put a crown of thorns on His head. They mocked Him and flogged Him with a whip until His flesh was in shreds. He almost bled to death there. They then laid the heavy cross on His shoulders. They drove Him with whips and spears, although He could hardly put one foot in front of the other. He collapsed under the burden of the cross. They forced Simon of Cyrene to carry the cross to the place of execution.

On the hill of Golgotha, they ripped His clothes off and threw Him on His back on the cross. They hammered nails into His hands and feet. Then they lifted this horrible instrument of torture and let it fall into a hole. It wasn't done gently and it ripped flesh from His hands and dislocated His shoulders.

Then He hang there, wounded and tortured, suffering agony, helplessly exposed to the burning sun of the orient, fighting for each breath and was taunted and mocked till the end. The sun was darkened in the middle of the day, as if nature couldn't stand to witness how its Creator died – from a broken heart.

Imagine this picture, this suffering Son of God – can we conceive what it cost a loving heavenly Father to eliminate sin in this world? No, He will never again permit sin! This has to end!

When God's tender wooing touches our hearts, then we look at Jesus. He is friendly, gracious and compassionate and doesn't want anyone to be lost, but rather to repent and to let themselves be saved.

We want to thank Him for this now in a closing prayer:

Dear Andrew, we can only marvel at our wonderful God. I hope these insights are of great value to you.

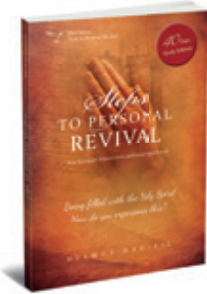
With warm regards,

*Helmut*

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Our Father in heaven, we want to praise and thank You for Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Thank You that in Your love You found a way to treat all mankind fairly. And that You save with Your grace all those who put their trust in You. Whoever accepts Your forgiving grace and lets love grow in his heart, will follow and trust You. Thank You Lord that this teaching of eternal torment in hell isn't true, but rather is an invention of the devil. We are grateful that in Your great love You will one day make an end to everything evil and all sin, with all its effects by a judgement of fire. In Your mercy You will let the devil, all his evil angels and everyone, who holds onto their sin and guilt instead of letting themselves be freed and saved, die. I ask You Lord, give everyone who reads this letter grace to take advantage of Your offer of salvation. And that he may cling to his Savior Jesus and live a fulfilled and blessed life here on earth. Then after the second coming of Jesus, he can live with You in heavenly association for all eternity and live a life of love. We thank You for this with our whole hearts. Amen.

Prayer



## **BOOK 1: STEPS TO PERSONAL REVIVAL**

*Being filled with the Holy Spirit.*

**Our lord himself has given the command:<sup>1</sup> Let yourselves be consistently and repeatedly filled anew with the spirit!<sup>2</sup>**

1 Ellen G. White, *Mount of Blessing*, MB 20.3 ([egwwritings.org](http://egwwritings.org))

2 Johannes Mager, *Auf den Spuren des Heiligen Geistes* (Lüneburg, 1999), p. 101

**[www.steps-to-personal-revival.info](http://www.steps-to-personal-revival.info)**

### FOREWORD FOR LEADERS AND FUTURE LEADERS MULTIPLYING THE RESULTS

#### CHAPTER 1: JESUS' MOST PRECIOUS GIFT

*What did Jesus teach about the Holy Spirit?*

*Are you acquainted with Jesus' most powerful message?*

#### CHAPTER 2: WHAT IS THE CENTER OF OUR PROBLEMS?

*Is there a spiritual cause to our problems? Is the cause a lack of the Holy Spirit?*

*What is the main problem with being a carnal Christian?*

#### CHAPTER 3: OUR PROBLEMS ARE SOLVABLE

*What is God's solution for our problems? How can we grow to be happy and strong Christians? What is the relationship between baptism and the Holy Spirit?*

#### CHAPTER 4: WHAT DIFFERENCES CAN WE EXPECT?

*What advantage do we have with a life filled with the Holy Spirit*

*What do we lose when we don't pray for the Holy Spirit?*

#### CHAPTER 5: THE KEY TO PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE

*How can I implement and experience God's solution for me?*

*How should I pray so that I am sure of being filled with the Holy Spirit?*

#### CHAPTER 6: WHAT EXPERIENCES LIE AHEAD OF US?

*Personal experiences, as well as experiences from churches, a conference and a union*

#### CHAPTER 7: INTEREST AND SHARING

*The Joy that we give returns to our own hearts. (German Proverb)*

*How can I help others to experience "Life in Abundance"?*

*How do we pass on the message? Which ways are there?*

Read  
more



**BOOK 2: STEPS TO PERSONAL REVIVAL**

**ABIDE IN JESUS – HOW DO YOU DO THAT?**

“Abide in Me, and I in you.” Abiding in Christ means a constant receiving of His Spirit, a life of unreserved surrender to His service.

Ellen G. White (*Desire of Ages, DA, p.676.2*)

**[www.steps-to-personal-revival.info](http://www.steps-to-personal-revival.info)**

Abiding in Him is not a work that we have to do as a condition in order to enjoy His salvation. Rather it is our consent to let Him do everything for us, in us, and through us. It is a work He does for us – the result and the power of His redeeming love. Our part is simply to yield, to trust, and to wait for Him to accomplish what He has promised. (Andrew Murray)

**CHAPTER 1: JESUS’ MOST PRECIOUS GIFT**

*Are you acquainted with Jesus’ most powerful message?*

*What functions does the Holy Spirit have?*

*How can our character be changed?*

*Jesus on the Holy Spirit in the Parable. About the Leaven*

**CHAPTER 2: SURRENDER TO JESUS**

*Do I lose my own will? Or will I become stronger? What can prevent us from surrendering?*

*Does surrender to God mean that we have to give up our own will?*

**CHAPTER 3: JESUS ABIDING IN YOU**

*What effects does “Christ in me” have on my life?*

*The ultimate achievement: being imbued with the fullness of God.*

*The Effects of “Christ in you”. How do we get deliverance from the power of sin?*

*Will we become “carnal” again by sinning?*

**CHAPTER 4: OBEDIENCE THROUGH JESUS?**

*How can I live in joyful obedience? What is joy? How does obedience through “Jesus in me” work?*

*God has designed: Collaboration between God and Man.*

**CHAPTER 5: ATTRACTIVE FAITH THROUGH JESUS**

*How can oneness be achieved among believers?*

*What makes our faith appealing to our family and the world?*

*What changes in us make us witnesses? How does revival generate mission?*

