



Do People Who Don't Hear the Gospel Go to Hell?

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Lesson Goal

Help students consider what happens to a person who doesn't have access to the Gospel.

Lesson Objectives

Teach students answers to the following questions:

1. What judgement does he receive?
2. Where does he go?
3. Does he have an excuse?
4. What is the Biblical answer to that question?

Key Verse

Romans 1:18-21, 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10, Revelation 20:11-15
Ezekiel 3:18-19, Ezekiel 33:7-9, Acts 18:6, Acts 20:26-27, 1 Corinthians 15:34
Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15, Acts 1:8

Application

1. What about you?
2. How can you witness to others?



Teacher Planning Sheet

Prepare

Objectives/Truths to cover this week

- _____
- _____

Personal Application

As a result of my study in this passage, God wants me to

- _____
- _____

Three ways students need to apply this passage are

- _____
- _____

Point

Choose from various ideas to point students to the coming Bible lesson.

- _____
- _____

Proclaim

Choose from various ideas to proclaim the Bible lesson.

Presentation Ideas

- _____
- _____

Praise/Music Ideas

- _____
- _____

Practice

Choose ideas to help review and apply today's lesson.

- _____
- _____



Lesson

Do they have an excuse? - Romans 1:18-21

How God feels:

You can see in verse 18 that God is angry. He is angry with men. What is God angry about? Men can see His power and Godhead, yet they do not worship Him.

What God reveals:

The invisible things of God are understood by His visible creation. If you see a turtle on a fence post, you know someone put it there. If you look at the world around you, there is no doubt that there is a creator. That Creator is God. His creation teaches us about His eternal power and Godhead.

When people do not glorify God:

The people referred to as “they” in this passage are unbelievers. They are the people that do not glorify God and are not thankful to God. These are the people that are without excuse before God. These are the people on whom the wrath of God dwells (John 3:36).

What is their excuse:

What is the excuse of the person in South America who has only been told to work for his salvation? What is the excuse of the person in Asia who worships as many gods as he can? What is the excuse of the lady in North Africa who never heard the Gospel? The last part of verse 20 answers our question clearly “they are without excuse.”

What is their future? - 2 Thessalonians 1:6–10, Revelation 20:11–15

In flaming fire:

Jesus will come in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God. Jesus is coming with His mighty angels. He is not coming to play around. He is not coming as the lowly and despised Son of Man but as the Lord Jesus. That is a good thing for us believers, but it is very bad for those who do not know God.



Who shall be punished:

Those who do not know God will be punished. It will not be a slap on the hand. It will not be purgatory. It will be everlasting destruction - eternity in hell and then the Lake of Fire.

The Great White Throne:

In Revelation 20:11-15 we see the Great White Throne Judgement. It is here that God finally judges everyone that has ever lived. The only acceptable escape from the judgement is for your name to be found in the Lamb's Book of Life. If your name is not there, you will be judged by your works, and we know that our best works are only filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6).

What is their hope? - Ezekiel 3:18-19, Ezekiel 33:7-9, Acts 18:6, Acts 20:26-27, 1 Corinthians 15:34

The Old Testament Watchman:

In Ezekiel 33:7-9 God tells Ezekiel that He is a watchman for Israel. Ezekiel knows God and knows that judgement is coming. God tells Ezekiel to warn Israel. If Ezekiel doesn't, their blood will be on his hands. If he does, their blood will be on their own hands. Either way, the people were going to be judged for their sins. Ezekiel had to decide whose hands would have blood on them.

A New Testament Watchman:

In Acts 18:6 and Acts 20:26-27 Paul states that he is pure from the blood of all men. In 20:26-27 Paul said that it was because he did not shun to declare to them all the counsel of God. Obviously Paul felt the weight of being a watchman in His ministry.

The Church, a Watchman:

In 1 Corinthians 15:34 Paul is writing to the church at Corinth and states that there are some without the knowledge of God. He told them that it was to their shame. It is a shame for the church to slack in getting the Gospel to people. If there are people without the Gospel there is work to be done.

Conclusion: People who never hear the Gospel are still on their way to hell and then the Lake of Fire afterwards - Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15, and Acts 1:8

What about you today?

Many people have heard the Gospel and have still gone to hell. Just having a head knowledge of the Gospel is not enough; salvation is by grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8).



What about those who have never heard?

We know where they are going. The question is what are we going to do about it? Paul felt the weight of being a watchman. He scolded a church for not being active in reaching those who do not have the knowledge of God. Can we think that we are not responsible?

God's plan for those who have never heard

God does not want anyone to go to hell. Christ already has a plan for those in the world who have never heard of His saving Grace. He has commissioned His church to go and take the Gospel to them. He has given us power and the Holy Spirit to complete this task. Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15, and Acts 1:8.

Whose hands will have blood?

It is for the church to decide who will have blood on their hands. If the church sits idly by without working to get the knowledge of God to the world, it would be a shame. The wrath of God is against even those who have not heard, but equally true, the grace of God abounds for every sinner. We have to tell them.



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Acts 18:6, Acts 20:26-27, 1 Corinthians 15:34, Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15, Acts 1:8

Name _____

1. Write Mark 16:15

2. Why is God angry with man? (Romans 1:18-21)_____

3. Does anyone have an excuse because they have not heard about God?_____

4. What command did Paul give to the people of Corinth in 1 Corinthians 15:34?

5. Is knowing about the Gospel (head knowledge) enough to save a person?_____

6. If a Christian shares the Gospel with someone, is he responsible for that person to be saved?_____

7. If a Christian has the opportunity to share the Gospel with someone, but he does not share the Gospel, who is held responsible?_____



What Does God Teach?

1 Corinthians 15:34 – “Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.”

What does it mean to “awake unto righteousness”? _____

Why should a Christian turn from sin? _____

Why did Paul say the people should be ashamed? _____

What sin in your life do you need to turn from so that the lost will be able to see Christ in you?

Mark 16:15 – “And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.”

Who is the “ye” in this verse? _____

Do you have to wait until you are an adult to share the Gospel with someone? _____

Who do you know that needs to hear the Gospel? _____

The next time you see that person, will you tell him/her about Jesus? _____



Solve the Scramble

Unscramble the words then use them to fill in the blanks to complete the verse.

viereec _____

orpwe _____

Hyol tGosh _____

tnwesesis _____

maselerJu _____

aaUed _____

aaaSmri _____

haert _____

“But ye shall _____, after that the _____
_____ is come upon you: and ye shall be
_____ unto me both in _____,
and in all _____, and in _____,
and unto the uttermost part of the _____.”

Acts 1:8



I can tell my friends about Jesus!

