

PRAYING FOR THE LOST



My Heart's Desire...

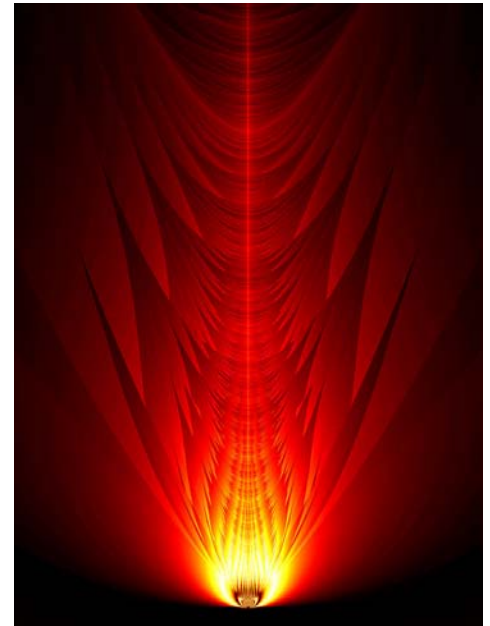
- Paul has an intense desire to see the Jews saved
- The Jews are lost despite having a zeal for God
- Their zeal is 'not according to knowledge'
- The lost-ness of the Jews causes Paul intense anguish of heart
- He is even prepared to be 'cut off from Christ' for them
- Paul's response to their lost-ness is fervent prayer
- Romans 10:1-2 Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God concerning them is for their salvation! (2) I can testify about them that they have zeal for God, but not according to knowledge.
- Romans 9:1-4 I speak the truth in Christ-- (2) that I have intense sorrow and continual anguish in my heart. (3) For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from the Messiah for the benefit of my brothers, my countrymen by physical descent. (4) They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the temple service, and the promises.

How Lost Are The Lost?

- Dead
- Alienated
- Enslaved
- In Darkness
- Degraded
- Despisers of The Cross
- Hardened
- Blinded
- Ephesians 2:1-5
- Ephesians 4:18-19
- Galatians 4:8
- Colossians 1:21, 2:13
- Romans 1:20-32
- 1 Corinthians 1:18
- 2 Corinthians 2:15,16
- 2 Corinthians 4:3,4

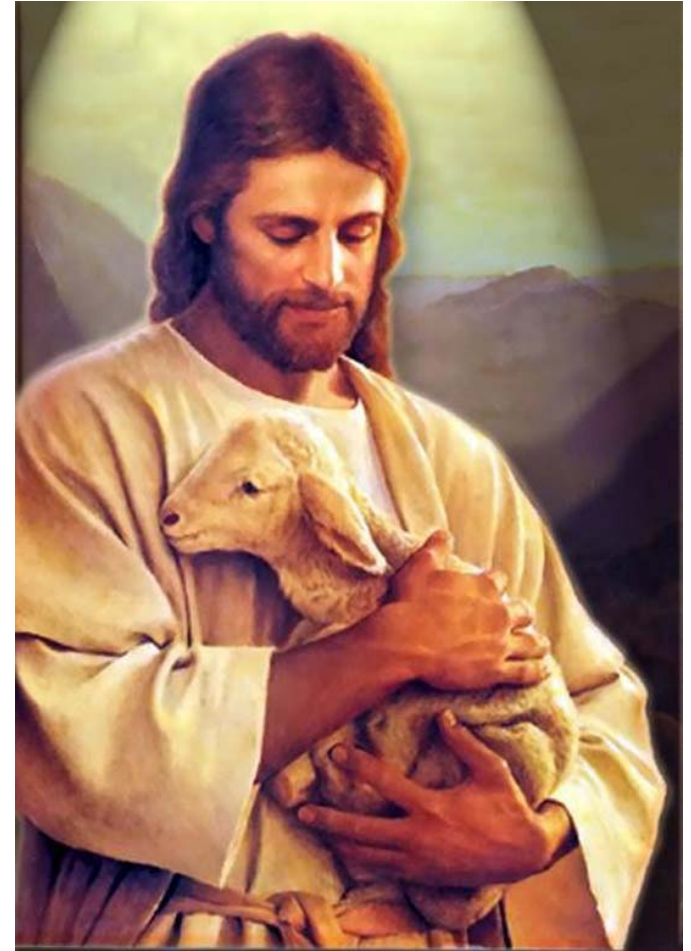
What Is The Fate Of The Lost?

- Are Perishing: John 3:14-16, 10:28
2 Thessalonians 2:10
2 Peter 3:9
- Are Under God's Wrath: John 3:36
Romans 1:18, 2:5-8
Ephesians 2:3; 5:5,6
Colossians 3:5,6
- Are To Be Punished: Mark 9:42-48,
Isaiah 66:24
Matthew 13:42,50
2 Thessalonians 1:8,9



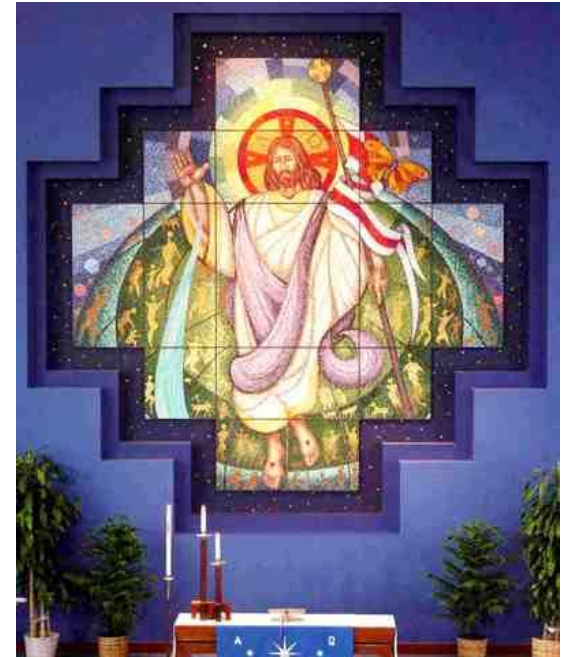
Jesus And The Lost...

- Matthew 18:11-13, Luke 19:10
- Luke 15:1-32
- John 17:12, 18:9
- 2 Peter 3:9
- 1 Timothy 1:15



Praying For The Lost

- Acts 26:18 in order to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light, and from the authority of Satan to God, so that they may receive remission of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.
- That they may have the 'eyes of their understanding' opened to see Christ (Ephesians 1:18)
- That demonic bondages may be broken (Galatians 4:8)
- That they may hear of Christ (Romans 10:17)



Praying On The Basis Of Redemption

- You claim people ‘because Christ has died for them on the cross’
- Colossians 1:13-15
- 2 Corinthians 5:14,15
- 1 Timothy 2:5,6
- Hebrews 2:9
- Hebrews 10:10



Pray For Interest In Spiritual Things

- For a curiosity about the Bible
- For a curiosity about some uniquely Christian doctrines
- For a curiosity about God's delivering and healing miracles
- For a curiosity about the person of Jesus
- They will soon be: 'not far from the Kingdom of God' Mark 12:34



Pray That They Might Have Good Christian Friends

- The gospel travels most often via relationships
- Pray that the person may suddenly acquire a bunch of Christian friends
- Pray that there may be at least one clear good witness to Christ among them
- Also pray that 'bad company' may depart



Believe That They Will Be Saved

- Good evangelists see evangelism as easy – they BELIEVE that people will be saved
- Poor evangelists see evangelism as complicated, risky and difficult and do NOT REALLY BELIEVE that people will be saved
- We must deploy our faith and ‘believe that we have received’ Mark 11:23,24
- We must create an inner vision of people becoming saved in large numbers
- ‘Praying Hyde’ of India got the exact number of people saved that he had faith to pray in for salvation.



Praying For Their Governments

- When 'kings and those in authority' are converted often the whole society is evangelized (Samoa)
- When those in authority hinder the gospel often very few are saved. (Romania)
- People are trapped in structures that try prohibit their salvation (families, nations, belief systems etc) and we must wrestle against such things
- 1 Timothy 2:1-4 First of all, then, I exhort that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, (2) for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. (3) For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, (4) who will have all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Prevail and Persist In Prayer For Souls

- Share Paul's agony for the lost-ness of souls (Romans 10:1-3)
- Pray persistently (Luke 18:1-8)
- Get with others so that you have the power of multiplication...
(Matthew 18:19,20 ; Leviticus 26:8;
Deuteronomy 32:30;

