



Dear Neighbour,

If your home was filled with smoke and I shouted 'Fire!' I think you would be grateful for my warning. In a spiritual sense, I am writing this letter to alert you to impending danger. Be assured that I have your best interests at heart...

Many people believe that they are good people and feel no need of God or a Saviour. God's standard of holiness is not other people, but perfection. Anything less would mean that you have missed God's mark and do not qualify for heaven. The truth is that NO ONE qualifies: **...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God**

(Romans 3:23). The greatest sin we are all guilty of is the sin of not giving God first place in our lives. God is our Creator and as His creation we are accountable to Him:

**So then each of us shall give account of himself to God**

(Romans 14:12). God's holiness demands that sin must be punished.

Jesus became your substitute, died on the cross for your sins and rose from the dead. Jesus tells us how to respond to His great sacrifice: **Repent, and believe in the gospel** (Mark 1:15). If you turn away from sin and turn to Jesus for forgiveness you will enjoy true freedom from sin and death and you will receive the free gift of eternal life with God.

Sinners are in a state of **spiritual death**, being separated from God. By ignoring your sin, you will be storing up God's wrath against yourself:

***But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed***

(Romans 2:5). This scripture is graphically illustrated through an event that occurred in a South African town when a tailings dam at Merriespruit broke in 1994. During the night 600 000 cubic metres of water and slime was dumped on the town, washing houses and people away. People were living their daily lives oblivious to the impending danger. God is loving and full of grace and mercy. Just because you are not experiencing God's wrath against your sins today, does not mean that you will not be judged. Jesus did not come to condemn the people of the world, but to save them. The truth is that we are CONDEMNED ALREADY and by continuing in sin, we are simply storing up God's wrath against ourselves. Jesus said,

***"For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.***

***He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already***

***, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God"***

(John 3:17-18). It is time to decide if you will live your life condemned or forgiven.

I cannot over-emphasise the seriousness of sin. The media tend to downplay sin, but the Bible reveals the truth about our need for a Saviour. **Eternal death** occurs when we die physically in a state of spiritual death and there is no further opportunity to reverse the situation, being eternally separated from God. My boldness to write you comes from the urgency of the message. Sin deceives and enslaves us, causing us to live self-centred, restless lives that fear death. In contrast, believers in Jesus Christ experience the joy and freedom of knowing that their sins are forgiven. As children of God we live God-centred lives of love, joy and peace with the promise that our best is yet to come!

God has done everything possible to save you from your sins, but He has left the final decision with you – you get to live your own life. I respectfully do the same.

x Libby