



**Saints**

**in**

**Hell**





**Saints**

**Why Many  
Christians  
Will Not Make  
it to Heaven**

**in  
Hell**

**Tony Izuogu**



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## **Saints in Hell**

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## **Note to readers**

The term “talent” has been used throughout this book in a very broad sense beyond the monetary context of the parable of talents in Matthew 25:14-30.





# Introduction

I'D SHOWN SOME friends the initial cover design for this book, and the title was easy for them to define. I sure was surprised that most of them gave similar answers. Let me share the responses. First, the word “saints” is in parenthesis. Second, it is about righteous people who eventually die in sin. Third, it is about the righteous ones suffering on earth—a hell-on-earth situation. (After all if the Bible is true, then “many are the afflictions of the righteous” Ps. 34:19, KJV.)

In all fairness, these are no zero-grade answers, yet this book is not about so-called saints, neither is it about last-minute-sin-doomed Christians. I was not referring to the fact that righteousness is no immunity to affliction. And hell here is, as we know it, that lake of unquenchable fire where the devil and his entire army of demons are sentenced to. I am referring to real saints! We know them as born-again Christians, or as practicing Christians. They don't sleep with other people's wives ... they don't shoplift ... they don't rob banks ... they tell nothing but the truth ... they go to church every day ... they pay tithe regularly ... of them it could be said: In them was no iniquity found.

## Saints in Hell

Real saints in real hell!

We know God and his good intentions for the saints too well to say that the mix is inconceivable. The writer of Ecclesiastes had reason to add another verse to his medley of meaningless everything when he wrote, “All share a common destiny—the righteous and the wicked, the good and the bad” (Eccl. 9:2a).

It would be prudent to ask, how and why did these saints end up in hell? We are about to unravel a great mystery. It’s disturbing!

We will take a long reading through the gospel, starting with Matthew 25:14-30:

Again, it will be like a man going on a journey who called his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. The man who had received the five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more. So also, the one with the two talents gained two more. But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more.’

His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

The man with the two talents also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two talents; see, I have gained two more.’

His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

## Introduction

Then the man who had received the one talent came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. So I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’

His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.’

‘Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents. For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

What happened to the third servant? He was condemned. Let’s sound more like we are talking in church; he went to hell. He’s been a servant to his master for quite a while. He was not under probation ... he was a confirmed servant. By the way, he was qualified enough in the first place to be a servant. So this gentleman was a born-again Christian; he went to church regularly ... he prayed at least three times daily ... he paid his tithes regularly ... of course he didn’t sleep with another man’s wife ... he didn’t steal ... he didn’t tell lies. In fact he kept all the Ten Commandments. He was a proper Christian by all accounts! So what was his crime for which he was sent to hell? Just one apparently flimsy thing—in fact it would not even ordinarily pass for an offence; he didn’t use what he had ... he did not use his talent.

Brethren, on that account, his years of Christianity became a history.



# The First Commandments

EVEN IN THIS sin-soaked generation of pitiable humanity, God would still find a handful of righteous people for whose sake he would spare the rest of us his dreadful wrath, just like he tried to do in Genesis 18:16-33. Whoever is sent this time may not have to search for too long before finding people who have kept the Ten Commandments.

By the way, why did Abraham ask God to hold on for him to find, at least, a single righteous person? Most likely he knew someone. It may not have occurred to Abraham that he could have found someone righteous enough by his own (Abraham's) assessment to save the rest of the people, and that God could have told him that the person was no better than anyone else.

So today an Abraham could find people who have kept the Ten Commandments right from their mother's womb, but whom God could disqualify for not keeping the first commandments. You may ask, "They kept the entire Ten Commandments, but failed the first ones—which say what?" "Be fruitful ... multiply and fill the earth ..."

## Saints in Hell

You needed to be told those are the first commandments? Or maybe they don't sound like *commandments* to us, because they lack the company of "thou shall ..." You know, as far as we are concerned, if "Thou shall," "Thee," and "Thus says the Lord" are not included, then God hasn't spoken. We have, over time, effectively conditioned our minds that old English is God's own language. To many people, prophecies in old English are closer to what God would say. We have God's language all figured out, it appears.

Now consider Genesis 1:28 and Genesis 2:15:

"God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground' (1:28).

"The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it" (2:15).

God gave man a seven-fold commandment: Be fruitful; increase in number; fill the earth; subdue it; rule over; work it; take care. The 8th creature, man, was asked to do seven things. It was the creature that was to do most of the work. It was so because only the 8th creature had the faculties to do all those things. And his assignment corresponded with his make-up.

Man was made in the image and likeness of the supreme creator. So man is what his creator is—a creator. Thus, he possessed the ability to create; he literally possessed creativity. In him was talent—the apparatus of multiplication, dominion, increase, rulership.

This is how man discovered all his science and technology. God created man and asked him to rule over everything else that was made: fish of the sea, birds of the air, and beast of the land. He was also to take charge of every seed-bearing plant and every tree that has fruit with seed.



## The First Commandments

Man needed the ability and knowledge to work the garden—its architecture, agriculture, biology, mechanics, fashion, etc. And that ability was in man.

Man was made the overseer of sea creatures. For this he would need oceanography; he would make boats and ships, and would be able to swim.

Man would be in charge of the birds of the air. So he would learn from those flying creatures to fly. He would build airplanes.

He was also to rule over the beasts of the land. But he would need superior advantage. For example, he would have to move faster than the Kangaroo, so he would make a car. Simply put, man was God's marine.

The task given to man was enormous, but his talent was equal to it. There was, therefore, no reason for him to fail. This task is man's primary responsibility and God's primary commandment to man.

The Ten Commandments were fallout of man's rebellious disobedience to God's directive. Originally, there was no need for God to tell man not to steal. It was only after man's sense of divine direction had been corrupted that God had to spell out the laws to man. God sent Jesus to remind man of his primary assignment: "You are the salt of the earth ... you are the light of the world ..." (Matthew 5:13-14). It is man's onus to preserve, sweeten, and illuminate God's creation. So, the disquieting truth is that if man keeps all the Ten Commandments and fails in the first ones, he has made a failure of himself! If man fails, Jesus tells what will happen: "If salt losses its saltiness ... it is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out ..." (Matthew 5:13). That was the fate of the one-talent servant.