

## **Fire Hazard**

As we find ourselves in the midst of a long rainless drought, the fire hazard is very high! The past week of triple digit temperatures along with hot Southern winds have turned the outdoors into a tinder box, ripe for a raging wildfire. Notices and burn bans have been issued, warning of the possibility of a fiery catastrophe.

Just as the fire departments and forestry services warn us, the bible warns of a spiritual fire hazard. The scriptures teach that when a person is without God, much like a land without rain, one is in danger of a flaming future. Here are just a few examples of the bible's fire warnings:

- Fiery vengeance on those who refuse to obey God – 2 Thes. 1:8
- Many people will find a fiery end of the road - Matthew 7:13
- Evil & sinful people will go into the lake of fire - Revelation 21:8
- A fiery end for false teachers - 2 Peter 2:1-4
- The unfruitful branch is cut off & burned - John 15:5-6
- After death, the ungodly will be tormented in flame - Luke 16:24
- The flames of hell will never go out - Mark 9:43-44

The good news is that a fiery future can be easily avoided through the gospel of Jesus Christ. Through faith, repentance, confession, and baptism, the Christian walks through a life of service and sacrifice to find God's love, forgiveness, and everlasting salvation in paradise with Jesus Christ our Lord.

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