WHERE IS "OUTER DARKNESS?"

(Hint: It is NOT dark in hell, Lk.16:23)

JESUS SAYS "SONS" ARE THE GOOD SEED BUT NOT FAITHFUL

Matthew 8:10–12 Now when Jesus heard *this,* He marveled and said to those who were following, "Truly I say to you, I have not found such great faith with anyone in Israel. I say to you that many will come from east and west, and recline at the table with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven; but the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

THE "TARES," NOT THE "SONS," END UP IN HELL

Matthew 13:37–43 And He [Jesus] said, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man, and the field is the world; and <u>as for</u> the good seed, these are the sons of the kingdom; and the tares are the sons of the evil one; and the enemy who sowed them is the devil, and the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are angels. So just as the <u>tares</u> are gathered up and burned with fire, so shall it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness, and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then THE RIGHTEOUS WILL SHINE FORTH AS THE SUN in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear."

THE WEDDING PARABLE

Matthew 22:8–14 "Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but **those who were invited were not worthy**. Go therefore to the main highways, and as many as you find *there*, invite to the wedding feast.' "Those slaves went out into the streets and

gathered together all they found, both evil and good; and the wedding hall was filled with dinner guests. But when the king came in to look over the dinner guests, he saw a man there who was not dressed in wedding clothes, and he *said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without wedding clothes?' And the man was speechless. "Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "For many are called, but few are chosen."

THE REAL WEDDING

Revelation 16:15 ("Behold, I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who stays awake and keeps his clothes, so that he will not walk about naked and men will not see his shame.")

Revelation 19:7–9 "Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the **marriage of the Lamb** has come and His bride has made herself ready." It was **given to her to clothe** <u>herself</u> in fine linen, bright *and* clean; for **the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.**

Then he said to me, "Write, 'Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.' " And he said to me, "These are true words of God."

A WICKED LAZY [Christian] SLAVE

Matthew 25:24–30 "And the one [slave] also who had received the one talent came up and said, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you scattered no *seed*. And I was afraid, and went away and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what is yours.' "But his master answered and said to him, 'You wicked, lazy slave, you knew that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I scattered no *seed*. Then you ought to have put my money in the bank, and on my arrival I would have

received my *money* back with interest. Therefore take away the talent from him, and give it to the one who has the ten talents.'

"For to everyone who has, *more* shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but from the one who does not have, even what he does have shall be taken away. Throw out the worthless slave into the <u>outer darkness</u>; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

ANOTHER WICKED LAZY [Christian] SLAVE

Luke 12:42-48 And the Lord said, "Who then is the faithful and sensible steward, whom his master will put in charge of his servants, to give them their rations at the proper time? Blessed is that slave whom his master finds so doing when he comes. Truly I say to you that he will put him in charge of all his possessions. But if that slave says in his heart, 'My master will be a long time in coming,' and begins to beat the slaves, both men and women, and to eat and drink and get drunk; the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he does not know, and will cut him in pieces, and assign him a place with the unbelievers. And that slave who knew his master's will and did not get ready or act in accord with his will, will receive many lashes, but the one who did not know it, and committed deeds worthy of a flogging, will receive but few. From everyone who has been given much, much will be required; and to whom they entrusted much, of him they will ask all the more.

CHRISTIAN EVILDOERS

Luke 13:24–30 "Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. Once the head of the house gets up and shuts the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock on the door, saying, 'Lord, open up to us!' then He will answer and say to you, 'I do not know where you are from.' "Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets'; and He will say, 'I tell you, I do not know where you are from; DEPART FROM ME, ALL YOU EVILDOERS.' "In

that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but <u>yourselves</u> being thrown <u>Out</u>. And they will come from east and west and from north and south, and will recline at the table in the kingdom of God. And behold, some are last who will be first and some are first who will be last."

OUTER DARKNESS—OUTSIDE THE CITY LIGHT

Revelation 21:23–27 And **the city** has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp *is* the Lamb. The **nations will walk by its** <u>light</u>, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. In the daytime (for there will be **no night** [darkness] <u>there</u>) its gates will never be closed; and they will bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it; and nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are [still, Rev. 3:5] written in the Lamb's book of life.

THIS WARNING IS TO THE **CHURCHES**

Revelation 22:12–16 "Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done. "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter by the gates into the city. Outside [the city light] are the dogs and the sorcerers and the immoral persons and the murderers and the idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices lying. "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."