

“There is no better test of our spiritual state and condition than _____.”

“There is no better test of our spiritual state and condition than our missionary zeal, our concern for lost souls.

That is always the thing that divides people who are just theoretical and intellectual Christians from those who have a living and vital spiritual life.”

—Martyn Lloyd-Jones

Why Romans 9–11?

Paul's great sorrow
and unceasing
anguish (vv. 1-3)

“Those who have experienced deep joy have discovered a strange thing: that, in its poignancy, it is closer to sorrow than it is to mirth. The deepest joy carries with it a pain and a longing that truly make the heart better, whereas the laughter of fools in the house of mirth undoubtedly makes the heart worse. Deep seriousness is not at all an enemy to joy, only to folly. **The thoughtful consideration of the end of all men is also likely to produce sobriety, a quality in which the professing church today seems lacking.**”

–Douglas Taylor, *I Shall Not Die, But Live*

”To be cut off from Christ is to be like an astronaut whose line to the spacecraft has been cut, drifting off into space, still with a semblance of life but doomed.”

– Christopher Ash

Do you believe in
Hell?

The greatest tragedy
of all (vv. 4-5)

“Christ can never be like a trophy kept in a glass-fronted cabinet as if to say, ‘He belongs to *us*,’ for he is God over *all* and all need to bow the knee to him.”

– Christopher Ash

“I saw that there was a way to Hell
even from the Gates of Heaven,
as well as from the City of Destruction.”

–John Bunyan, *The Pilgrim's Progress*