"Thou hast ascended on high, Thou <u>hast led captivity captive</u>: Thou hast received gifts for men; yea, for the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell among them." Psalms 68:18 KJV

Sin is the chain, Death the lock, and Hell the eternal prison of those without God! They forever hold the sons of Adam captive since the lust of Eden first imprisoned their father. The Scripture says "Eve was deceived," which means Adam sinned knowing full well the consequences! He preferred death with Eve to life without her! But even in this tragedy we find a picture of our Lord Jesus, who came to die for us so we might live with Him! "He led Captivity captive!" That which binds the human soul is bound itself under the conquering



rule of the Almighty Saviour! Jesus killed death by dying! Through it "He brought gifts unto men." Mercy, Grace, Love, Joy, Peace, and Life Eternal, none of which are possible without Him! Men scrabble and strive through tons of misery for an ounce of pleasure! They waste fortunes to achieve an extra month of life, because the alternative, death, is terrifying! Medicine is such a lucrative field. Because it promises freedom from death, but never delivers and no one ever complains, because the dead NEVER RETURN! They don't communicate from beyond, because God's Word says, "It is appointed unto man once to die and after this, the Judgment." Those who claim to speak to the dead are deceived themselves by the demons with whom they commune who use them to dupe other fools who refuse to read and study God's Word. "Ye shall know the Truth and the Truth shall MAKE you free." If you refuse to know Truth, you have willingly sealed your own damnation! Jesus came to set us free from the lie. He conquered Captivity, death, and you can choose to step out of its bondage or you can continue in it as it is forever cast away! "And Death and Hell were cast into the Lake of Fire...and whosoever was not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the Lake of Fire." I have to pity those who think they will endure the flames of Hell and rule there with Satan! Only a fool would choose everlasting fiery torment to prove the God who created it doesn't exist! ??????? "The fool hath said in his heart, 'There is no God." You may think you believe in God, but if you don't obey His Word, you only deceive yourself. You are the worst kind of fool! Ignorance is no excuse! "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all...who hold the Truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God...God hath shewed it unto them (The heavens declare the glory of God), even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse." You will stammer, stutter, and stumble to your knees before God without excuse as God opens the record of your every word and deed! "For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned."

> What will you say on Judgment Day? When heav'n and earth have passed away? Knees will bend, and mouths will wail, Excuses there, will not prevail! ~CGP

Christ, the God of Heaven, the Sovereign of Eternity, and the Saviour of men "led Captivity captive" to forever free you from its clutches! The call to the lifeguard doesn't save you, it only signals your helplessness. The lifeguard does the saving. "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved!" God will destroy Death with death, but He'll save you if you admit (call) your helplessness!

"And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death." Revelation 20:14 KJV