

Here is a testimony of man you died and went to hell and by the grace of God was snatched from the jaws of destruction. It is from a book called, "Knowing the Whole Truth" by D. James Kennedy.

### **The Ordeal of Thomas Welch**

He was a construction man and just a few years ago he was building a dam thirty miles from Portland, Oregon. he was walking across the trestle fifty-five feet above the water when his foot slipped and he fell headlong for thirty feet until he landed on his head on a beam and then another, and finally fell into the water where his body disappeared.

About ninety people were working on that site, and immediately they stopped their work and began to look for Welch's body at the bottom of the lake. It wasn't until more than forty-five minutes later that they dragged him up from the bottom of the lake. They thought surely that he must be dead. There was no heartbeat. He was not breathing.

However, they began to apply cardiopulmonary resuscitation techniques. Revived, eventually he opened his eyes and said, "What happened?" Welch remembered more clearly than any other hour in his entire life everything which had transpired during that time.

He said he had awakened on the shore of a vast and illimitable lake of turbulent, rolling blue flame. The heat had been almost insufferable. In the darkness around him he had been able to see a number of other people, some he had known, who had died before and now stood there with looks of utter astonishment upon their faces.

Neither he nor anyone else was in the lake yet, he said, but he knew it surely must be his fate. Strange monstrous creatures, half-human and half-something else, appeared and disappeared in the darkness. Abject terror took hold of him, and he spoke aloud without even realizing it, saying, "If I had known that there was such a place as this, I would have done anything to keep from coming here."

There was no escape. The very thought was beyond consideration. Suddenly, he saw a figure of a person clothed in white with a look of perfect serenity and strength in his face. He knew instantly who it must be, but this person was walking in an angle away from him. he thought, "If only I could speak to Jesus perhaps he could help me." Walking away until he was almost out of sight, Jesus suddenly turned and looked right at him. In the next instant, Welch awoke with people working on his body.