

ECHOES FROM ETERNITY

Hell is not what minds envision
nor is Heaven in the breach
found between this world's derision
and the truth the Scriptures teach.

Both surpass imagination—
stand untouched by any dream—
but the Author of salvation
offers hints from each extreme.

Any taste of hellish torment
during life's trajectory
is a cautionary figment
of perdition's agony.

Every bliss of earthly blessing
plants Love's kiss upon the cheek
as a foretaste of caressing
in that Land the faithful seek.

One is warning, for dissuasion
from dark pitfalls of a thief,
while the other is persuasion,
meant to woo us to belief.

Heed God's tokened admonition:
grasp His pledge and find its worth!
Flee sin's path by true contrition:
come to Christ for second birth!

— *David L. Hatton, 7/12/2021*