

# Hell And Who Is Going There

## Matthew 10:16-28; Luke 16:19-31

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### **Introduction:**

- I. One of the most sobering doctrines in Scripture is the immortality of the soul.
  1. The soul's immortality means there is eternal life after our physical lives have ended.
  2. A consequence of the soul's immortality are the doctrines of Heaven and Hell.
    - a. It is impossible to have one without having the other because the same terms apply to both.
    - b. If Hell is non-existent then so is Heaven. If the eternal state of man is non-existent then so is God because the same terms are used to describe each (Romans 16:26; Matthew 25:46).
  
- II. In our current lesson we want to search the Scriptures and find a complete description of Hell – What it is and who is going to be in eternal torment.
  1. Hell is unpopular in today's religious vocabulary.
  2. Some say that persuading men to obey the Gospel because of the horrors of Hell is wrong. However, Inspiration did not think it was wrong (2 Corinthians 5:11).
  3. It is biblical to urge obedience because of Hell's reality (2 Timothy 4:1-2; Acts 20:27).

### **Body:**

- I. How is Hell described in Scripture?
  - A. Hell is "eternal" (Matthew 25:46).
    1. "Eternal" refers to that without an end; never ceasing.
    2. There will never be a stopping point.
  
  - B. Hell is a place of pain (Matthew 25:30, 46).
    1. "Punishment" refers to a tormenting.
    2. Other texts speak of this punishment: Luke 16:23, 24b, 25, 28; Revelation 20:10; 14:11.
    3. Here is clearly taught that there is an everlasting state in which

one is conscious and sensitive. Those who are in Hell are in torment!

C. Hell is a place of darkness (2 Peter 2:4; Jude 13; Matthew 25:30).

1. Hell is the farthest place removed from the source of light.

2. The significance of this description is two-fold:

a. An illusion to the physical darkness that is frightening.

b. An illusion to the complete absence of God. (1 John 1:5). We can rest assured that there is one place where God will never be present – Hell! (Psalm 139:7-12).

1) God will never be present to listen to your screams and pleas for mercy!

2) God will not be present!

D. Hell is a place of fire (Matthew 13:42; 25:41; Mark 9:44-45; Revelation 20:10, 15).

1. Whether this is taken literally or symbolically of intense pain, it does not matter.

2. We can trust that the biblical description of Hell is God's way of telling us that Hell is far worse than any pain and suffering we can ever know on earth. The nearest we can identify with Hell is the searing pain of an intense burn!

E. Hell is a place of no rest (Revelation 14:11).

Rest is a wonderful blessing when you are weary and exhausted. How horrible to be exhausted and never have the opportunity to rest.

F. Hell is a place destitute of hope.

1. If one's stay in Hell could be measured by years then it could be easier borne because with the passing of each new day we could count our stay as one day less. The faint glimmering ray of hope would offer some help to us.

2. There is no hope in Hell (Ephesians 2:11-12).

3. The tragedy of all tragedies and the calamity of all calamities is to do without Christ and with out hope!

G. Hell is a place of memories.

1. The rich man could see, feel, hear, talk, and remember.
2. Those who are in Hell will remember the times (like today) when they heard God's Word preached but then refused to obey the Lord's call to be saved. These will sorrowfully remember the pleas of spouse, children, parents, and friends. They will remember that others were encouraging and praying for their decision to be saved. These memories will never vanish but be present throughout all eternity!
3. They may lament, "If only I had ..." but all of the "ifs" in eternity will never change their destiny now. Friend, if you do not obey God's call for salvation today you will remember this refusal and it will haunt you throughout eternity.

H. Hell will be a place of divided families.

1. I do not like to be away from my family. Even a brief period of time seems too long.
2. The greatest heartbreak I could possibly suffer would be to stand before God on the Judgment Day and see my wife and children go one way and me the other way!
  - a. What a tragedy to see the woman I loved in life, who worked side-by-side with me in everything, who helped rear my children – to see her led one way and me the other way!
  - b. The father and son may go one way and the mother and daughter may go the other – what a terrible thought!
3. As terrible as this is to contemplate, it will definitely happen. Many families will be eternally separated because they were not united in Christ! Is this how you want your family to spend eternity?

II. Who is going to Hell?

A. The Bible clearly answers this question:

1. Ephesians 2:11-12 – Those who are outside Christ's Body, the church. One MUST be a member of the Lord's Church in order to avoid Hell!
2. Matthew 25:41 – The Devil and his angels.
3. 2 Thessalonians 1:7 – The disobedient and ignorant.

4. 2 Peter 2:14-15 – Erring Christians.
5. Revelation 21:8 – Those opposed to God's standards.

B. The Bible teaches that everyone who does not live as God directs and as the Scriptures expect, they will go to Hell (2 Corinthians 5:11).

### **Conclusion:**

- I. The topic of "Hell" is very sobering to contemplate.
  1. Who in their right mind would ever choose to go to Hell after they know the things we just discussed?
  2. Friends, do you really know that the path you are following will lead to such a terrible destiny?
  3. Do not delude yourself ... Hell is indeed an actual place! It is a place of ...
    - a. Eternity
    - b. Punishment/pain
    - c. Fire
    - d. Darkness
    - e. No rest
    - f. No hope
    - g. Memories of rejecting God's invitations
    - h. Divided families
- II. "Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people." We can also add, "Hell is a prepared place for a prepared people."
  1. Which destiny will be your eternal destiny?
  2. Have we been clear enough to convince you of your need to save yourself from Hell's waiting welcome?
  3. Here is what we are praying you will do ...
    - a. Believe in Christ as God's Son (Mark 16:16).
    - b. Repent and turn to God (Acts 2:38).
    - c. Confess the deity of Christ (Romans 10:9-10).
    - d. Be immersed for the remission of sins (Acts 10:48).
- III. As the rich man looked up at Abraham, in his tormented language we can see his sorrow at having rejected God – will this be your

eternal fate? (2 Thessalonians 1:7).