

WHAT DID JESUS SAY ABOUT HELL?

Introduction:

A Not a pleasant subject to think about.

1. Perhaps that is the reason why there is less preaching on the subject now than in the past.
2. Unpleasant as it may be souls must be warned about the reality of hell and the duration of punishment.

B. Many do not believe in Hell.

1. Universalists do not. Comforting as it might seem, we should not rely on their false teachings on the subject
2. Modernist, Unitarians, and many other denominationalists do not
3. Many professed Christians, by their actions, often leave the impression that they are not sure about the subject.
4. However, just because we reject the plain teaching of the scriptures, or choose to ignore the clear warnings, does not change the truth about the matter.
5. Not only does Christ teach us the way to heaven (John 6:68), but He also warns us of hell (Matthew 10:28).

I. Is There A Place of Punishment After Death? Jesus Says Yes!

A Let us learn from the rich man (Luke 16:19-31)

1. He had been abundantly blessed in this life.
2. His wealth did not spare him from death.
3. Awakened in Hades and lifting his eyes found himself in torments (vs. 23).

B. Let us also learn from the negligent ones described by Jesus in Matthew 25:41-46

1. They had the same opportunity as the Blessed of verse 34, but refused to serve.
2. Thus, they were sent away, cursed, into everlasting fire (Hell) to spend eternity with the devil and his angels (vs 41).
3. There they would suffer everlasting punishment, no excuses accepted, no reprieve allowed.

II. How Jesus Describes Hell

A. A place of consciousness (Luke 16:23).

1. The rich man was aware of his surrounding (Ibid-).
2. He suffered from the heat (vs. 24)
3. He was able to remember his former life (vs 25) and was painfully aware of his brethren and desired to send them warning (vs 28).

B. A place of pain (Matthew 25:30).

1. When people suffer great and severe pain they weep and grit their teeth.

C. A place of fire (Matthew 25:41).

1. "Furnace of fire" (Matthew 13:42).
2. "Lake of fire" (Revelation 20:10).
3. Unquenchable (Mark 9:44,45).

D. A place of darkness (Matthew 25:30).

1. Peter also describes it in this manner (2 Peter 2:4).
2. Jude also (Jude 13).
3. Hell is a place of "black" darkness.
4. It is a place of "outer" darkness. This would suggest that hell is a place far removed from the source of light, which is God (James 1:5; I John 1:5).

E. A place of no rest (Revelation 14:11).

1. Even in this life, when troubles and trials come, we are granted periods of rest and relaxation. Not so in hell.

F. A place of no hope (Luke 16:26).

1. No "light at the end of the tunnel"

III. How Long Is Hell Going Last?

A. Forever and ever" (Revelation 14:10,11).

B. Everlastingly (Matthew 25:46).

1. Isn't it strange that we speak so fondly of "everlasting" life, but are so inclined to reject the idea of "everlasting" punishment?

IV. Who Are Those Who Will Be In Hell?

A. All who disobey God

1. Those who obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Thessalonians 1:7-9).

2. Those who become unfaithful to the Lord (2 Peter 2:14-22).

3. Hell will be made up of the most repulsive people imaginable (Revelation 21:8; Ephesians 5:1-7).

4. Also, those who profess to love God but do not their brethren (1 John 3:14,15).

5. The Devil and his angels (Matthew 25:14).

V. Only Jesus Provides A Way of Escape.

A. "I am the way, the truth, and the life...." (John 14:6).

1. He warns that we should have due respect for Satan (Matthew 10:28).

2. To be accepted by Christ at the judgment, one must do the will of His Father in heaven (Matthew 7:21).

3. To do otherwise is to be rejected, turned away by Christ (vss.22,23).

Conclusion:

A. We have been sufficiently warned about Hell by Christ, His apostles, and other holy writers.

1. If the righteous scarcely be saved...." (1 Peter 4:18).

2. "A fearful thing...." (Hebrews 10:31).

3."Knowing the terror of the Lord...." (2 Corinthians 5:11).

B. If we are lost eternally, whom shall we blame?

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