

## WHAT IS HELL LIKE ?

### Int.

1. Aim: To give a description of what it will be like to be in hell.
2. Luke 16:19-31 Hades - place of departed spirits
3. Facts from the text
  - a. Two men lived
  - b. Two men died
  - c. The situation of these men were opposite after death
    - i. Rich man became beggar & poor man became rich
    - ii. Rich man clothed in Purple on earth and now in fire
    - iii. Poor man attended by dogs on earth, angels now
    - iv. Rich man fared sumptuously on earth, there he could not even get one drop of water.
    - v. The poor man suffered on earth, there he was comforted.
  - d. Place of Comfort - Abraham's bosom - Paradise - Luke 23:43
  - e. Place of torment - Luke 16:23
4. The place of eternal punishment is called "Hell" not Hades - Greek word Gehenna
5. Hell - only difference between the waiting place - Hades - and hell is one is limited to time.
6. Like it or not, Hell is a reality! Its existence is a fact and not fiction. Jesus Christ himself warned people over and over that the results of a life of sin would be eternal fire and torment.
7. What is hell Like ?

### Discussion

## I. HELL IS ETERNAL

### A. Scriptures

1. Matt. 25:46 "and these shall go away into everlasting punishment."
2. II Thes. 1:9 "Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction..."

### B. Eternal or everlasting- without end, never to cease

### C. Hell will be punishment for-ever

1. Some don't believe it will be that long, maybe just a 1,000 years or 10,000 years
2. If wicked will only be punished for this long then the blessed will only be blessed this long.
3. Same word used to describe Heaven as being Eternal

### D. Excuses trying to teach that Hell is not eternal

#### 1. It isn't right to punish so long for sin

- a. Maybe lived in sin a short while, it's not fair
- b. The same thing could be said of heaven.
- c. We don't punish according to the time it takes to commit a crime.
  - (1) Murder takes only a few seconds
  - (2) Yet the murderer will spend years in prison
- d. Sin is living in Rebellion to God and if we die in this condition we'll be in hell forever!!!

#### 2. Hell is too ugly and bad and horrible.

- a. Then Heaven is too Good.
- b. If hell is too ugly then heaven is too Beautiful

### 3. Hell will be Eternal but man will not be.

- a. Many believe that the unrighteous will be cast into hell and will be burned up and that's the end.
- b. That's false doctrine
- c. Mat. 25:46 - says it will be everlasting punishment
  - (1) Punishment - I chastise, or I torment
  - (2) Four times word torment is found in Text
  - (3) Rev. 20:10 "...and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever."
- d. You cannot be in pain and torment unless you are alive.

E. The Bible teaches that Hell will be a place of Eternal PUNISHMENT.

## II. HELL IS A PLACE OF DARKNESS

### A. Scriptures

1. II Pet. 2:4 "...chains of darkness..."
2. Jude 13 "...blackness of darkness..."
3. Mat. 25:30 "...outer darkness..."

### B. Why does hell have to be Dark?

1. God is light
  - a. James 1:17 - father of light
  - b. I Jn. 1:5 "God is light in him is no darkness."
2. Those in hell are away from God II Thes. 1:7-9

3. Where God is not, is where Hell will be
    - a. He will not hear prayers
    - b. He will not hear our pleas of mercy
  4. Since God is light, where He is not, must be a place of complete Darkness.
- C. How does Darkness hurt or torment us?
1. As children we are scared of the dark
  2. We keep this fear all our life
  3. We don't like to be in the darkness lllll
- D. This one thing about hell is enough to make us want to miss it.

### **III. HELL IS A PLACE OF FIRE**

- A. Scriptures
1. Matt. 13:42 - Furnace of fire
  2. Matt. 25:41 - Everlasting fire
  3. Mark 9:44-45 - fire is not quenched
  4. Rev. 20:10 - fire and brimstone
  5. Rev. 20:15 - lake of fire
  6. Matt. 3:12 - baptism of fire
- B. All of these passages refer to hell
- C. How can we have Darkness & fire?
1. Man can do it.
  2. I'm sure God can prepare a special fire.
  3. He had a special fire with Moses & burning bush - Exodus 3

4. Perhaps you imagined that where there is fire there must be some degree of light, but not so in hell!
  - a. The fires of hell are of a different and far more horrible nature than fire here.
  - b. Hell fire produces no light, but leaves men in total darkness.
  - c. They see and feel the lick of the flame but cannot see through its black walls.

D. Some suggest that maybe the word fire is a Metaphor

1. Metaphor - a likeness set forth as reality
2. Examples
  - a. I am the door
  - b. I am the vine
  - c. I am the Good shepherd
  - d. Described Herod Antipas as a Fox
3. God is attempting to describe to us what cannot be truly described.
  - a. We have no absolute description of heaven or hell
  - b. He must reason from what we know to what we do not know anything about.
4. Hell is far worse than anything we've ever imagined
5. The nearest thing to hell is Fire.
6. Marshall Keeble - Build hottest fire possible for man to build, remove two people from hell, and place them in this fire and in 10 seconds they would freeze to death.
7. Hell is a 1,000 times worse than we can imagine.

### E. The Painfulness of a Burn

1. A burn is probably the most painful injury a person could suffer. That unceasing, gnawing pain throbs and pounds at the flesh and causes great suffering.
2. In our present human bodies of flesh, blood and bone, there is a physical limitation to the amount of pain and suffering one can endure. If pain, terror or suffering became too severe, one would either faint or die.
3. But the soul at death is free from all physical limitations, and the capacity to experience pain is multiplied a thousand fold! But there is no relief for the tormented soul!

## **IV. HELL IS A PLACE OF TORMENT**

### A. It will be painful

1. Scriptures Mat. 25:30 "...weeping and gnashing of teeth..."
2. When in great severe pain we weep and grit our teeth.

### B. There will be no rest

1. Scripture - Rev. 14:11 "...they shall have no rest day nor night..."
2. The most wonderful thing in the world when you are tired is rest. In Hell there'll be no Rest! NEVER !!!

### C. There is no relief from the torment in hell

1. The rich man wanted a drop of water. - Luke 16:24
2. But in Hell we can't receive any relief or help.
3. To the inhabitants of hell, death or unconsciousness would be a welcome relief. But they can't die because they're already dead!

4. Dead, yet fully awake and conscious of their condemnation to this prison of eternal fire!

## **V. HELL IS A PLACE WHERE THERE IS NO HOPE**

- A. Those in hell are lost forever
  1. You can't spend eternity
  2. There is no way to ever be released
- B. If hell only lasted:
  1. 1,000 years we could have hope
  2. Or if it lasted only one billion years we could have hope
- C. Hell is a Place of Utter Hopelessness
  1. "Abandon all hope, all ye that enter here" reads the sign over Hell's portal, as depicted in Dante's "Inferno". "The Divine Comedy." - poem
  2. Though Dante's journey to hell in his 14<sup>th</sup> century poem was imaginary, it does accurately depict the fact that Hell's inhabitants are utterly without hope!
  3. There is none to offer a sympathetic ear, no one to lend a helping hand or a shoulder to cry on.
  4. Imagine the utter desolation one must feel to be eternally rejected by God.  
There is no hope in hell. No chance for pardon or parole; no chance that God will change His mind; no chance to ever escape, and no end to the hideous torture of worm and flame.
  5. There is nothing to look forward to except more of the same.
- D. Those in Hell enter leaving all hope behind forever

## **VI. HELL IS A PLACE OF CONSCIOUSNESS**

- A. The rich man and Lazarus were conscious. They could:
  - 1. Remember their past life
  - 2. Recognize each other
  - 3. Realize the predicament they were in
  - 4. The rich man prayed that his relatives would not come there
- B. There is life immediately after death.
  - 1. Man does not cease to exist at death, nor is he unconscious or oblivious to feelings, sensations, or pain.
  - 2. The soul doesn't cease to exist at death. The Bible teaches just the opposite to be true.
  - 3. You will continue to be conscious after death, and you will enter either into a place of comfort and peace, or a place of fire and torment.
  - 4. Where you spend eternity is chosen and decided by you, and you alone.

## **VII. HELL IS A PLACE OF DIVIDED FAMILIES**

- A. Most families on this earth will be divided in Eternity
- B. What a terrible tragedy.
- C. What are you doing to unite your family now?
  - 1. If you will be united with Christ now you will be united forever
  - 2. Have you really tried to convert your own family?
  - 3. Some don't really want their family converted because it would mean that they would have to be more dedicated in their Christian life.
  - 4. You may be united in hell

## CONCLUSION

1. Hell is a place of eternity, darkness, fire, pain, no rest, no relief, no hope, consciousness, divided families.
2. HELL is a real place !
  - a. You do not have to go that placed called hell.
  - b. Those who wind up there have chosen to live in rebellion to the revealed will of God, and have rejected a life of discipleship to Christ.
  - c. How can you escape?
  - d. Obey the Gospel - H. B. R. C. B.
3. God in His great mercy and love has provided for us a way of escape; but only one way. That is the way of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - a. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No man cometh unto the Father but by me." (John 14:6)
  - b. When you obey the gospel then your name will be written in the Lamb's Book of life.  
Rev. 21:27
4. God knows if your name is written there. Because you have been born again your name is written in this heavenly book.
5. But if you have never obeyed the gospel or have been unfaithful as a Christian then you have heard a little preview of what it will be like for you in eternity.
6. "Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men:..." II Cor. 5:11

**HORRORS OF HELL**

Hell! the prison house of despair;  
 Here are some of the things that won't be found there:  
 No flowers will bloom on the banks of hell;  
 No beauties of nature that we love so well,  
 No comforts of home, music and song;  
 No friendship or joy will be in that throng,  
 No children to brighten the long weary night;  
 No love, no peace, nor one ray of light;  
 No mercy, no pity, pardon nor grace;  
 No water, Oh, what a terrible place!  
 The pangs of the lost no human can tell;  
 Not one moment of ease--there's no rest in hell!

Hell! The prison house of despair;  
 Here are some things that will be found there:  
 Fire and brimstone are there, we know;  
 For God in His word has told us so.  
 Memory, remorse, suffering and pain.  
 Weeping and wailing, but all in vain.  
 Blasphemers, swearers, haters of God,  
 Sinners who refused to be washed in the blood.  
 Christ-rejectors while on earth they trod;  
 Murderers, gamblers, drunkards and liars  
 Will have their part in the lake of fire.  
 The filthy, the vile, the cruel and mean;  
 What a terrible mob in hell will be seen.  
 Yes, more than humans on earth can tell,  
 Are the torments and woes of ETERNAL HELL!!!

----via, Northeast Teacher