

Series: The Case for Christianity
Scripture: Matthew 25:46
Date: May 25, 2008

IS THERE A PLACE CALLED HELL?

Matthew 25:31-46 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. [32] All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. [33] He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. [34] "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. ... [41] "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels....[46] "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

Why teach about hell?

1. First...
2. Second...

If you believe the doctrine of hell is false then you also believe the following...

1. The Scriptures and the church _____, and therefore has no _____ for anything else he teaches.
2. Jesus Christ _____ and therefore has no _____ ideal instead of a _____ revelation.
3. You change Christianity into a _____ ideal instead of a _____ revelation.

I. FALSE VIEWS ABOUT HELL

A. Non-religious response: There is no hell

1. Hell is _____.
Response: Our likes or dislikes have nothing to do with whether a place like hell exists.
2. Non-physical things don't _____.
Response: Of course you wouldn't be able to physically measure a non-physical thing!
3. Hell is just a _____.
Response: There is no problem with scaring people when the truth is they're in desperate danger.

B. Religious responses: There is no hell

1. A _____ God wouldn't send us to hell.
Response: True justice demands retribution and it would be unjust to allow evil to go unpunished and to reward evil with good.
2. We don't go to hell; we are _____ at death.
Response: This clearly goes against the teachings of Christ and contradicts the truth that souls are immortal and therefore are not extinguished.
3. We are _____ until we reach _____ and become one with God.
Response: There is no way to know that reincarnation is true because no one has returned from the dead to testify to its truth.
4. We can _____ our way out.
Response: If this is true, then the question becomes "With what shall we buy forgiveness?"

II. THE TRUTH ABOUT HELL

- A. Hell is a place where _____ and _____ are perfect.
2 *Thes. 1:6*, *Romans 12:19*, *Rev. 20:11-15*, *John 5:27*
- B. Hell is a place of _____ conscious torment.
Luke 16:22-23

Matthew 25:46 "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."
What is hell like?

What will the agony be? Direct _____ punishment
What is the true nature of hell? _____ because of banishment

III. CONCLUSIONS

1. Death is _____ and _____.
2. There is no _____ ground. *Acts 24:25*, *Luke 11:23*
3. God will respect _____.
4. There is only one solution: _____.
Col. 2:13-14 And when you were dead in your transgressions...He made you alive together with Him, **having forgiven us all our transgressions, having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us and which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.**