

## God's Judgment Upon Sinners

Defined: Hell is the place of conscious eternal punishment for the wicked.

### The Bible's Description of Hell

#### *Conscious*

**Luke 16:25** But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish.

#### *Fire*

**Isaiah 1:28;31** But rebels and sinners shall be broken together, and those who forsake the LORD shall be consumed. And the strong shall become tinder, and his work a spark, and both of them shall burn together, with none to quench them.

**Isaiah 33:14** The sinners in Zion are afraid; trembling has seized the godless: "Who among us can dwell with the consuming fire? Who among us can dwell with everlasting burnings?"

**Matthew 18:9** And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.

**Mark 9:43** And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire.

**Revelation 20:15** And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

#### *Darkness*

**Matthew 22:13** Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

#### *Torment*

**Ezekiel 8:18** Therefore I will act in wrath. My eye will not spare, nor will I have pity. And though they cry in my ears with a loud voice, I will not hear them.

**Luke 16:22-24** The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.'

### *In God's presence*

**Revelation 14:9-11** And another angel, a third, followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and its image and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand, he also will drink the wine of God's wrath, poured full strength into the cup of his anger, and he will be tormented with fire and sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever, and they have no rest, day or night, these worshipers of the beast and its image, and whoever receives the mark of its name."

### *Contempt / Shame*

**Daniel 12:2** And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

### *Eternal*

**Matthew 25:41-46** "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

**2 Thessalonians 1:9** They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might.

### **Why the doctrine of hell?**

1. This doctrine satisfies our inward sense of a need for justice.
2. This doctrine makes a way for the Holy God to be both satisfied and vindicated.
3. This doctrine enables us to freely forgive those who sin against us.
4. This fearful doctrine motivates us towards righteous living.
5. This doctrine promotes in God's people an evangelistic spirit.