

The Torment of Hell

Introduction:

There are two choices we have as to where we are going to spend eternity. One is heaven, the other is hell. Today we will look at hell and reasons as to why we do not want to go there.

Hell is a very scary place. We know that most of mankind are going to spend their eternity in hell (Mt. 7:13). According to recent studies, 71% of people believe in heaven, while only 53% believe in hell. However, the same Bible that talks about heaven also talks about hell. Despite what others may teach, hell is a real place where people go for eternity.

We will look at many passages today that deal with hell and who will be there. We also may look at the same passage several times in order to get the full picture of what hell is going to be like.

I. We should not want to go to hell because of the description of hell that we have throughout the Bible.

A. The Second Death

1. Rev. 20:13-14 - The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. { 14 } Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.
2. Rev. 21:8 - But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death

B. Hell will last forever

1. Dan. 12:2 - And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting contempt.
2. Mt. 25:46 - And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

C. Hell is a place of darkness

1. Mt. 8:12 - But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
2. Mt. 22:13 - Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

D. Hell is a place of pain

1. Remember Mt. 8:12, 22:13 – “there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”
2. Mt. 18:34-35 - And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. { 35 } So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses."

3. **Rev. 14:9-11** - Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, {10} he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. {11} And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."
 4. **Heb. 10:29-31** - Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? {30} For we know Him who said, "Vengeance is Mine; I will repay," says the Lord. And again, "The Lord will judge His people." {31} It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.
- E. Hell is a place of everlasting fire
1. **Mt. 13:42** - The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, {42} and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.
 2. **Mt. 25:41** - Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:
 3. **Rev. 20:14** - Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.
 4. **Rev. 21:8** - But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death
 5. **Mt. 3:12** - His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.
- F. There will be great mental agony in hell
1. One of the greatest tortures in hell will be the thought of "what if..."
 - a. **Lk. 16:25** - But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented.'
 2. Hell is a place of no hope
 - a. Once we are in hell, it we are there for eternity.
 - b. There is never a chance to get out of that great punishment.
- G. Hell is a place of tremendous punishment.
1. None of us should ever want to go there.
 2. However, far too many of us are living our lives in such a manner that we will find ourselves in hell for eternity.

II. We should not want to go to hell because of who is going to be there.

- A. Hell is a place that is “prepared for the devil and his angels.”
 - 1. Mt. 25:41 - Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:
 - 2. Hell is not going to be a place of “fun sin” with the devil.
 - 3. Satan wants us to believe that hell is going to be a fun place to spend eternity.
 - a. We must remember that Satan is “a liar and the father of it” (John 8:44).
- B. The majority of this world is going to go to hell for eternity.
 - 1. Mt. 7:13-14 - Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. {14} Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.
 - 2. In order for us to spend eternity with the rest of the world, we can simply do nothing about our salvation.
 - a. It takes work to get into heaven.
 - b. It takes absolutely no effort to get into hell.
- C. Those who are not obedient to God will spend eternity in hell.
 - 1. II Thes. 1:7-10
 - 2. The difference between heaven and hell is a choice on our part.
 - a. We choose to be obedient to God and go to heaven.
 - b. We also choose to disobey and go to hell.
 - 3. Rev. 21:8 - But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.
 - 4. Simply being a good person will get one to hell if they are not obedient to God.
- D. Those who do not do good to others will find themselves in an eternal hell.
 - 1. Mt. 25:41-46
 - 2. Even though being good to others will not get you into heaven, we cannot get there without being good.

III. Because hell is such a terrible place, we should avoid it at all costs.

- A. Jesus tells us that we must do whatever it takes to avoid hell.
 - 1. Mk. 9:42-48
 - 2. Jesus is not talking about self-mutilation, but He is teaching us that we must be willing to give up everything in order to follow Him.

Conclusion:

Heaven and hell are both a choice that each of us has to make. Where will you choose to spend eternity?