## Biblical answers about Hell

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## Is the doctrine of Hell important?

"What has the man of sin always said? Why, exactly what Russellism\* says. What? No hell. The devil has always said that. What does Christian Science\* say? No hell, no devil. They are ready for him. The devil has always said no hell, no evil." (Smith Wigglesworth, *'Preparation for the Second Coming'*, August 11, 1927) \* Cults that deny fundamental Christian doctrines, such as Hell, the deity of

Christ, the Trinity etc.



## Why is the doctrine of Hell important?

- "And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage." (Hebrews 2:15) "The sting of death is sin" (1 Corinthians 15:56a)
- "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." (John 3:36)

"O Lord ... thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created." (Revelation 4:11)

## What is the future without Christ?

"He that believeth [the Gospel] and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." (Mark 16:16) "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." (Revelation 20:15) See also Hebrews 10:26.27.



## What is the nature of death?

For believers in Christ, the inner man departs as follows:

"For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better: Nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful for you." (Philippians 1:23,24) "We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord." (2 Corinthians 5:8) "For as the body without the spirit is dead" (James 2:26)

### What is the nature of death?

The body without the spirit and soul takes on the appearance of sleep: "And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake [resurrection of the body]" (Daniel 12:2a) "... as her soul was in departing, (for she died) ..." (see Genesis 35:18)



## What is the nature of death?

For those who reject Christ it as follows:

"if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins" (John 8:24b) "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God." (Psalm 9:17)

"... the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments ..." (see Luke 16:22,23)

"I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness." (John 12:46)

## What is Hell?

- Hell is a spiritual prison for rebellious spirits:
- It has gates (Matthew 16:18)
- It has keys (Revelation 1:18)
- It is like a dungeon (Matthew 18:3-9; Revelation 20:3 cp Daniel 6:24)
- It has different sections in it (Deuteronomy 32:22; Proverbs 7:27)
- It is for punishment and torment (Matthew 25:46; 2 Thessalonians 1:8b,9; Revelation 20:10)
- It is to separate the wicked from the righteous (Matthew 25:46)
- It has a gulf (barrier) that cannot be crossed (Luke 16:25,26)

# Why does Hell exist?

"Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels". (Matthew 25:41b) The lost (unsaved) are those "that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power". (2 Thessalonians 1:8b,9; see also 2 Corinthians 4:3,4)



# Why does Gospel preaching include Hell?

The Gospel says that, according to God's law, man is "dead in trespasses and sins" (Ephesians 1:2b), which means man is separated from the life of God.

Jesus Christ "came into the world to save sinners" (see 1 Timothy 1:15), which means He is the Saviour from sin.

Jesus Christ is man's only hope: "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

# Why does Gospel preaching include Hell?

- There are 2 types of people on the Earth: the wicked (sinners) and the just (righteous).
- "So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth" (Matthew 13:49-50)



# Why does Gospel preaching include Hell?

"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." (Mark 16:15,16)



## Where is Hell located?

"let them go down quick into hell" (see Psalm 55:15)
"the way to hell, going down" (see Proverbs 7:27)
"from hell beneath" (see Proverbs 15:24)
"Hell from beneath is moved for thee" (see Isaiah 14:9)
"They also went down into hell" (see Ezekiel 31:17)
"thrust down to hell" (see Luke 10:15)
"cast them down to hell" (see 2 Peter 2:4)



The middle of the Earth

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"fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest" (Psalm 11:6) "the devouring fire ... everlasting burnings" (Isaiah 33:14) "The sorrows of hell compassed me about" (Psalm 18:5) "outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Matthew 8:12)

"a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth" (Matthew 13:42)

"in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments" (Luke 16:23)

"the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night" (Revelation 14:11) "have mercy on me ... for I am tormented in this flame" (Luke 16:24) "these shall go away into everlasting punishment" (Matthew 25:46) "the pains of hell" (Psalm 116:3) "The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone" (Revelation 14:10)

"he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36)

"punished with everlasting destruction" (2 Thessalonians 1:9)

"hell fire: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched" (Mark 9:47,48)

"For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment." (Luke 16:28)

"And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever." (Revelation 20:10) "And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." (Revelation 20:14,15)

# Who goes to Hell?

Who	Bible Reference
Unsaved people	"he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:16) "The wicked shall be turned into hell" (Psalm 9:17)
Evil angels and spirits	"God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell" (2 $_{\rm Peter\ 2:4)}$
The Devil	"the devil shall be tormented day and night for ever" (Revelation 20:10)
All things offensive to God	"all things that offend wailing and gnashing of teeth" (Matthew 13:37-42)

## Does God want people to go to Hell?

"The Lord is ... not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." (2 Peter 3:9)

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)



#### How do Modernists undermine the doctrine of Hell?

The word "hell" occurs 31 times in the Old Testament in the King James Bible. In the Old Testament of the NIV it occurs - ZERO! In the New Testament the NIV takes out "hell" 9 times.



#### How do Modernists undermine the doctrine of Hell?

"The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow." (Psalm 116:3, KJB) "The cords of death entangled me, the anguish of the grave came over me; I was overcome by distress and sorrow." (Psalm 116:3, NIV) "The pains of death surrounded me, And the pangs of Sheol laid hold of me; I found trouble and sorrow." (Psalm 116:3, NKJV)

#### How do Modernists undermine the doctrine of Hell?

- "And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments" (Luke 16:23a, KJB)
- "In Hades, where he was in torment" (Luke 16:23a, NIV)
- "And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes" (Luke 16:23a, NKJV)



## Is Hell eternal?

"If thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes<sup>\*</sup> to be cast into hell fire: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched" (Mark 9:47,48)

\* Of the inner man.

The worm is the person's torment of endless remorse.

## Is Hell eternal?

"And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night" (Revelation 14:11a) "Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction" (2 Thessalonians 1:9a)

Everlasting destruction is referring to the destruction of a person's function NOT of them as a person.



### Does the Devil rule in Hell?



## Does the Devil rule in Hell?

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8). The Devil is "the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience" (Ephesians 2:2b).

The Bible tells us that Lucifer fell from Heaven (see Isaiah 14:12; Luke 10:18), and that he will one day be cast into Hell (see Isaiah 14:15; Revelation 20:10). That day will be after the second coming of Christ.

## Will the knowledge of Hell spoil Heaven?

"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." (Revelation 21:4)

"Let death seize upon them, and let them go down quick into hell: for wickedness is in their dwellings, and among them." (Psalm 55:15)

## Will the knowledge of Hell spoil Heaven?

"He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken it." (Isaiah 25:8)

"Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." (2 Timothy 4:8)

# Can I miss going to Hell? "... it takes more than belonging to the church and more than being baptized in water to miss hell and go to heaven." (Kenneth Hagin, 'I went to Hell', 1997, p. 17)\*

\* Kenneth Hagin died and went to the gates of Hell.



# How can people escape Hell?

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6) "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." (Acts 4:12)



# How can people escape Hell?

"Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." (Matthew 4:17)

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." (John 5:24)



## References

Kenneth Hagin, 'I went to Hell', 1997.

Maurice S. Rawlings, M.D., 'To Hell and Back', 1993.

Ps. Craig Savige, 'Biblical answers about Heaven', www.victoryfaithcentre.org.au/sermons

Ps. Craig Savige, 'What must people do to be saved?', www.victoryfaithcentre.org.au/sermons