

WHAT'S DOWN WITH HELL?

What You Need to Know About Eternity (Part 2)

¹⁹ Now there was a rich man, and he habitually dressed in purple and fine linen, joyously living in splendor every day. ²⁰ And a poor man named Lazarus was laid at his gate, covered with sores, ²¹ and longing to be fed with the crumbs which were falling from the rich man's table; besides, even the dogs were coming and licking his sores. ²² Now the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to Abraham's bosom; and the rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades he lifted up his eyes, being in torment, and saw Abraham far away and Lazarus in his bosom. ²⁴ And he cried out and said, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus so that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool off my tongue, for I am in agony in this flame." ²⁵ But Abraham said, "Child, remember that during your life you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus bad things; but now he is being comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶ And besides all this, between us and you there is a great chasm fixed, so that those who wish to come over from here to you will not be able, and that none may cross over from there to us." ²⁷ And he said, "Then I beg you, father, that you send him to my father's house—²⁸ for I have five brothers—in order that he may warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment." ²⁹ But Abraham said, "They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them." ³⁰ But he said, "No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent!" ³¹ But he said to him, "If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be persuaded even if someone rises from the dead." Luke 16:19-31 (NASB)

I. WHAT IS HELL?

- **Historical definition: A place of eternal conscious torment for the wicked.**
- **Biblical definition: A place of eternal torment for the impenitent.**
- **Its purpose: A place for God's wrath to be poured out.**

⁸ in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus." 2 Thessalonians 1:8 (ESV)

¹ God is a righteous judge, And a God who has indignation every day." Psalm 7:11 (NASB)

¹ For the grace of God has appeared, with salvation for all people," Titus 2:11 (HCSB)

II. WHAT ARE THE TERMS DESCRIBING HELL?

²³ and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side." Luke 16:23 (ESV)

- Hades - The temporary dwelling of the unrighteous dead until the final judgment.**
- Gehenna (Hell) – "A place of idolatry."**

²⁸ "Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." Matthew 10:28 (NASB)

C. Second Death

¹⁴ Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire." Revelation 20:14 (NASB)

"If you're born once, you die twice, but if you're born twice, you die once."

What dies?

- Opportunity dies**
- Grace dies**
- Volition dies**

D. Lake of Fire

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

⁸ "But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death." Revelation 21:8 (NASB)

²⁷ And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment," Hebrews 9:27 (NASB)

III. TERMS DESCRIBING THE PUNISHMENT:

- Fire**
- Weeping/Gnashing of teeth**
- Outer Darkness**
- Destruction**

¹³ "Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it." Matthew 7:13 (NASB)

IV. MODERN OBJECTIONS TO HELL:

- Hell being eternal**
⁴⁶ "These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." Matthew 25:46 (NASB)
- Torment too severe**

IMPLICATIONS OF THIS MESSAGE:

- I must be sure of my salvation.**
- I must be thankful for it.**
- I must be at peace with injustice.**
- I must be bold in my witness.**