

What About Hell?

1. As adults, we can't expect everything to be _____.
2. We cannot treat hell like it's a ___ – ___ subject.

Hell is Real

3. Skeptics say Christianity is harmful because hell is frightening.
 - Their assumption is that hell is _____ real.
4. If hell is real, parents harm their children by not _____ them about it.
 - We have no problems warning our kids about the _____ of drugs.
5. Old Testament Background
 - Job 19:25-27
 - Ps. 49:15
 - Ps. 73:24
 - Isa. 26:19
 - Dan. 12:2
6. By the _____, _____, the dominant Jewish view was that hell is a terrible place of punishment.
7. Jesus' words _____ the Jewish views of the day.
8. Jesus said _____ about hell than anyone else in the Bible.

Hell is a Punishment after Final Judgement

United Methodist Pastor: *"I – along with many other Christians – am agnostic about the afterlife. I don't know if there's a heaven or a hell. I rather suspect that the only hells that exist are the ones that we create and allow at this time."*

9. Jesus' words leave no doubt that this is _____ what He taught.
 - Matthew 25:31,32, 34, 41, 46
 - I. The alternative to eternal life with God is eternal _____.

- Nothing in the Bible suggests there is a _____ for salvation after death.
- II. Jesus spoke about hell in the context of judgement at the _____ of the time.
- John 6:28-29
 - John 12:48
 - Acts 17:31
 - Hebrews 9:27
 - Rev. 20:11-15
- III. Jesus is the one who will _____ between those who go on to eternal life and those who face eternal punishment.
10. Jesus grants eternal life to those who put their _____ in Him for the forgiveness of sin.

Don't Take Hell Lightly

11. How does Jesus describe hell?
- Mark 9:43-48 (see also Matt. 18:8-9)
 - Matthew 13:40-42
 - Matthew 3:12 (see also Luke 3:17)
12. Most theologians agree these images are not _____ depictions.
13. The message is: hell is a _____.
14. Christians follow Jesus out of _____ for Him.
15. Christians do not need to _____ hell.

Three Key Points

- I. Jesus affirmed the existence of hell and warned about its severity.
- II. The idea that hell is something we experience on earth is increasingly popular today, it contradicts the clear teaching of Jesus: hell is a punishment after final judgment for those who have not put their trust in Him for the forgiveness of sin.
- III. Jesus' Christians don't need to be afraid of hell because, "*there is therefore no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.*" (Rom. 8:1)

July 20, 2022

Opener

- More people seem to believe in heaven than hell? Why do you think that is?
 - (People sometimes choose to believe what they want rather than what Jesus taught. Emphasize the importance of basing our beliefs on what the Bible says and that the Bible teaches that hell is as real as heaven.)

Going Further

- If a friend asked you what hell is and who goes there, what would you say?
 - (Just listen – correct any misunderstandings as you continue the conversation)
- Read Matthew 2:31-46. This is Jesus' description of what will happen on judgment day – the day of God's final judgment on humankind. What can we learn about hell from this passage?
 - (Explain the 3 key points)
- Do you think hell is something Christians should be afraid of? Why or why not?
 - (read John 3:16, Rom. 8:1 and John 4:18).
 - (Christians never need to fear hell because there is no condemnation for those in Christ. Hell is something to fear only for those who are not in a right relationship with God).

Application

- Re-read the quote from the pastor – how would you respond based on what you've learned?

What About Hell?

1. As adults, we can't expect everything to be fun.
2. We cannot treat hell like it's a PG-13 subject.

Hell is Real

3. Skeptics say Christianity is harmful because hell is frightening.
 - Their assumption is that hell is not real.
4. If hell is real, parents harm their children by not warning them about it.
 - We have no problems warning our kids about the dangers of drugs.
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6. By the first century, the dominant Jewish view was that hell is a terrible place of punishment.
7. Jesus' words mirrored the Jewish views of the day.
8. Jesus said more about hell than anyone else in the Bible.

Hell is a Punishment after Final Judgement

United Methodist Pastor: *"I – along with many other Christians – am agnostic about the afterlife. I don't know if there's a heaven or a hell. I rather suspect that the only hells that exist are the ones that we create and allow at this time."*

9. Jesus' words leave no doubt that this is not what He taught.
 - Matthew 25:31,32, 34, 41, 46
 - I. The alternative to eternal life with God is eternal punishment.

- Nothing in the Bible suggests there is a second chance for salvation after death.
- II. Jesus spoke about hell in the context of judgement at the end of the time.
- John 6:28-29
 - John 12:48
 - Acts 17:31
 - Hebrews 9:27
 - Rev. 20:11-15
- III. Jesus is the one who will judge between those who go on to eternal life and those who face eternal punishment.

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13. The message is: hell is a stark reality.

14. Christians follow Jesus out of love for Him.

15. Christians do not need to fear hell.

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