



World Christian Fellowship

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What happens when you die?

Part 6 Unbelievers and Hell

This lesson we will look at those who have not accepted the Lord Jesus Christ and their destiny.

Daniel 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.***

So when the resurrection takes place some will be raised to everlasting life some to be everlasting contempt.

What about those who have not accepted Lord Jesus Christ?

Hebrews 2:14, *Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him **who had the power of death, that is, the devil,***

Devil had the power of death until Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:26, *The last enemy that will be destroyed is death.*

Death is the last enemy.

From Luke 16:19-31 we can summarise the following.

At the moment of death the soul of the lost is sent to hell where it is in conscious torment.

Luke 16:22-24, *So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. ²⁴“Then he cried and said, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.’*

Jesus also said in **Matthew 10:28**, *And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather **fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.***

Before Christ was resurrected from the dead, everyone went to Hades. On one side of a abyss, there was a place of torture for the unrighteous and a place of comfort for the righteous which is known as Abraham's bosom.

No one went to heaven

John 3:13, *No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven.*

After Jesus died on the cross, he went into Hades and preached to the spirits in prison.

1 Peter 3:18-19, *For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit,¹⁹ by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison,*

After the resurrection of Jesus Christ they were carried to the Paradise. Some of them also came to earth for a short time and burst out of the graves and appeared to people along the way!

Matthew 27:51-53, *Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split,⁵² and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised;⁵³ and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many.*

Now Jesus holds the keys of death and hades.

Revelation 1:18, *I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death.*

Hades is the place that unbelievers go as soon as they die.

It is a temporary place of punishment by fire until the great Day of Judgment.

It is in the depths of the earth.

In the Hebrew Old Testament, it is Strong's OT#7585 (Sheol).

In the Greek New Testament, it is Strong's NT#86 (Hades).

IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

31 times from "Sheol," which means the grave."

IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

10 times from "Hades," which means "the grave."

12 times from "Gehenna," which means "the place of burning."

1 time from "Tartarus," which means "a place of darkness."

54 Times in Total

Jesus spoke more on hell as the final consequence of God's judgment of condemnation than any other person in the Bible. God's Son was the great theologian of hell.

Jesus was the one who compared hell to the Valley of Hinnom near Jerusalem (also called "Gehenna"), a huge public rubbish dump where dead bodies and trash burned in continually smouldering fires. Thus "Gehenna" took hold as a name for hell. Jesus also compared hell to a prison and to outer darkness. It was he who likened hell to "a fire" at least twenty different times.

Let me give you some question and answers to understand the clear picture.

1. Is the hell opened today? How many are there?

No it's not yet open. No one is there.

2 Peter 2:9, *then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for **the Day of Judgment**,*

2. When the sinners will be cast into the hell fire?

Sinners will be cast into hellfire at the great judgment day at the end of the world, not when they die. God

would not punish a person in fire until his case was tried and decided in HIS court at the end of the world.

Matthew 13:40-42, *Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age.* ⁴¹*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.*

John 12:48, *He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.*

3. Will the sinners enter hell in bodily form and be destroyed both soul and body?

People enter hell in bodily form and are destroyed both soul and body. The fire from God out of heaven will fall upon real people and blot them out of existence.

Matthew 5:30, *And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.*

Matthew 10:28, *And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.*

4. What happens to them in hell fire?

The wicked die the second death in hellfire.

Revelation 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."*

The Bible says the wicked

- suffer "death" (Romans 6:23),
- will suffer "destruction" (Job 21:30),
- shall perish" (Psalms 37:20),
- will "burn" up (Malachi 4:1),
- shall be destroyed together" (Psalms 37:38),
- will "consume away" (Psalms 37:20),
- shall be cut off" (Psalms 37:9),
- Shall be slain" (Psalms 62:3).
- God will "destroy" them (Psalms 145:20), and
- Fire shall devour them" (Psalms 21:9).

Note that all of these references make it clear that the wicked die and are destroyed. They do not live forever in misery.

5. How hot the hell fire will be?

2 Peter 3:10, *But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.*

Hellfire will be just as big as this earth because it will be the earth on fire. This fire will be so hot as to melt the earth and burn up all "the works that are therein." The atmospheric heavens will explode and "pass away with a great noise."

6. Will the fire go out?

Bible specifically teaches that hellfire will go out and that there will not be left "a coal to warm at, nor fire to sit before it." The Bible also teaches that in God's new kingdom all "former things" will be passed away.

Isaiah 47:14, *Behold, they shall be as stubble, The fire shall burn them; They shall not deliver themselves From*

the power of the flame; It shall not be a coal to be warmed by, Nor a fire to sit before!

Revelation 21:1 & 4, *Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea.*

And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

7. What will be left when the fire goes out?

The wicked will burn like asbestos, as many today believe, but rather like stubble, which will be burned up. The little word "up" denotes completion. Nothing but ashes will be left when the fire goes out.

Malachi 4:1 & 3, *"For behold, the day is coming, Burning like an oven, And all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up," Says the Lord of hosts, "That will leave them neither root nor branch.*

You shall trample the wicked, For they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet On the day that I do this," Says the Lord of hosts.

8. Is the devil in charge of hell?

No. Absolutely not.

Revelation 20:10, *The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.*

Ezekiel 28:18-19, *“You defiled your sanctuaries By the multitude of your iniquities, By the iniquity of your trading; Therefore I brought fire from your midst; It devoured you, And I turned you to ashes upon the earth In the sight of all who saw you. ¹⁹All who knew you among the peoples are astonished at you; You have become a horror, And shall be no more forever.”*”

9. What is the real purpose of hell?

God's purpose for hell is to destroy the devil and all sin and sinners and make the world safe for eternity. If one sinner left on this planet then it would be a deadly virus forever threatening the universe. So it is God's plan to isolate sin and get rid of them forever its existence.

Matthew 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:*

Revelation 20:15, *And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.*

Psalms 37:10 &20, *For yet a little while and the wicked shall be no more; Indeed, you will look carefully for his place, But it shall be no more.*

But the wicked shall perish; And the enemies of the Lord, Like the splendour of the meadows, shall vanish. Into smoke they shall vanish away.

10. What happens after hell is destroyed?

God will create a new earth and restore it to His people with all the beauties and glories of Eden before sin entered after the hell fire goes out. The horrors of sin and the past will be forgotten.

- Pain,
- death,
- tragedy,
- woe,
- tears,
- sickness,
- disappointment,

- sorrow, and
- All sin will be banished forever.

Revelation 21:3-4, *And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."*

Isaiah 65:17, *"For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; And the former shall not be remembered or come to mind."*

Conclusion:

So now is your chance to not to be destroyed. Jesus has died for the sins of the whole world so accept Him as your Lord and Saviour so that you may live with HIM forever.

John 5:24: *"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life."*