

## Hell

It seems like there are many people that either believe Hell does not exist, or if it does God is not really going to send anyone there. While the subject of Hell is probably not the most pleasant of topics, it is important all the same. What does the Bible tell us about Hell and who is going to be there? In this lesson these are the very questions we hope to answer.

### Hell is a real place

**Matthew 25:31-46** “When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.” The Bible tells us there will be a Judgement Day in which all of mankind will be divided into two, and only two groups. One group is rewarded with eternal life in Heaven that God has long prepared for them. The second group is punished with eternal fire, in Hell. We are told both groups actions, while on earth, are the reason they are sent to Heaven or Hell. Hell is a real place that those who have failed to live as God would have them live will spend all of eternity in. While, we in our human minds don't fully know what Heaven or Hell will be like, the Bible does give us some level of description of both places, in a way our human minds can comprehend. Hell sounds horrible and it is eternal.

**Mark 9:43-48** “And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. And 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 to be cast into hell fire: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.” Hell is a terrible place of never ending torment that there is no escape from, once you

are there. The Bible is not advocating cutting parts of your body off. The Bible is saying, get rid of the parts of your life that would keep you from going to Heaven. The Bible is saying, no matter what you must remove from your life to live obedient to God, and avoid Hell, and go to Heaven it is well worth it.

**Luke 16:19-31** “There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day: And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And 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. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence. Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house: For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment. Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.” In this small window into eternal life we are given in the Bible we learn a few things. People that die before Judgment Day are waiting for it in a place of comfort, or a place of torment. The beggar Lazarus is in comfort because of his life choices, the rich man was in torment because of his life choices. The rich man does not want to be there, but has no way to escape his torment. The rich man wants a way to warn the living family he has, that they need to make changes to avoid ending up like him. He is told that the living have what they need to avoid the place of torment already. We don't learn much about Lazarus's experience other than he seems to be in comfort, and have none of the worries that the rich man does. We also see that having it good in this life does not necessarily get us into Heaven, it has nothing to do with it. Having it bad in this life does not necessarily get us into Hell, it has nothing to do with it. Today we have the Bible. It is from God through inspiration, and gives us all we need to go to Heaven, and therefore avoid Hell. Do you want to be like Lazarus or the rich man for all of eternity?

**2 Thessalonians 1:7-9** “And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them 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” On the day of judgement, whenever that is, Jesus will punish all that have not been obedient to the Gospel with eternal destruction in Hell. This is actually very easy to understand. Obedience to the Word of God leads to Heaven. Disobedience to the Word of God leads to Hell. When Jesus comes which group do you want to be in, the obedient or disobedient? Right now while you live and breathe you can get yourself into the obedient group. One second after death your choice is

set for all eternity. (Someone that has lost their mental capacity, due to accident or illness, would be in the same category as someone that had died. One second after they lost their mental capacity their choice is locked in for all eternity.) Unless of course, because we do not know when Jesus will return, He returns in our lifetime. Should Jesus return in our lifetime then are choices for all eternity are already set by our own actions. Because we do not know when Judgment Day will be, is why it is so important to get ready for it now. Tomorrow may be too late.

**Revelation 21:8** “But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.” This again is pretty simple. People that are not believers will spend eternity in Hell with murderers and all kinds of other disobedient people. God puts unbelievers on the same level as murderers and the other types of sinners, that are listed in the above passage. Simply not believing in God will lead to eternal life in Hell. Individuals that say they believe in God, but are not actually obedient to God’s Word are also unbelievers, because they do not believe they need to follow God’s will. Sadly, this is going to include a lot of people. Do you want to be in this sad but large group that is lost forever?

Hell is a place of torment and agony

**Matthew 8:12** “But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” Hell will be a terrible place of despair and pain, in which, one is separated from God forever.

**Matthew 10:28** “And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.” No tragedy in our lives will be able to compare with the horror of being lost in Hell for all eternity. Nothing in this life is as important as being sure one saves their soul, by being obedient to God, so they can spend eternity in Heaven.

**Matthew 18:8-9** “Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast them from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire. And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire.” Nothing in this life is worth spending eternity in Hell for. Make the changes in your life you need to, in order to spend eternity in Heaven.

**Matthew 25:30** “And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” Contrary to popular belief God will cast all the disobedient into Hell for all eternity. However, through the Bible, He has told us how we can all go to Heaven.

**Matthew 25:46** “And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.” Once the disobedient are cast into Hell, that is it, there will be no more chances to save oneself. However, the obedient will be in Heaven for all of eternity. God has given us the free will to take the path to Heaven or Hell, which means everyone has the ability to obey God and go to Heaven.

**Revelation 20:12-15** “And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. 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.” Judgement Day will come for all of us we just don’t know when it will occur. Every human will be fairly judged by their own actions and no one else’s. God has given all of us the information we need to get to Heaven. Jesus died for all of us so we can go to Heaven. However, Heaven is only for the obedient, those who choose the path of disobedience to God will be forever cast into Hell.

### Hell is a place for the unfaithful

**Romans 2:8-9** “But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath, Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile” Notice that there are only two categories of people, those that obey the truth and those that do not. One cannot partly obey the truth because partial obedience is disobedience. The disobedient will face God’s wrath and have anguish. All the unfaithful will be in Hell. This sounds horrible and scary. However, being one that is obedient to the truth avoids all this, because they will not be in Hell, but rather Heaven.

**1 Corinthians 6:9-10** “Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.” To God the unrighteous, or unfaithful, are the same as all the other sinners listed above, even murderers and idolaters. We are specifically told by the scriptures, all the disobedient people of any kind will not be in Heaven, which means they will be in Hell. God always tells us there are two and only two categories of people. There are the lost and the saved. There are people that will be in Heaven and in Hell. That is it, there is no third option. However, we have the free will to obey the truth and live accordingly or not. We get to pick a road to Heaven or Hell; the choice is ours; it will not be forced on us.

**1 Peter 4:17-18** “For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?” All mankind will be judged by God as to how they have lived. The ungodly, or disobedient, will not be saved.

**2 Peter 2:4-6** “For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly; And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly” God has shown to us in the past, both with the flood in Noah’s day, and with the destruction of the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha, that He actually does mean what He says. God will destroy

those that are disobedient to Him. Why should we doubt that on Judgement Day He will cast all the disobedient into Hell? God has told us what He will do, we would be wise to believe it, and obey Him.

**2 Peter 2:20-22** “For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.” People can have been, at one time, faithful to God but have fallen away. Those that fall away from God are lost, until they repent and get back on the road of faithfulness. Being faithful at one time but falling away will not save you from Hell, unless you repent and change your life to be pleasing to God.

**Jude 5-7** “I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not. And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.” God has given us many examples that He will not accept the disobedience. He has promised that He will reward the faithful with Heaven and the unfaithful with Hell. Knowing that God means what He says what will you do, be obedient or disobedient?

**Revelation 21:8** “But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.” Hell sounds like a horrible place to spend eternity. Everyone that is living a life of disobedience to God will be in Hell for all eternity. However, everyone that lives a life obedient to God can avoid Hell and go to Heaven. Which do you choose?

### Hell is eternal

**Matthew 25:46** “And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.” Hell and Heaven are both eternal. One can either be righteous and live eternally in Heaven, or unrighteous and spend eternity in Hell.

**Hebrews 6:1-2** “Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.” God’s judgement is eternal. We need to use our time wisely to get ourselves prepared for God’s eternal judgement of our lives. We can spend eternity in His loving embrace in Heaven, or facing His wrath in Hell. Which will you choose because of how you lived?

## Conclusion

Hell is certainly not the place I want to spend eternity, surely no one wants to go there. We must ask ourselves if the life we are leading is headed toward Hell or Heaven? Based on what the Bible teaches about Hell and who is going there, examine yourself honestly. If what the scriptures teach tell you Heaven will not be your eternal home, but Hell will be, make the changes you need to now. Don't miss Heaven.