

**THE AFTERLIFE**  
**PART FIVE: HELL**

**What is hell?**

*Hell has not yet been initiated;*

**REVELATION 20:14**

Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

*Satan and his angels are not in charge of hell;*

**REVELATION 20:10, 15**

...and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever... And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

*The Scripture strongly imply that hell is a physical, literal place;*

**MATTHEW 25:30, 41, 46**

And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

**REVELATION 20:10, 14-15**

and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

**MATTHEW 10:28**

And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

*Hell is not strictly separation from God;*

**REVELATION 14:10**

[Those who worshiped the beast and took the mark] will be tormented with fire and sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.

*Hell is eternal;*

**MATTHEW 25:46**

And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

**MARK 9:43**

And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire.

**REVELATION 20:10**

and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

**The eternal nature of hell necessarily means it is a place without hope or comfort**

*Hell will be largely a 'giving over' to non-satisfying sinful desires;*

**ROMANS 1:23-28**

[Sinners] exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen. For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error. And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.

*Sinful passions are often described in fiery terms;*

**1 CORINTHIANS 7:8-9**

To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain single as I am. But if they cannot exercise self-control, they should marry. For it is better to marry than to burn with passion.

*Infinitely increased desire combined with infinitely decreased satisfaction;*

**HEBREWS 11:25**

[Moses chose] rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.

"Hell is the raw soul, joined to the indestructible body, exposed to its own sin, for eternity." –Erwin Lutzer

All anger in hell will be directed toward the self

**Why is hell?**

*Our preconception that punishment must be redemptive falsely colors our perception of the rightness of hell*

*The fact that we do not take sin as seriously as God falsely colors our perception of hell*

**GENESIS 9:6**

Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image.

*The unregenerate condemned to hell do not cease to sin;*

**REVELATION 22:11**

Let the evildoer still do evil, and the filthy still be filthy, and the righteous still do right, and the holy still be holy.

**Application**

**1. Hell will add to our eternal happiness**

**REVELATION 6:10**

They cried out with a loud voice, "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?"

**REVELATION 19:1-3**

After this I heard what seemed to be the loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, crying out, "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, for his judgments are true and just; for he has judged the great prostitute who corrupted the earth with her immorality, and has avenged on her the blood of his servants." Once more they cried out, "Hallelujah! The smoke from her goes up forever and ever."

**2. We are Christ-like when we are broken over the reality of hell**

**ROMANS 9:2**

...I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.

**MATTHEW 23:37**

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!

**EZEKIEL 33:11**

...As I live, declares the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways...