

THEME: Doctrine of Hell – What Is Hell (1 of 6)

What God either does or does not do is not according to our belief, but rather we believe what God does or does not do as revealed in His holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word. This includes Hell. Hell is not what we believe, rather we believe what Hell is as revealed to us by God in His holy, eternal, inerrant, written Word. There are many false statements made by both Christians and non-Christians pertaining to Hell, it's reality, what goes on there, who is in charge, the list goes on and on.

I have heard one of the most common lies concerning Hell as voiced by unbelievers, "I would rather be with my friends in Hell than with all those hypocrites in church." This horrible misstatement is based on a fallacious view of Hell as a penal system run by satan and his demons. This is brought about by two separate phenomenon. First the western penal system whereby depraved individuals can indeed live out their depravity among like minded people. Secondly by a media representation of Hell as a penal system run by satan for those not worthy of heaven. This first myth of Hell is joined by a host of other, which include but is not limited too...

Hell is the absence of God.

Hell is the cessation of existence.

Hell is run by satan and his demons.

Hell is temporal rather than eternal.

Hell is figurative rather than literal.

Hell is revealed to us by those who have died, gone to Hell and then been brought back by God to warn and instruct. God of the Old Testament is God of judgment, wrath and vengeance and thereby the God of Hell; God of the new Testament is Jesus, a God of love, forgiveness and mercy and thereby the God of Heaven.

These misconceptions come from a number of places. Literature ranging from Dante's inferno to Dickens "Christmas Carol" to the modern pulp fiction writers on demons, vampires and the like. These factious works create false impressions of Hell which are more real to some than is Biblical revelation. The modern media industry ranging from T.V. to Movies to Video Games creates a marketable Hell, which again is embraced by many without question and without testing against the holy, written revelation of God the Holy Spirit. Added to this are the lies and deceptions of satan written and recorded by both Christians and non-Christians who have had supposed after death experiences by which they went to Hell (and Heaven) and then have come back to reveal these false revelations to mankind in general and the church in specific. These purveyors of false spirituality have never been to Hell and their lies concerning Hell serve only satan, the father of lies. Last and perhaps most heinous are the purveyors of the so called deliverance ministries who talk with demons and spirits, have false visions and prophecies, claim falsely to have words of knowledge and wisdom about heaven and hell and then present these to the church even though this knowledge is specifically forbidden by God and the representations contradict God's holy Word. Never-the-less Christian book stores carry these lies, the airwaves gladly present these lies and the churches accept the dissemination of these lies – all because of their profitability both in the market place and in the offering plate.

It is the hope of the author that this, the first of six devotionals on Hell will not only mature you in your doctrinal understanding of what God the Holy Spirit has to teach on Hell but it will also drive you to correct applications in both evangelism and discipleship.

Rev. John S. Mahon
Lusaka, Zambia – May 2011

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Revelation 14:10 & 11

From this passage describe Hell. (Duration, who is in charge, what happens, descriptive words or phrases, other?)

Hell is not what we believe, rather we believe what Hell is as revealed in God's holy Word. As you meditate on this passage what new insights has God the Holy Spirit revealed to you about Hell?

How will this reality affect your commitment, dedication and earnest pleadings in witnessing?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Matthew 3:12

From this passage describe Hell. (Duration, who is in charge, what happens, descriptive words or phrases, other?)

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Matthew 18:8 & 9

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Matthew 25:31 – 46 (41, 46)

From this passage describe Hell. (Duration, who is in charge, what happens, descriptive words or phrases, other?)

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Mark 9:42 – 48

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Luke 3:15 – 17

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QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD
JEREMIAH 15:16
THEME: Doctrine of Hell – What Is Hell

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Luke 16:19 - 21

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: 2 Thessalonians 1:1 – 12 (5, 8, 9)

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Jude 1:6, 7, 13, 25

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Revelation 20:1 – 10

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Revelation 20:11 - 15

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PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Revelation 14:10 & 11

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