

## The Hot Topic of Hell

### Hell Fire Is Real

Matthew 25:41 The lost will go "into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels."

### This Punishment in "Hell Fire" Is Future - Not Now

2 Peter 2:9 God will "reserve the unjust *unto* the day of judgment *to be punished.*"

Matthew 13:40 "As the weeds are gathered and burned in the fire, *so will it be at the end of the age.*"

Revelation 20:5a,13-15 The lake of fire occurs at the end of the 1000 years.

### Hell Fire Will Be On Planet Earth

2 Peter 3:7 "The heavens and *the earth* which are now ... reserved unto fire."

2 Peter 3:10 "The *earth* and the works that are in it will be burned up."

Revelation 20:8,9 "They [the resurrected lost] went up on the breadth of *the earth* ... and fire *came down* from God out of heaven and devoured them."

### Hell Fire Will Totally Destroy All The Wicked

John 3:16 Those who are lost will "perish."

Romans 6:23 The wages of sin is "death."

Psalms 37:38 "Transgressors will be destroyed together."

Malachi 4:1,3 The "day cometh" when the lost "*burn up*" and become "*ashes.*"

Matthew 3:12 "Unquenchable fire" will totally "*burn up*" the wicked.

Matthew 10:28 "Fear Him who is able to *destroy both soul and body in hell.*"

Ezekiel 28:15,18,19 Satan will become "*ashes*" as a result of the "*fire.*"

Revelation 21:8; 20:14 "the lake of fire ... *which is the second death.*"

Psalms 37:20 "The wicked shall perish ... into smoke ... *consume away.*"

### Where Did The Doctrine Of Eternal Burning Originate?

Genesis 3:4 "The serpent said to the woman, you shall not surely die." The theory of eternal torment is rooted in the first lie that the soul is immortal.

1 Timothy 6:16 God "alone has immortality."

1 Corinthians 15:51-55 Christians receive "immortality" when Jesus returns.

### The Character And Justice Of God Will Be Vindicated

1 John 4:8 "God is love." He is not a tyrant who will burn people forever

Revelation 20:13 Each person will be judged fairly, "according to his works."

Revelation 15:3 "*Just and true are Your ways, O King of the saints!*"

**"I saw a new heaven and a new earth ...  
there shall be no more pain ...**

**I make all things new ...**

**These words are true and faithful."**

**Revelation 21:1,4,5**

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## Some “Hell” Questions Answered

### Luke 16:19-31- The Rich Man And Lazarus?

16:19 “There was a *certain* rich man.” *This is a parable.* Jesus often started His parables with “a *certain* ...” See Luke 13:6; 15:11; 16:1; 18:2. Luke 19:11,12 says, “*He spoke another parable ... A certain nobleman went into a far country.*”

16:22 The beggar went “to Abraham’s bosom.” Was he placed in his chest?

16:23 Can the “lost” and the “saved” literally see and talk to each other?

16:24 The rich man is described not as a “disembodied soul,” but rather as “in the body” with eyes and a tongue. *Was he therefore not in his grave?*

16:24 Can a drop of water on a tormented man’s tongue bring comfort?

**Note: This is the only place in the Bible that describes immediate punishment in “hell fire” at the point of death! It must be a parable!**

The context of this parable reveals that Jesus was talking to the Pharisees who were “lovers of money.” (vs. 14). They believed that riches were a sign of God’s favor while poverty represented His curse. Jesus exposed this false theory. The story also counteracts the idea of a second chance. At death there is “a great gulf fixed” (vs. 26) which cannot be bridged. Our destiny will be decided by how we live. Many want to see a miracle before they will believe. Jesus says, “If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.” (vs. 31). Why did Jesus use the name Lazarus? This story was a prophecy. Jesus did raise a real man named Lazarus (John 11). The Pharisees were not convinced and chose to “put Him to death.” John 11:53.

### Revelation 20:10 - “Tormented ... Forever” ?

Verse 9 says the lost are “devoured.” Vs. 9 is a literal account of what happens to the lost, while verse 10 speaks symbolically of the “beast.” 57 times in the Bible the word “forever” is used for a period of time *that comes to an end.*

Jonah was in the fish “forever” *before he came out.* Jonah 2:6. Samuel’s mother wanted him to serve God in the temple “forever” which actually meant “as long as he lives.” 1 Samuel 1:22,28. Compare Rev. 14:11 with Isaiah 34:10.

### Matthew 25:46 - “Everlasting Punishment”?

Jesus said “everlasting *punishment*,” not “everlasting *punishing*.” This is the same as “everlasting destruction.” 2 Thessalonians 1:9. Matthew 25:46 contrasts everlasting punishment with “eternal life” which is given *only to those who believe in Jesus.* John 3:16. The wicked will die the “second death.” Rev. 20:14.

### Jude 7 - “Eternal Fire”?

The destruction of Sodom by “*eternal fire*” was an “*example*” of what will happen to the wicked. This fire turned Sodom into “ashes” (2 Peter 2:6) “in a moment.” Lamentations 4:6. It is called eternal fire because it comes from God and is “unquenchable” by man. See Matthew 3:12; Jeremiah 17:27; Isaiah 66:24.

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