

A BIBLICAL VIEW OF HELL

1. **The most common Biblical description of hell is fire** (2 Thess. 1:7)
 - a. The Valley of Hinnom
 - 1) Scene of child sacrifices (2 Kgs. 23:10) and a burning garbage dump
 - 2) Origin of the Greek word *gehenna* (γέεννα.)
 - b. A fiery furnace (Matt. 13:42, 50)
 - c. A lake of fire & brimstone (Rev. 20:14-15; 21:8)
2. **The worst part of being in hell is the eternal separation from God** (2 Thess. 1:9-10)
 - a. Banished from God's presence (Matt. 25:41)
 - b. And cast into *outer darkness* (Matt. 8:12; 22:13; 25:30)
3. **Hell was designed as punishment for the Devil and his angels** (Matt. 25:41)
 - a. Satan will not be in charge of hell, but will be its primary prisoner
 - b. The Devil and his angels are already *chained* in hell in that they were given an irrevocable sentence to hell when they originally sinned against God (2 Pet. 2:4; Jude 6)

4. **The Bible speaks of the suffering of hell lasting forever** (2 Thess. 1:9)

- a. The tools of hell are forever
 - 1) The worm never dies, the fire never goes out (Mark 9:47-48)
 - 2) The fire is eternal (Jude 7)
 - 3) The smoke rises forever and ever (Rev. 14:10-11)
- b. The experience of suffering in hell is forever
 - 1) An eternal punishment (Matt. 25:46)
 - 2) Tormented day and night for ever and ever (Rev. 14:11; 20:10)
- c. The Bible does not speak of a temporary suffering in fire
 - 1) Such as a *purgatory*
 - 2) There is no changing sides between the lost and the saints in hades (Luke 16:26)

5. **Hell is the ultimate destination of everyone we do not reach with the gospel of Jesus Christ** (2 Thess. 1:8)

- a. The thought of hell should motivate us to be faithful in our pursuit of holiness and service for Christ
- b. The thought of hell should motivate us to share our knowledge of salvation with as many people as possible

"It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God" (Heb. 10:31)