

The Hottest Topic!

(Hell and Who Is Going There)

Resources Used for This Topic Include:

Francis Chan and Preston Sprinkle: **Erasing Hell (What God said about Eternity, and the Things We've Made Up)**

Joshua Ryan Butler: **The Skeleton's In God's Closet**

Walvoord, Hayes, and Pinnock: **Four Views On Hell.**

Zahnd, Brian: **Sinners in the Hands of a Loving God (The Scandalous Truth of the Very Good News)**

With Proper, Biblical understanding, hell makes _____.

God is _____.

We have some weird and not biblical views of hell right out of the gate. The popular view is that hell is...

✚ _____

✚ For the Purpose of _____

✚ Constructed to be a chamber God _____ from the _____

✚ We talk about "heaven and hell" but the Bible talks about "heaven and _____!"

✚ In Genesis, _____ is not part of God's creation. It's not mentioned, even once!

✚ God's purpose is not to get us out of _____ and into _____; it's to reconcile heaven and _____.

- ✚ Notice the DIRECTION of movement. God is not bringing us _____ out of earth into heaven. He is bringing heaven _____ into earth, through his holy city.
- ✚ Butler's conclusion is this: _____ is not the one who unleashes hell's destruction; _____ are.
- ✚ James says a small spark can burn down a forest, so our little tongue can unleash destruction. James says its destructive force is set on fire by _____>
- ✚ Jesus relates the power of hell to three primary issues: _____, _____, and religious _____ (see Mt 5:22-30; 10:28; 18:9; 23:15-33; Mark 9:43-47; Luke 12:5)
- ✚ Jesus' word for hell is _____. In your English Bible when you come across the word hell, it is most likely Gehenna.
- ✚ Gehenna was an actual, _____ place, a geographical location, just outside Jerusalem's walls. In the O.T. it was called "the Valley of Hinnom."
- ✚ The Valley of Hinnom had two associations in history—It was a place of _____. Israel went there to cheat on YHWH. And it was a place of _____. It's frequently identified as a place of child sacrifice.
- ✚ See 2 Chronicles 28:1-4...
- ✚ See also 2 Chronicles 33:3-9...
- ✚ See also Jeremiah 32:32-35...
- ✚ So if Jesus tells you Gehenna is hell what does this tell us?
 - _____ are cruel.
 - Also the Valley of Hinnom had fires LIT BY _____ HANDS, not _____.
 - The MOST important element of Jesus' teaching here is that HELL, GEHENNA is _____ THE CITY!!!!

- ✚ God's purpose of hell is NOT _____, but _____! See Zech 2:4-5
- ✚ Of course there is darkness, pain, etc. When God's _____ is removed—LIFE, JOY, PEACE is gone as well.
- ✚ The good news is this: Jesus invites us into his _____.
- ✚ The OT DOES depict hell's location as UNDERGROUND, so what gives?
- ✚ What gives is the word is _____—it's used _____ times in the OT and often gets translated as "hell."
- ✚ But SHEOL is a very different place than GEHENNA. It is not a spot of a map outside of Jerusalem—it is, quite simple, THE _____.
- ✚ In the OT world, SHEOL is the place where _____ went—the good and bad, the saints and sinners—everyone!
- ✚ Sheol, the grave was the place of unconscious _____, NOT conscious _____.
- ✚ SOOOOOO-what happened between the OT and NT to change all this? How did "hell" get moved from underground to outside the city? WHAT MADE THE CHANGE—THE _____ OF _____ MADE THE CHANGE!!!!!!
- ✚ Death _____ THE PUNISHMENT; the just consequence of our sin, returning to the dust from which we came...
- ✚ Evil is not a person, place, or thing, but rather, a distorted _____ with people, places, and things. (Butler)
- ✚ So, hell is not a place God creates to _____ people, but a power that God contains to _____ the overflowing life of his new creation.
- ✚ What are God's options for those who don't want God and his NEW LIFE?
 - Option one—_____ it.

- Option two—_____. Kill the rebels forever.
- Option three—Lock the rebels in the _____.
- Option four—_____

✚ The two passages that are used to affirm the torture chamber view of hell are the “_____ of fire” and “the _____ man and Lazarus.”

✚ “Hell then, is the trajectory of a soul, living a self-absorbed, self-centered life, going on and on forever...In short, hell is simply one’s freely chosen identity apart from God on a trajectory into infinity.” Keller

✚ If you read the Lake of Fire in context in Revelation—it is an apocalyptic symbol of the destruction of _____. It’s God’s judgment on AN _____. It’s not _____ judgment—but NATIONAL, SYSTEMIC judgment on all that is opposed to God.

✚ Hell is that place where God tells its residents: _____ WILL BE DONE. Have your way. Live as you want without me.

✚ Butler sums it up: “Hell is not a chamber God locks from the outside against our _____ will, but a closet we latch from the inside through our _____ will, in our desire for freedom from God...”

Next Pastor’s Perspective will be October 9th! “Genocide in the Old Testament.”