

# **GROWING OPPOSITION TO THE DOCTRINE OF HELL**

By William West

## Table of Contents

A growing opposition to the doctrine of Hell in the church of Christ.

THE VANISHING HELL from the preaching in many churches.

THE VANISHING HELL from many translations of the Bible.

Twenty-four versions of Hell.

How Hell was put into the Bible.

The results of attributing evil pagan teachings to God by religious people..

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## **A growing opposition to the doctrine of Hell In the church of Christ.**

Perhaps unknown to many members of the church of Christ, there is a growing opposition to the doctrine of Hell which has been taught from it's pulpits for many years. Most of it's preachers who do come out against it just say nothing about it.

1. HOMER HAILEY: "God's Judgments and Punishments" 2003, Nevada Publications. Hailey was a teacher at Abilene Christian College, Florida College where he was dean of Bible for many years. He is the anther of many books and articles; some were in the "Gospel Guardian," now "Truth Magazine," and "Bible Banner." He was one of the best know and most loved preacher and teachers in the church of Christ. I do not think it is now in print. (Church of Christ).

2. EDWARD FUDGE: Was also a writer for "Truth Magazine" and numerous other periodicals. His book, "The Fire That Consumes" has gone through many printing and has been in print for many years. (Church of Christ).

3. WILLIAM ROBERT WEST: His book, "Unconditional Immortality Or Resurrection Of The Dead" is now in print in it's third update available at:

<http://www.buybooksontheweb.com/product.aspx?ISBN=0-7414-4620-0>

It is available free on line at:

<http://www.robertwr.com/resurrection.pdf> and has had more than 620,000 downloads and growing daily. (Church of Christ).

4. MOSES E. LORD: One of the best-known preachers and writers in the church of Christ. "For the wages of sin is death.' It always pays. Whether the sinner stipulates for his wages or not, he is sure to receive it. What the wages of sin are, the apostle here tells us: it is eternal death. How astounding the fact that so many should serve for such a reward!" Commentary on Romans, Page 218, 1875, Gospel Light Publishing Company. Also his book "Do The Holy Scriptures Teach The Endlessness Of Future Punishment? I have been unable to find a copy of his book but found this about it by Steven Clark Goad in "church of Christ Christian Podcast." He said in a recent conversation he had with Jimmy Allen of Harding University, Jimmy Allen said that he was rethinking and restudying the traditional understanding of hell. That Jimmy Allen of Harding University shared with him more that confidentiality he would not be allow to repeat, but Jimmy Allen at Harding University sent him a copy of a paper by Moses E. Lard, 1879, "Do the Holy Scriptures Teach the Endlessness of Future Punishment?" Steven Clark Goad said this booklet by Moses E. Lord is a magnificent word study of the Greek word aion draws many of the conclusions he had outlined at:

<http://www.godsmessagetheweb.net/2010/07/25/thoughts-on-punishment-of-the-wicked/> and this booklet by Lard points out that his understanding is not new or something a few harebrained fanatics have recently thought up to stir controversy. (Church of Christ)

5. C. R. GRESHAM: "It is generally conceived that there is little about resurrection or after-life in what the Jews called the Torah...and the Former Prophets...Death is seen as the end, the destruction of human existence." Page 25. "Man's soul is primarily his vitality, his life, not some separate part of a person that has independent existence and an immortal nature, God's spirit (His breath, His power) creates and sustains all living things (Ps 33:6; 104:29-30), even the human spirit (Zech 12:1), but never is man's soul or spirit seen as an immortal part of man surviving death." Page 40. "The widespread misunderstanding that the New Testament teaches the immortality of the soul...If one recognizes that death and eternal life in the New Testament are always bound up the Christ-event, then it becomes clear that for the first Christians the soul is not intrinsically immortal, but rather became so only through the resurrection of Jesus Christ." Page 275. "What The Bible Says About Resurrection" The College Press, 1983. (Church of Christ).

6. SAMUEL DAWSON: "You may be surprised to learn that most, if not all, of our popular concepts of Hell can be found in the writings of Roman Catholic writers...None of our concepts of Hell can be found in the teaching of Jesus Christ! You know how indignant we get at the mention of purgatory-we know that's not in the Bible. You may also find out that our popular concepts of Hell came from the same place that purgatory did-Roman Catholicism" "Jesus' Teaching On Hell," Page 13. A free copy of this book at: [www.gospelthemes.com](http://www.gospelthemes.com) (Church of Christ).

7. JERRY CROSS: "When Jesus was on earth he didn't speak of immortality, but rather of eternal life. The Greeks taught that the soul had a natural and innate quality to enable it to pass through death and resist corruption. But, Jesus taught that our 'immortality' is anchored in a life-relationship with God. Jesus was a teacher of 'eternal life,' but Plato of the 'immortality of the soul.' Today these expressions are often confusingly used as synonyms. Yet, they spring from two different sources, one from Greek philosophy, and the other from New Testament Christianity... It is very easy to read the term 'soul' or 'spirit' in the English Bible and impart (much later) Descartes, Western

thinking became very much dualistic in its view of man. A person is composed, according to this view, of material, extended, substance (body) and immaterial, non-extended, substance (mind). The soul is the imperishable element that is housed in a bodily prison. Therefore, when western man hears the term 'soul,' he thinks of that element of himself that is confined within his body that is destined to live forever. The presentation of 'soul' in the Hebrew Old Testament is quite different however...the Old Testament presents man as an 'animated body' which is a 'complex of parts, drawing life and activity from a breath-soul, which has no existence apart from the body'" Magnolia Bible College 1984 Lectures, Page 48 and 49. (Church of Christ).

8. CURTIS DICKINSON: "There is not one scripture to support the idea that man is an immortal soul living for the moment in a temple of clay, and that when the body dies the man goes on living...It might come as a surprise to some to know that the term immortal is never used in scripture in connection with soul or man's spirit" "What The Bible Teaches About Immortality And Future Punishment," Page 8 and 9. (Church of Christ).

9. ELIAS SMITH: Also one of the best know-preachers and writers in the church of Christ. Often referred to as "Elder" Elias Smith. "This year, in June, my attention was called to think of the real state of the wicked after the last judgment. Before this time, I had taken for truth the old pagan doctrine of 'eternal misery' for the wicked. In June, 1804, being in Mr. Holmes' bookstore, in Boston, I asked him if he had any new publications. He handed me Evan's Sketch. On opening the book my eyes first fixed on the word, 'destructionists.' I read one page, and concluded, people who held the wicked would be destroyed, were in strange error, as no such thing ever before entered my mind. I bought the book. Often after that the destruction of the wicked would pass through my mind, though I supposed eternal misery was recorded in the Bible. In April 1805, I concluded one day to take my Bible and concordance, and find eternal misery, and not have my mind any longer troubled about destruction. I examined the words misery, miserable, and miserably; and found there was not one

place in the Bible where the word was used to describe the state of man beyond death. Next I looked for the word torment, and found that was limited, and that there was no torment mentioned beyond the day of judgment. I then looked at the words destroy, destruction, death, second death, perish, consumed, perdition, burnt up, end, etc. I examined the similitudes used to describe the end of the wicked, such as chaff and stubble burnt up; dry trees cast into the fire, and tares burnt up; the fat of lambs consumed, whirlwinds, a dream, and noise. All these things proved to me that at the last judgment, the wicked would be punished with everlasting destruction, which would be their end. My mind was settled upon the subject; but concluded to keep my discovery to myself; as the people were almost distracted with having so many new things; such as that God was one and not three, and that all rules but the Bible was useless, and that salvation was free for all. My first preaching and writing disturbed the clergy and the wicked; the next disturbed the Baptists, and I was about certain, if this were known, it would disturb my brethren with whom I was connected. I kept it back as long as duty would suffer me, and was constrained at last to make it known, or preach no more. It made some stir, but people bore it as well as could be expected. Soon after preaching it, I wrote and published five sermons upon the subject, which has never been answered to this day." The Life, Conversion, Preaching, Travel, and Sufferings of Elias Smith, 1886, Page 347, (Church of Christ).

10. JOHN SCOTT: "Genesis 2:7 is the classic statement of the uniting of flesh and spirit. Here, we have the creature of flesh and bone created from the dust and then brought into a living existence by the Lord blowing into man's nostrils the breath of life. The phrase 'became a living soul' is the same Hebrew phrase used in verse 19 referring to 'every living creature,' that is, to the beasts and birds as other forms of life. In this sense of the word then, man is not distinguished from the animal world as far as life is concerned by the use of these special terms...The *nehphesh* may even be said to die [Judges 16:30], but *nehphesh* is never used of the spirit of the dead; in fact, nowhere is the suggestion made that the soul survives the

man whose life it was in the Old Testament." Harding Graduate School Lectures, 1971, Pages 130-131, Gospel Advocate Company, (Church of Christ).

11. ROGER DICKSON: "A general meaning would be that the soul has reference to any animate being of life that has sense perception ... thus, the soul would be the life principle of an individual." Page 45, "Life, Death and Beyond" Biblical Research Library. (Church of Christ).

12. AL MAXEY: "The Maxey-Thrasher Debate" A debate on the eternal destiny of the wicked between two Gospel preachers. "Then the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living SOUL/being' (Genesis 2:7). Some traditionalists virtually equate this last phrase (living soul) with 'immortal soul.' But, that is NOT what the passage says. God put breath within this body and the body became a living being. The exact same words are used of animals in the Scriptures. Further, it doesn't say man was GIVEN a soul. It says man BECAME a soul. Big difference!" Free on the web at: <http://www.zianet.com/maxey/MxThrshr.htm> (Church of Christ).

13. ROBERT DOZIER: "Dozier-Johnson Debate" The eternal destiny of the wicked by a Gospel preacher. "But Gehenna was all about destroying that which was dumped there. There were not cries of never ending conscious pain coming out of the bodies cast there. No conscious torment, just destruction of trash, carcasses of animals, and some dead human bodies. It was all about death and destruction. That is what those who heard Jesus speak of Gehenna would think of. Jesus spoke of the wicked and lost as being cast into Gehenna AFTER God killed them (Luke 12:5)." Free on the web at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/Religiousdebats/message/1408>, (Church of Christ).

14. ROBERT L. WHITESIDE: Writer and editor of the "Gospel Advocate" for many years. "If you serve sin, you need not doubt as to what your wages are to be, nor as to whether you will be paid in full. The final reward for your service to sin is eternal death." A New Commentary On Paul's Letter To The Saints At Rome, Page 142, 1945. (Church of Christ).

15. E. M. ZERR: Said it denotes, therefore, that a life devoted to the service of sin will earn or merit the wages of death, not physical death that comes to all, but the second death, designated in Revelation 21:8. Bible Commentary, Volume 5, Page 360, copyrighted 1952 by E. M Zerr. (Church of Christ).

16. E. D. SLOUGH "Punishment lasts so long as its results last, and where death has been administered for the satisfaction of crime, THE PUNISHMENT CONTINUES TILL LIFE IS RESTORED, AND IF NEVER RESTORED, IT IS AN EVERLASTING PUNISHMENT. Lost of property, loss of liberty, loss of life, may all be meted out to the transgressors under the label of punishment. And death as the capital punishment, legalized on the statutes of all civilized nations of the world, is the highest punishment man can inflict—or so recognized,—being the deprivation of life, the first source of all pleasures and enjoyments, and recognized as being forfeited for certain crimes." "The Indictment Of Eternal Torment—The Self-negation Of A Monstrous Doctrine," Page 196-197, F. L. Rowe, Publisher, 1914, (evangelist, church of Christ).

17. B. W. JOHNSON: "*For the wages of sin*. Sin is a master of his servants and pays wages. The wages is *death*, one of the saddest, but profoundest truths of the world. But the *gift of God*. God gives to those who turn from sin, life eternal" The People's New Testament With Notes, Gospel Light Publishing Company. (Church of Christ).

18. LEROY GARRETT: "Nowhere in Scripture will you find the idea that God bestows upon the wicked everlasting (unending) life or immortality so that he can then torment them forever in hell fire. The wicked die forever for two reasons: they do not have the gift of immortality, and they have to receive the wages earned for their life of sin, which is death." Restoration Review, November 2990, "Is Hell Fire Endless?" (Church of Christ).

19. STEVEN CLARK GOAD: "Our present traditional view of hell, borrowed from Catholicism and paganism, is no more biblical than their doctrine of limbo," "Thoughts on Punishment of the Wicked" church of Christ Christian Ekklesia Podcast

<http://www.godsmessagetheweb.net/2010/07/25/thoughts-on-punishment-of-the-wicked> (Church of Christ).

20. JEREMY K. MORITZ: "I grew up in the church. For many years, I believed in the traditional view of Heaven and Hell—that souls are taken from the body immediately following death and are placed in either Heaven or Hell where they will spend eternity in bliss or unending torture. This is what most of the Christian church right now believes. For the last six or seven years, however, I have found countless scriptures that have changed my thinking considerably in this area. It seems to me that nearly the entire Bible teaches that eternal life is only experienced in Heaven, that Hell is a place of complete destruction and annihilation." "HELL: Eternal Torment or Complete Annihilation?"

<http://www.jeremyandchristine.com/articles/eternal.php>  
(Church of Christ).

21. ASHLEY S. JOHNSON: "Does the doctrine of endless punishment harmonize with the fundamental principles underlying God's government that the hopelessly wicked, the incorrigibly wicked, shall be blotted out? Trace his dealings with the nations through the centuries. On this principle he destroyed the antediluvians (Gen. 5:1-7; 7:1-24). Also Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen., 18:20,21). Also Korah and his rebels (Num., 16:31-33). Also he made provision for the utter destruction of idolaters (Deut., 12:13-18). Also the Egyptians (Ex., 14:1-31). Also Babylon (Isa., 13:19-220. Moses predicted the destruction of the incorrigible (Deut., 18:18, 19). So did Peter (Acts, 3:22,23). John had a vision of the day (Rev., 3:13-21). Why should this be God's method of getting rid of the wicked all through history if he is to suddenly change it at the judgment day, and consign all his sinful creatures to torment and punish that all alike and that without end? I cannot answer. Can you?" Founder and president of the Johnson Bible College, "The Resurrection And The Future Life," Page 432-433, 1913, Knoxville Lithographing Company, (Church of Christ).

22. DILLARD THURMAN, Brown Trail Church of Christ: "The hope and aspiration of many has been shifted from His coming again to receive His own, to an immediate immortality and heavenly bliss immediately at death! Jesus DID NOT promise



that!" Gospel Minutes, Volume 34, Number 5, February 1, 1985, (Church of Christ).

23. F. LaGARD SMITH: Teacher at David Lipscomb University, "If, as we are told at funerals, our loved ones are already in heaven with Jesus, what is the purpose of Christ's Coming and the Resurrection?" After Life, A Glimpse Of Eternity Beyond Death's Door. (church of Christ)

24. OREN ORAHOOD and many others in the restoration movement and after.

In the next few years look for this opposition to grow in the churches of Christ and the Christian Church.

### **THE VANISHING HELL**

Not only is the preaching of Hell vanishing from the preaching in many churches but it is also vanishing from many translations of the Bible.

### **TRANSLATIONS ARE GETTING AWAY FROM HELL**

The King James Version and the New King James Version ARE THE ONLY TWO OF THE MAJOR TRANSLATIONS THAT HAVE HELL IN THE OLD TESTAMENT. ALL OTHERS HAVE ABANDONED IT AS A BAD TRANSLATION. Hell is rapidly vanishing from the Bible. It has vanished from the Old Testament in most conservative translations. Moses or Abraham did not know about it. It has all but vanished from the New Testament in the conservative translations, and has vanished altogether in many. Even in the 31 times Hell is in the King James Version, in 12 of these, the New King James Version changed Hell in the King James Version to sheol (from 31 times to 19 times). Were the translators trying to ease away but were afraid to go to far?

**THE VANISHING HELL: WHY IS THE NUMBER OF TIMES HELL IS USED DECREASING? TRANSLATORS CANNOT AGREE ON HOW MANY TIMES TO MISTRANSLATE IT.**

NUMBER OF TIMES HELL IS USED IN	THE BIBLE	THE O.T.	THE N. T.
THE WYCLIFFE BIBLE	(1395) 83 TIMES	57 TIMES	26 TIMES
MILES COVERDALE BIBLE	(1535) 70 TIMES	50 TIMES	23 TIMES
THE BISHOP'S BIBLE	(1568) 59 TIMES	35 TIMES	24 TIMES
THE GENEVA BIBLE	(1587) 36 TIMES	16 TIMES	20 TIMES
THE ORIGINAL KING JAMES VERSION	(1611) 52 TIMES	30 TIMES	22 TIMES
KING JAMES VERSION	54 TIMES	31 TIMES	23 TIMES

THE KING JAMES VERSION HAS HAD SEVERAL REVERSIONS AND THE ONE THAT IS USED TODAY IS NOT THE ORIGINAL 1611 VERSION; IT IS THE LAST OF SEVERAL REVISIONS.

WESTSTER BIBLE	(1611)	49 TIMES	26 TIMES	23 TIMES
NEW KING JAMES VERSION	(1982)	32 TIMES	19 TIMES	13 TIMES
YOUNG'S LITERAL BIBLE	(1891)	0 TIMES	0 TIMES	0 TIMES
AMERICAN STANDARD VERSION	(1901)	13 TIMES	0 TIMES	13 TIMES
NEW AMERICAN STANDARD VERSION	(1960)	13 TIMES	0 TIMES	13 TIMES
REVISED STANDARD VERSION	(1946)	13 TIMES	0 TIMES	13 TIMES
DERBY TRANSLATION	(1890-1961)	12 TIMES	0 TIMES	12 TIMES
NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION	(1987)	14 TIMES	0 TIMES	14 TIMES
AMPLIFIED BIBLE	(1987)	15 TIMES	0 TIMES	15 TIMES*
NEW CENTURY VERSION	(1987)	12 TIMES	0 TIMES	12 TIMES
NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION	(1989)	13 TIMES	0 TIMES	13 TIMES
REVISED ENGLISH BIBLE	(1989)	28 TIMES	15 TIMES	13 TIMES
CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH VERSION	(1995)	20 TIMES	0 TIMES	20 TIMES
NEW LIVING TRANSLATION	(1996)	19 TIMES	2 TIMES	17 TIMES
ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION	(2001)	14 TIMES	0 TIMES	14 TIMES
NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION - UK		14 TIMES	0 TIMES	14 TIMES
TODAY'S NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION		13 TIMES	0 TIMES	13 TIMES
HOLMAN CHRISTIAN STANDARD BIBLE(2003)		11 TIMES	0 TIMES	11 TIMES
UPDATE BIBLE VERSION 1 9	(2003)	12 TIMES	0 TIMES	12 TIMES
PESHITTA - LAMSA TRANSLATION		12 TIMES	1 TIME	11 TIMES
ROTHERHAM EMPHASIZED	(1902)	0 TIMES	0 TIMES	0 TIMES
FENTON'S BIBLE IN MODERN ENGLISH	(1903)	0 TIMES	0 TIMES	0 TIMES
NEW AMERICAN BIBLE (CATHOLIC)	(1991)	0 TIMES	0 TIMES	0 TIMES
WORLD ENGLISH BIBLE (CATHOLIC)		0 TIMES	0 TIMES	0 TIMES
HEBREW NAMES VERSION OF WEB		0 TIMES	0 TIMES	0 TIMES
DANIEL MACE NEW TESTAMENT	(1729)		3 TIMES	
WESLEY' N T (THE ORIGINAL, NOT SOME UPDATED EDITIONS)	(1755)		0 TIMES	
SCARLETT'S NEW TESTAMENT	(1798)		0 TIMES	
THE NEW TESTAMENT IN GREEK AND ENGLISH (KNEELAND)	(1823)		0 TIMES	
NEW COVENANT, NEW TESTAMENT	(1884)		0 TIMES	
SCRIVENRE NEW TESTAMENT	(1884)		0 TIMES	
HANSON'S NEW COVENANT	(1884)		0 TIMES	
TWENTIETH CENTURY NEW TESTAMENT	(1900)		0 TIMES	
ROTHERHAM'S EMPHASIZED BIBLE (REPRINTED)	(1902)		0 TIMES	
FENTON'S HOLY BIBLE IN MODERN ENGLISH	(1903)		0 TIMES	
WEYMOUTH'S NEW TESTAMENT IN MODERN SPEECH	(1903)		0 TIMES	
PANIN'S NUMERIC ENGLISH NEW TESTAMENT	(1914)		0 TIMES	
THE PEOPLE'S NEW COVENANT (OVERBURY)	(1925)		0 TIMES	
WESTERN NEW TESTAMENT	(1926)		0 TIMES	
THE NEW TESTAMENT, A TRANSLATION (CLEMANTSON)	(1938)		0 TIMES	
J B PHILLIPS NEW TESTAMENT IN MODERN ENGLISH	(1947)		1 TIMES	
NEW TESTAMENT OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR ANOINTED(TOMANEK)	(1958)		0 TIMES	
WESTERN NEW TESTAMENT	(1959)		0 TIMES	
RESTORATION OF ORIGINAL SACRED NAME BIBLE	(1976)		0 TIMES	
THE NEW TESTAMENT, A NEW TRANSLATION (GREBER)	(1980)		0 TIMES	
CONCORDANCE LITERAL NEW TESTAMENT	(1983)		0 TIMES	
CHRISTIAN BIBLE, NEW TESTAMENT	(1991)		0 TIMES	
RECOVERY VERSION, NEW TESTAMENT	(1991)		0 TIMES	
NEW TESTAMENT OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS ANOINTED			0 TIMES	
THE ORIGINAL BIBLE PROJECT (DR TABOR)			0 TIMES	
INTERLINEAR GREEK-ENGLISH NEW TESTAMENT(NOTE A)(BERRY)	(1897)		0 TIMES	
EMPHATIC DIAGLOTT, GREEK/ENGLISH INTERLINEAR (WILSON)	(1942)		0 TIMES	
ZONDERVAN PARALLEL N T IN GREEK AND ENGLISH (NOTE A)	(1975)		0 TIMES	
NASB-NIV PARALLEL N T IN GREEK AND ENGLISH(MARSHALL)	(1986)		0 TIMES	
INTERLINEAR NASB-NIV PARALLEL NT GREEK-ENGLISH(NOTE A)	(1993)		0 TIMES	
JEWISH PUBLICATION SOCIETY BIBLE OLD TESTAMENT(NOTE B)	(1917)		0 TIMES	
TANAKH, THE HOLY SCRIPTURES, OLD TESTAMENT (NOTE B)	(1985)		0 TIMES	
THE COMPLETE JEWISH BIBLE (NOTE B)			0 TIMES	
THE SEPTUAGINT-TRANSLATION OF HEBREW TO GREEK 3RD CENTURY BC			0 TIMES	

\*12 times the Amplified Bible has "*Hell (Gehenna)*" in the text, not in a footnote.

Note A. The word-for-word translations beneath the Greek, not the translations in the margin.

Note B. All Jewish translations I found of the Old Testament do not have "Hell" in them. It is not in the Septuagint, a

translation of the Old Testament from Hebrew to Greek that was in used in the time of Christ.

I find it strange that the Catholic Church believes in Hell, but they removed Hell from two translations they made.

I have been told that there is a NWT translation by the Jehovah's Witnesses that do not have "Hell" in it, but I could not confirm this. I am sure there are many others that I do not know about in English, and there are many in other languages for Gehenna, like all other proper nouns, is seldom translated or changed to another proper noun in the translations in other languages.

ONE EXAMPLE OF THE VANISHING HELL Psalms 116:3.

- *"The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of **HELL** gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow."* King James Version.
- *"The pains of death encompassed me, and the pangs of **SHEOL** laid hold of me"* New King James Version.
- *"The cord of death compassed me, and the pains of **SHEOL** gat hole upon me"* American Standard Version.
- *"The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of **SHEOL** laid hold on me"* Revised Standard Version.
- *"The cords of death entangled me, the anguish of the **GRAVE** came upon me"* New International Version.
- *"Death had its hands around my throat; the terrors of the **GRAVE** overtook me"* New Living Translation.
- *"The cords of death bound me, **SHEOL** held me in its grip"* Revised English Bible.
- *"The cords and sorrows of death were around me, and the terrors of **SHEOL** [the place of the dead] had laid hold of me"* Amplified Bible.
- *"The ropes of death bound me, and the fear of the **GRAVE** took hold of me"* New Century Bible.

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU HEARD A SERMON OF HELL? There was a time when most every revival had one or more sermons on the horrors of the Hell that most were going to. Most every sermon ended with a warning that all that did not repent was going to Hell. Jonathan Edwards was well known for his "Hell-fire" sermons. These "Hellfire" preachers are not as poplar as they once were and their audience is much

smaller. Today in most churches a sermon on Hell is never preached and no one is told he or she will go to Hell if they do not repent. Although there are many who do not believe in Hell and other that are no longer sure that there is a Hell why do many say nothing about it in their sermons and Bible lessons?

- A preacher may think he would not be allowed to preach and most would not. Many churches would brand him a heretic and he would not be able to preach in most churches.
- Elders and Deacons would not be allowed to continue as Elders and Deacons.
- Bible teachers would not be permitted to teach.
- Members would not be permitted to lead singing, lead prayer, or do anything in the worship service.

About all that anyone who does not believe in Hell is permitted to do in most churches is come and sit and give their money; you will be shut out and not be permitted to lead prayer or take part in the worship in any way but no matter what you believe you will be permitted and even expected to give your money. Along with many others I can tell you for a fact that this is sure to happen in most congregations of the church.

### **THE CHANGING HELL**

Why are there many conflicting Hells? In “Four Views of Hell” William Grocket gives four different and conflicting views of Hell by four top of the line orthodox Protestant scholars that are now being taught in the Protestant churches. In “Two Views Of Hell” Robert A. Peterson and William Fudge give two competing views. These two books show that there are very different competing views about Hell in the Protestant churches, but in true there are many more than four very different conflicting views in Protestant and Catholic churches, all with a large number of believers, and many more views in other churches. ANY VIEW A PERSON MAY HAVE, ALL THAT BELIEVE THE SAME VIEW IS IN A SMALL GROUP WHEN COMPARED WITH ALL THAT ARE IN ALL OTHER GROUP. NOT ONE OF THE MANY VIEWS OF HELL HAS EVEN ONE-FIFTH OF ALL THOSE THAT CLAIM TO BELIEVE THE BIBLE. The divisions on what Hell is and who will be in it is unbelievable, and most

who say they believe in Hell has no idea of the vast number of the visions of Hell, or the unbelievable differences in what Hell is believed to be, how long it will last, who will be in it, and where it will be.

Did you know there are over 21 different Hells that are commonly believed by many? While some have some features that are similar they are all difference and have sharp disagreements. Those that believe one version of Hell are in conflict with those that believe any of the others.

### **TWENTY-FOUR PLUS VERSIONS OF HELL**

#### **SOME OF THE MANY DIVISIONS OF THE PROTESTANT VERSIONS OF HELL**

1. The Calvin Version of Hell
2. The Jonathan Edwards version
3. The Graphic view of Hell
4. Satan doing the tormenting
5. God doing the tormenting
6. The Metaphorical view of both Heaven and Hell
7. Mental anguish only Hell - Billy Graham
8. C. S Lewis - the almost pleasant Hell
9. Protestant Traditionalist
10. Many Protestant Premillennial versions
11. Realized Eschatology - A. D. 70 version
12. Protestant Rephaim version

#### **EIGHT OTHER VERSIONS OF HELL**

1. Church of Christ, Christian Church Abraham's bosom after Judgment Hell, A newer version
2. Edward Fudge version: The short Hell
3. Christadelphians version
4. Church of God and others
5. Universalist version of Hell
6. Seventh-Day Advent version
7. Latter-day Saints version [Mormons]
8. The Grave is Hell version [Jehovah's Witnesses]

#### **THREE CATHOLIC VERSIONS OF HELL**

1. The Dark Age Catholic version of Hell
2. The New Catholic version of Hell

### 3. Nether World

#### **NO BIBLE HELL**

WHICH HELL DO YOU BELIEVE IN?

FROM WHERE DID HELL COME?

How Hell was put into and is being kept in the Bible

#### **MORE THAN THIRTEEN PROTESTANT VERSION OF HELL**

#### **SOME OF THE MANY DIVISIONS OF THE PROTESTANT VERSIONS OF HELL.**

After much conflict among the reformers, most Protestants accepted much of the early Catholic version of going to Heaven or Hell one by one at death, before and without the judgment or the Resurrection, but without Purgatory. Unconditional immortality, which is the foundation on which Hell stands, was accepted mostly due to Calvin and those that followed him winning out over Martin Luther and his followers. If they had accepted Luther's views on immortality, there would be no foundation for Hell. Many Protestants believe the soul of all who do not accept Christ will instantly be transported to Hell at the death of the body before the resurrection and judgment day. God deliberately chooses to make them suffer and feel the pain without any letup forever. The saved will go to their eternal home in Heaven at death [an instant rapture]. The Westminster Confession says, "The souls of the righteous...are received unto the highest heavens...the soul of the wicked are cast into Hell." Does God judge them at death, then maybe thousands of years later, takes them out of Heaven and Hell to rejudge them at the resurrection to see whether He made a mistake? Many believe an unbaptized baby will not be saved. This version is still believed by many today, even by many that say they are looking for the rapture; but an opposition to belief in Hell is rapidly growing in the Protestant churches. From the Protestant Reformation unto now there have been many changes and new Protestant versions of Hell.

**[1] THE CALVIN VERSION OF HELL:** The given no chance Hell. An extension of the early Protestant Version, but with a god that made most of mankind knowing he is going to

torment them in Hell forever, and there is nothing they can do to keep from going to Hell. This god made them just so he could torment them forever as their creed says, "to His good pleasure." No amount of preaching or teaching can change the number that shall be in this Hell not even by one person. The Westminster Confession says, "By the decree of God, for the Manifestation of His glory, some men and angels are predestinated unto Everlasting Life, and others foreordained unto everlasting death." Some Protestants still believe this version of Hell that their god made most of mankind just so he could torment them for eternity but it is not near as popular as it was a few years ago. Those who say they are orthodox Protestants who do not believe the Calvin Version of Hell may far outnumber those who do.

**[2] THE JONATHAN EDWARDS VERSION OF HELL:** Also, an extension of the early Protestant Version and there was a time when most Protestants believed this view of Hell but now only a few believe it. There are about as many variations of this version as there are preachers who preach it. Most taught God had given Hell over to Satan and Satan will roast most of mankind forever and torment them however he wishes to. Some have demons peeling off the burning flesh of those in Hell with God making sure they keep it up forever. Some have God doing the tormenting of Satan, the demons, and man, with God forever pouring in fire and brimstone, and thousands of other ways of tormenting with each preacher trying to outdo the others in telling of the horrors of Hell. Each one trying to make the god of Hell more evil than the others have. Jonathan Edwards said God "will crush their blood out and make it fly, so that it will sprinkle his garment and stain all his raiment." They never tell how they know such details. Put all their horrors together and it would take many books to tell them all. Some of them get very specific with the details of the torment. These "Hellfire" preachers are not as popular as they once were and their audience is much smaller. It is unimportant to them if they have no Bible for their Hell or its horrors; the badly mistranslated King James Version is all they need to make their Hell believable to many with whatever kind of torment they want to put in it. Some believers of the Calvin version also

believe this version and mix the two together. There is not much unity of belief among the Protestants. Today, in almost any church if the preacher started preached sermons about Hell that was like the one's Edwards preached he would be out of work very soon.

This version of Hell makes there be something like two kingdoms or two universes after the judgment with Satan over one with most of mankind and God over a few. Both God and Satan would have eternal power in their kingdom and the division between them, between Heaven and Hell would mean God would not ever have a victory over evil. The god Edward believed in would have no problem with tormenting the lost, he would love it.

**[3] THE GRAPHIC VERSION OF HELL:** The sinners will be tormented in the parts of their bodies that sinned.

"In short, whatever member of the body sinned, that member would be punished more than any other in hell...In Christian literature we find blasphemers hanging by their tongues. Adulterous women who plaited their hair to entice men dangle over boiling mire by their...hair." William Crockett, "Four Views on Hell" Page 46.

**[4] SATAN WILL BE DOING THE TORMENTING VERSION OF HELL:** Satan and his angels will be doing the tormenting, but they could only be executing the will of God that the lost be tormented for they could not torment the lost without God letting them. This view was believed by most in the Dark Age and by most Jonathan Edwards preachers who often speak of "the devil Hell" as though Hell was a place that belonged to Satan. Most Protestants have now abandon the view of Satan and his demons doing the tormenting, but I remember that this was believed by most when I was a child and was what most Protestants believed at that time. Many painting in museums and churches show Satan and his demons roasting those in Hell and tormenting them in every way the painter could think up. SATAN AND HIS ANGELS ARE NEVER PUNISHED. In this version of Hell Satan and evil spirits are forever over "Hell" and will forever be able to torment most of mankind. Instead of being punished, they will have forever



triumphed over God and will forever have a kingdom of their own where they will work their evil on mankind as they please to and as it gives them pleasure.

**[5] GOD WILL BE DOING THE TORMENTING VERSION OF HELL:** Satan and his angels will be tormented by God just as all the lost of mankind will. There has been a major change by many Protestants from Satan to God doing the tormenting.

**[6] THE METAPHORICAL VIEW OF BOTH HEAVEN AND HELL:** We are not told what Heaven and Hell will literally be like. We are told in pictures that tell us Heaven will be a place of beauty more than anything on this earth and that Hell will be worse than anything on this earth. Because we cannot understand what Heaven will really be like, we are given the picture of a city with gold streets and pearl gates to picture for us its great beauty and value, but it will not literally be made of gold, pearls, or of anything that we have on this earth. The metaphorical view of Hell is pictured as a place of fire, but it will not literally have fire as we know it, or darkness as we know it. In this view none of the literal torments of the Jonathan Edwards Version are possible for they are all things of this earth that will not be in Hell. This version of "Hell" seems to be growing rapidly for it is looked on as a way to make God less evil, but in fact it does not for whatever would be symbolized by being tormented by eternal fire would be just as bad as being eternally tormented by literal fire.

**[7] BILLY GRAHAM'S MENTAL ANGUISH VERSION OF HELL:** Hell is only a state of mind. In "The World To Come" Page 300, Isaac Watts makes the worm be the conscience of a person eating on himself for all eternally. A survey by US News, January 2000, Page 47, says 53 percent of Americans believe Hell to be only mental anguish. This is an attempt by some to lessen the negative effect of Hell making God cruel and sadistic, but the attempt is a complete failure. Replacing physical torment with mental anguish does nothing to change Hell by making the torment be less. Mental anguish can be worse than physical pain, and it would still be torment without end, and would still be God doing the tormenting. Billy Graham, who is an orthodox Protestant, would in no way been called orthodox by Calvin or Jonathan Edwards, nor would

many others that believe Hell is only mental anguish as he does. The old orthodox is some times the very opposite of the new orthodox. **In the mental anguish version of Hell for sins after death, the sinner punishes himself after death; it is not God that punishes him.**

Alexander Campbell said, "The sinner's suffering by mental agony, produced by sin, greater than could be caused by material fire." "Five discourses on Hell" 1848. Then he says, "We do not maintain that men are punished eternally for sins committed in this life only. The analysis of the sufferings of a future retribution, which we have just given, is itself sufficient evidence of this fact; for the indulgence of voluntary depravity is itself both sin and punishment. As a consequence of past sins, the sinner has formed the habit of sinning. It is a law of man's nature, that habit creates both a tendency to certain acts, and a facility in their performance. As the result of the habit of sinning, formed in this life, a tendency to repeat acts of sin is carried on the sinner into a future world; and every such act repeated in that world not only perpetuates, but increases the tendency to further acts of the same kind: and thus, as by every repeated act the tendency to sin is increased, and as every act also brings with it its own punishment, so, by the laws of man's mental and moral nature, the sinner's progress in both sin and suffering in a future world, is like that of a falling body, which increases its velocity as the square of the distance increase through which it falls. There is, therefore, just as little probability that a sinner, left to himself in a future world, should repent and turn to God, as that a falling body should arrest itself in its downward course, and ascend to the elevation from which it fell...surely the assumption that our doctrine supposes that God punishes sinners eternally for sins committed in this brief and frail life is wholly gratuitous." Alexander Campbell, "Five discourses on Hell," Page 65, April 9, 1848, Daniel Davies Publisher. Not many members of the Christian Church and the church of Christ any longer

believe as Alexander Campbell but some Protestants still do.

**[8] C. S. LEWIS'S THE ALMOST PLEASANT HELL** In Great Divorce C. S. Lewis pictures Hell as not black but only a little gray almost pleasant place where those in it can take bus trips into Heaven for the day and return to Hell. See "The Destruction Of the Finally Impenitent" by Clark H. Pinnock at [http://www.abccoggc.org/jrad/volume2/issue1/jrad\\_v02.1\\_art2.htm](http://www.abccoggc.org/jrad/volume2/issue1/jrad_v02.1_art2.htm)

**[9] PROTESTANT TRADITIONALIST VERSIONS OF HELL:** Most who say they are orthodox and traditionalist believes the lost will be kept alive with some kind of punishment, but beyond this there is little agreement among them. Some believe much as did Jonathan Edwards and Calvin that there will be torment beyond anything that we can now know of and others who utterly repudiate both Calvin's and Edward's Hell and only believe that there will be some kind of eternal punishment, but it may be nothing more then a little mental anguish or just being deprived of all good. Others are at all points between the two even when they are in the same denomination. From the top (the Calvin version) to its bottom (eternity existing but being deprived of all good, to forever lose everything that is good), in those who call themselves "traditionalists" there are a wide range of views; yet, they all say they are orthodox and traditionalist! Orthodox is a big blanket and growing bigger all the time. Even so, few if any who are orthodox and traditionalist believe the same and there is a world of difference in what is orthodox in the Protestants churches. Many who say they are orthodox do not believe in once saved always saved, infant baptism, Augustine's view on predestination, the millennium, and countless other differences in what is traditional and orthodox. Although they cannot agree among themselves over what is traditional, they attack all who do not believe in one of their many versions of "Hell" for not being orthodox or traditional and nonetheless accept many as being orthodox who believes in an entirely different "Hell" and even accept Premillennial which has many who do not believe in any version of Hell, or believe that Hell will be on this earth and will last for only a short time.

## **[10] PROTESTANT PREMILLENNIAL VERSIONS OF HELL:**

From all the information I can find there are many more Protestants who believe in some form of Premillennialism than not. Premillennial variations found in the Protestants churches are pre-tribulation, mid-tribulation, post-tribulation, partial-rapture, many mini-raptures, already past rapture, the tribulation period, historic Premillennialism, Post Millennialist, Dispensationalist, and many more. Most Premillennial versions of Hell are somewhat similar to either the Seventh-Day Advent Version of Hell or the Church of God Version of Hell. See "Seventh-Day Advent Version of Hell" and "Church of God (and others) Version of Hell" below. Many of the Premillennial versions of Hell are far from being what is thought of as being orthodox, but most all Premillennialists are thought of as being Protestant, orthodox and traditional.

### **Unorthodox In Orthodox Churches**

It may come as a surprise to many that those who say they are orthodox Protestant but do not believe in Hell as a place of eternal torment that **there are more who say that are orthodox Protestants who do believe Hell to be eternal torment than there are orthodox Protestants who do believe Hell to be a place of eternal torment.** When US New says 53 percent of Americans believes Hell to be only mental anguish, most of that 53 percent are orthodox Protestant and this 53 percent is in addition to the many Protestant Premillennialists who do not believe Hell to be a place of eternal torment. When some say that is only Jehovah's Witnesses teaching, they seem to be blind to the fact that this is the teaching by far more than half of the orthodox Protestants and the number of orthodox Protestants that do not believe in the Jonathan Edwards or Calvin versions of Hell is by far greater then the number of Jehovah's Witnesses who do not believe in Hell. Much of what is accepted as orthodox today would have been called heresy 200 years ago by most all Protestant Churches. It does not matter what any groups believe or what is accepted as orthodox but what the Bible says for the Bible is the only authority.

It came as a surprise to me, as I am sure it will be to many, that many orthodox Protestants plus a great many who may

not be called orthodox, believe none of the saved will go to Heaven, but will live on this earth for eternity. Many Protestant Premillennialists believe this. It may also come as a surprise to many that those who say they are orthodox Protestant but do not believe Christ to be God but is a created being that did not exist before His birth. Many believe Him to be a chosen one by God and that He is now in Heaven but will come back to earth, set up the kingdom of God in Jerusalem and will rule the kingdom which will always be on this earth. It seems to be OK to not believe in Christ as being equal with God but not OK not to believe God to be crueller than any other being and will torment most forever.

**[11] REALIZED ESCHATOLOGY - THE A. D. 70 VERSION OF HELL:** I have found it difficult to pen down just what they believe. According to Samuel G. Dawson in "Jesus' Teaching On Hell." Hell is something the Catholic Church invented to scare people into obedience. They seem to believe that death is the end of those who are not faithful, for them there will never be a resurrection. The second coming of Jesus was in A. D. 70, the resurrection day was also in A. D. 70 when the Old Testament Saints were resurrected, no judgment day to come, no day that the earth will end. All the Old Testament faithful was resurrected in A. D. 70 which they believe to have been the second coming of Christ and after that time each person judgment day, the second death of the lost and the resurrection to eternal life is at the moment of death. This seems to be their general teaching, but I am sure that are many variations within Realized Eschatology.

**[12] REPHAIM VERSION OF HELL - ONE OF THE PROTESTANT VERSIONS OF HELL:** A version of Hell that is Protestant, but in no way can it be called orthodox or traditional although most who believe it call themselves both orthodox and traditional. God, angels, and man (after death) are disembodied energy being capable of thought and speech without the need of a body. This version of Hell is Protestant; as far as I have been able to find no one teaches it but those who are called orthodox Protestants, but it cannot be called traditional or orthodox. Rephaim is in the Hebrew Old Testament eight times and is translated dead seven times and

deceased one time in the King James Version; it is defined in some Lexicons as "departed spirits," "shades," "shadows," "ghosts," "name of the dead in sheol."

FIVE OF THE EIGHT ARE IN THE POETICAL BOOKS.

1. Job 26:5-6 *"They that are deceased (rephaim) tremble beneath the waters and the inhabitants thereof. Sheol is naked before God, and Abaddon ("Destruction" New International Version) has no covering."*
2. Psalms 88:10-12 *"Will you show wonders to the dead (rephaim)? Shall they that are deceased arise and praise you? Shall your loving kindness be declared in the grave? Or your faithfulness in destruction?"*
3. Proverbs 2:18-19 *"For her ("adulteress" New American Standard Version) house sinks down to death, and her tracks lead to the dead; (rephaim) none who go to her return again, neither do they reach the paths of life."*
4. Proverbs 9:18-19 *"But he knows not that the dead (rephaim) are there; that her (the foolish woman or adulteress) guests are in the depths of Sheol."*
5. Proverbs 21:16 *"The man that wandered out of the way of understanding shall rest in the assembly of the dead (rephaim)."*

All five refer to the lost and speak of their death, deceased, destruction, dead, not attaining unto the paths of life, resting with the dead. The dead are simply spoken of as being dead. Nothing is said about them being alive some other place, nothing about a soul or a spirit that lives after the death of the body. THERE IS NOTHING IN ANY OF THE FIVE PASSAGES ABOVE THAT SAY ANYTHING ABOUT ANYONE BEING ALIVE IN HEAVEN, HELL, OR ABRAHAM'S BOSOM AT ANY TIME, NOT BEFORE OR AFTER THE JUDGMENT, BUT THEY ARE AN UNDENIBLE CONDICTION TO THE ORTHEDEX DOCTRINE OF GOING TO HEAVEN OR HELL AT DEATH.

THREE OF THE EIGHT ARE IN ISAIAH

This is a book of many symbols, much like Revelation

(1) Isaiah 14:9-11 *"Sheol from beneath is moved for you to meet you at your coming: it rises up the dead (rephaim) for you, even all the chief ones of the earth; it has raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations. All they shall answer and*

*say unto you, Have you also become weak as we: have you become like unto us? Your pomp is brought down to Sheol, and the noise of your viols: the worm is spread under you, and worms cover you.*" This is a description of the fall of Babylon and has nothing to do with a part of a person after death. In this metaphor the past dead nations, nations that no longer existed were surprised to see a nation as strong as Babylon joining them. If the dead were alive, why would the dead in sheol be surprised to see another person join them when all that die would join them? It would make no sense if they were surprised to see anyone joining them. Even the trees join in with the dead nations and talk [14:8]. Only in a metaphor can past nations that are dead, that no longer exist, and trees talk [Isaiah 14:8].

In this passage Rephaim (one word) is translated:

- *"The dead"* (two words) in both the King James and the New King James
- *"The spirits of the dead"* (five words from one word) in the New American Standard even though "ruach" (spirit) is not in the Hebrew they added it
- *"The spirits of the departed"* (five words from one word) in the New International Version. It also added spirits even though it is not in the Hebrew
- *"The ancient dead"* (three words from one word) in the Revised English Bible even though there is not a word in the Hebrew in this passage that is even remotely kin to "ancient"

(2) Isaiah 26:14 *"They [the Nations] are dead (rephaim), they shall not live; they are deceased, they shall not rise; therefore have you visited and destroyed them, and made all remembrance of them to perish."* This is about nations that did not remember God. It has nothing to do with an "immaterial, invisible part of man" after death. It is hard to believe this passage is used to prove that a person has an immortal immaterial, invisible part of a person for if it were speaking of this part of a person then that part of a person is dead, deceased, shall not rise (no resurrection), and all remembrance of them has been made to perish. If this were an immortal soul, it would be nothing like the immoral soul of today's

theology, it would teach there is no life or resurrection after death but some use this passage anyway to prove that there is life for all after death in either Heaven or Hell.

(3) Isaiah 26:19 "*Your dead shall live; my dead bodies shall arise. Awake and sing, you that dwell in the dust; for your dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast forth the dead (rephaim).*" The nation that was dead, they were not a nation but slaves in bondage to another nation because they had left God, now they had repented and was being restored as a nation.

WHAT DO MANY BELIEVE? These passages are used to prove all the dead, both the good and the evil souls are NOW "*rephaim.*" Many who believe the dead go immediately to Heaven or Hell at death use it although it would make the dead not be in Heaven or Hell, as they believe the immaterial, invisible part of a person will be after death.

1. The Protestant version is that the dead are now in Heaven or Hell.
2. The after judgment version is that the dead are now in hades with some on the good side of hades and some on the bad side, but they use these passages and have the dead being in three places simultaneously.
3. The rephaim version is that both the good and the bad are together and exist only as shades or shadows not in Heaven or Hell. Yet, those who believe the Protestant version or the newer after judgment version of Hell sometimes use "*rephaim*" to prove "Hell" even though it would put all the dead together and not where they believe them to be, AND DEFINITELY NOTHING LIKE THE IMMORTAL SOUL OF TODAY'S THEOLOGY. The attack on Hell that is coming from many in most all churches is forcing them to take views not many Christians believe. It seems to be used only by those who are trying to prove a person has an immortal soul but are hard pushed to find any passage to prove it.

Which way do they go? "*Rephaim*" is used in both the Protestant and the after judgment versions of Hell in a way that does not agree with what they believe and teach; both believe that the saved will be in their eternal home with Christ



in Heaven at death or comforted in Abraham's bosom; but both step away from their belief and say at death both the saved and unsaved are together, and both have only a weak shadowy existence and will have this shadowy existence unto the resurrection. Even if we did grant that rephaim is the "*immaterial, invisible part of man*" after death, it would contradict their beliefs about the "soul" being in Heaven, Hell, or Abraham's bosom. It makes all the dead be "shades" "shadows." Anyway you look at it, the eight times rephaim is used does more to refute the belief of going to Heaven or Abraham's bosom at death than it does to support them. Are they so desperately in need of proof that a person has an immaterial, invisible part that can never die that they reach for anything even if it is far from what they believe and want to find?

Robert Morey, an orthodox Protestant, has written one of the most accepted and used books in defense of the doctrine of Hell that has come out in recent years. In his book he makes an argument for Hell which I think shows just how desperate he is for any kind of proof. In "Death And The Afterlife," On page 79 he said FROM THE MEANING OF REPHAIM, WHEN THE BODY DIES, MAN ENTERS A NEW KIND OF EXISTENCE. HE THEN WILL EXIST AS A SPIRIT CREATURE AND EXPERIENCES WHAT ANGELS AND OTHER SPIRITS EXPERIENCE. JUST AS ANGELS ARE DISINCARNATE ENERGY BEINGS AND ARE COMPOSED ONLY OF MIND OR MENTAL ENERGY AND ARE CAPABLE OF THOUGHT AND SPEECH WITHOUT THE NEED OF AN EARTHLY BODY, WHEN MAN DIES, HE BECOMES A DISEMBODIED ENERGY BEING AND IS CAPABLE OF THOUGHT AND SPEECH WITHOUT THE NEED OF A BODY. **This is nothing more than a desperate attempt to prove that the "*immaterial, invisible part of man*" has some kind of life somewhere before and without the resurrection.** NOT A ONE OF THE EIGHT PASSAGES WHERE REPHAIM IS USED IN SAYS ANYTHING ABOUT A REPHAIM BEING LIKE GOD AND ANGELS. He must have made that up out of thin air and hoped you would not see it is not in any of the eight passages. I wonder if he sees how low he is making God if God were like the rephaim

in the eight passages? That he is making God be only "shades," "shadows," "ghosts," "name of the dead in sheol."

1. HE HAS MADE GOD BE NOTHING MORE THAN AN "ENERGY BEING," NOTHING MORE THAN MENTAL THOUGHTS WITH NO SUBSTANCE. He has made God, angels, and mankind after the judgment to be nothing more than mental thoughts; although he did not mention God, he has reduced God to being nothing more than thoughts, an "energy being." Morey's God has no body, no substance of any kind; therefore, Morey's Heaven can exist only in the mind of God. It cannot be a real place.
2. HE HAS MADE GOD WEAK. He has made, man and angels be disembodied energy being capable of thought and speech without the need of body and they are described as "*Are you also become weak as we: have you become like unto us?*" "*God is a Spirit*" [John 4:24]; he has spirits without bodies described as weak and being nothing more than mental thoughts, which according to him would include God being described as weak and being nothing more than mental thoughts. Is his God just weak mental thoughts; is that what your God is like?
3. HE HAS MADE THE ONLY DIFFERENCE IN A PERSON AFTER DEATH AND GOD TO BE ONLY A DIFFERENCE IN INTELLIGENCE. Both are nothing but mind. Thomas Jefferson in a letter to John Adams in 1820 said, "To say that God, angels, and the human soul, are immaterial, is to say they are nothing. At what age of the church the heresy of immaterialism crept in, I do not know; but a heresy is certainly is--Jesus taught nothing of it."
4. HE HAS MADE GOD LIMITED: There is no way out for those who believe an immortal spirit is now within a person for this spirit could have no solid substance of any kind. If it did, then it could not now be inside of a person. God is spirit; therefore, according to Morey, God cannot have any substance, He must, then be only thoughts without a body. This has not entered the mind of most who believe a person now has an immortal spirit in him and if it did most would reject it, but their belief that an immortal spirit is now in a person, means a

person, God, and all heavenly being are nothing more than thoughts without a body. Robert Morey and others who try to prove a person has an immortal spirit in him has been pushed into this belief. The belief that a person has a dual nature dictates what they can believe about the nature of God. They believe the immortal spirit in a person cannot be seen for it has no substance, therefore, because God is spirit, then He can have no substance; He can be only a mind with no body.

5. He has developed Plato's doctrine that the body is a prison to the soul, which is set free by the death of the body, far beyond what Plato ever did. To put the soul (an "energy being" "mind") back in a body at the resurrection would be to put it back in a prison.
6. Also, Morey's Hell could only be mental anguish. There would be no body to torment. He has made it impossible for Hell to be anything more than mental pain. Only something in the mind of persons who are nothing but mind. None of the other "orthodox Protestant" version of Hell could be possible; therefore, what most Protestants have believed for centuries was wrong.
7. He has made Paul not know what he was talking about when he said, *"It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body...there is also a spiritual **body**"* (1 Corinthians 15:44). He cannot believe in the resurrection. How could he when he has made a person after death be composed only of "mind," just as he says the angels and God now are composed only of mind? There could not be a mortal that *"must put on immortality"* (1 Corinthians 15:54), for his "energy being" is just as it will always be, and like God and angels now are. There cannot be a resurrection of any kind of body, not one in the image of Adam or in the image of Christ. Not the earthly body or the new spiritual body for there will be nothing but "mind." There cannot be a resurrection of the "mind or mental energy" for at death this "mind or mental energy" will be just as it will always be; therefore, THERE COULD NOT BE ANY KIND OF RESURRECTION.

8. If the spiritual body that we will have is nothing but "mind," how is it that we do not now have the spiritual body? Do we not now have "mind"? Will the "mind" that we will have then, the spiritual body that we will put on at the resurrection [1 Corinthians 15:42-54], which according to Morey will be nothing but "mind," not be the same "mind" that we now have?

WHAT IS THEIR NO SUBSTANCE SOUL? What could it be if it has no substance? God made all things out of nothing. If the soul has no substance, it is still nothing. Are they saying God made nothing out of nothing? And this God who made nothing out of nothing is Himself nothing.

"The Hebrew rephaim denotes those who have 'sunk' to the unseen abode, descending into Hades as the sun goes down to a fiery death in the west; the rephaim are those who 'sank,' vanished, disappeared, passed away, departed. The best translation would be 'the departed.'" Paul Haupt "American Journal of Semitic Languages and Literature"

NOTE: I have tried to give the views of the majority in each in the above versions of Hell. In each of them, there are some individuals and/or small groups who believe in a variation of that believed by the majority.

### **EIGHT OTHER VERSIONS OF HELL**

**[1] Church of Christ, Christian Church, Abraham's bosom or the after judgment Hell, A newer version of Hell:** This version is based almost entirely on an interpretation of Luke 16:19-31 (see chapter eight, part two). Most members of the church of Christ, the Christian Church and some Protestants believe it although it is not generally accepted as being orthodox or traditional Protestant. In this version all who do not obey Christ will go to Hell, but not unto after the coming of Christ and the judgment; and no one goes to Heaven before the judgment [no instant rapture]. According to this version, at death all are taken to an intermediate holding place where the lost are tormented, and the saved are rewarded in a place sometimes called "Abraham's bosom." Instead of all being in Heaven and Hell unto the second coming of Christ, all are on

the good and bad side of hades from which Christ will take them out of hades at His coming and judge them a second time to see whether He made a mistake the first time and put them on the wrong side of hades. A baby who has not come to the age of accountability is not lost and will go to the good side of hades. After the judgment God will personally do the tormenting of all the lost for eternity, and Satan and his angels and all the lost will be tormented together.

This view has two places where God is going to torture the lost; in one side of hades that is a temporary place of torture and will last only unto the second coming of Christ, and "Hell" which will be a permanent place where God will torture most of mankind without end but no one is now in Heaven or Hell and will not be unto after the resurrection and judgment. This is the view was taught from the time I became a Christian and believed it a long time. I have many books and tracts in which well-known preachers and teachers, such as H. Leo Boles, E. M. Zerr, B. W. Johnson, J. W. McGarvey, and many others who teach this view; but lately it seems to be dying out in the church and is being replaced by going immediately to Heaven or Hell at death without the Resurrection or Judgment particularly at funerals where preachers often say the dead person are now in Heaven. Most all think of and speak of their loved ones as now being in Heaven or with Jesus, not in Abraham's bosom unto the judgment.

**[2] Edward Fudge version: The short Hell:** He uses the name Hell as if it was a Bible name, but thinks it will last for only a limited time and will end with the total destruction of those in it. He may have Hell, and the wrath and fury of God at the judgment confused. Roger Dickson believes the duration of Hell will fit the crime and then will end. It will be short for some and longer for other. He says, "After the stripes have been given, then the destruction occurs for which there is no reverse" Page 162ff, "Life, Death And Beyond." Is he renaming the Judgment Day and calling it "Hell?" If I understand him right, he thinks the lost will go to Hell, but the not so bad will not be tormented as long as the very bad. After the "punishment matches the crime," he says they will then be destroyed [Page 163]. (1) "*Shall be beaten with many stripes*"

[Luke 12:47]. This is used to prove there will be an end after the stripes. If this were after the judgment, "*Beaten with few stripes*" could not be as long as "*beaten with many stripes*," therefore, could not take forever. Some will be tormented longer than others, but the torment will end with death for all. (2) This short Hell is different from the Church of God short Hell in that it may not be on this earth, and there will be no second chance.

In the Bible God limited "*many stripes*" to 40 lashes [Deuteronomy 25:3; Luke 12:47; Acts 16:23; 2 Corinthians 11:24]. Yet, this "*many stripes*" is used by many to prove that God will forever give not 40 but stripes without end to those in Hell.

**[3] Christadelphians version of Hell:** Those who never heard the Gospel will never be raised. Death is the end of them. Only those who heard the Gospel will be raised at the second coming of Christ and judged to see whether they were faithful. The faithful will have eternal life on Earth, which will be restored to be like Eden before Adam sinned. The unfaithful of those who heard the Gospel and were raised will be annihilated by the second death.

**[4] Church of God version of Hell (and others):** Both Heaven and Hell will be on this earth. After the resurrection of earthly bodies on this restored earth, all will be given a second chance to accept Christ. Most will, but the few who will not accept Christ will suffer the second death. Their torment will end in death from which there will never be a resurrection. The saved will be raised and live on the earth restored to the way it was before Adam sinned with a body like Adam before he was put out of the garden. No one will ever be in Heaven. I have not been able to find how they think Adam's body was different before he was put out of the garden than it was after. Many Premillennialists who are in most Protestant churches believe this version of Hell or one that is very similar to it.

**[5] Universalist version of Hell, The "age lasting" Hell:** Hell will last for only an age; then all will be saved. Universalist calls it a time of "attitude adjustments," or "age-during correction." They do not see it as God torturing people in a literal lake or anything like that, they see it as simply as a time

when God will be correcting or teaching them further unto they are fit for His kingdom. All, even the most evil, will eventually end up in Heaven.

**[6] Seventh Day Advent version of Hell:** They believe that at the second coming of Christ the unrighteous will be kill, the righteous will be taken back to Heaven for a 1,000 years. During the 1,000 years only Satan and his angels will inhabit the earth. At the end of the 1,000 years Christ will return to earth with the saved and the unrighteous will be raised for judgment. Satan gathers his angels and will the help of the resurrected unrighteous attempt to interfere with the judgment, they will be destroyed. The judgment and destruction of the lost will take place on this earth. Their Hell will be on this earth and will last only unto those in it are burned too ashes, the second death. The saved will live forever with earthly bodies on a restored earth on which there will be no evil. No one will ever be in Heaven. Just as with the Christ of God version of Hell many Premillennialists who are in most Protestant churches believe this version of Hell. The number of those who are called Protestant but do not believe any of the orthodox Protestant versions of Hell is growing.

**[7] Latter-day Saints version of Hell [Mormons]:** They believe in three Heavens that they call Kingdoms, Celestial, Terrestrial, and Telestial Kingdoms. They believe in a Hell, but only a very few, the sons of perdition, will be in it forever. They are those that were once faithful Mormons but become apostates and left the Mormon Church. All will be raised from the dead. Except for the sons of perdition, most of those in Hell will in time pass out of it into the lowest Telestial Kingdom and will be there forever, even those who are not Mormons, but those who are not Mormons can go no higher then the lower Telestial Kingdom.

**[8] The grave is Hell version [Jehovah's Witnesses]:** The grave is Hell and all go to it at death. There is no knowledge or torment in this Hell, just sleep or death. Some from many different groups believe this version of Hell. They get support mostly from the older translations like the King James Version, and most who believe it think the newer translations that translate only Gehenna into Hell are wrong. They believe

Gehenna is a trash dump, not Hell. This Hell is going on now with all the dead in it, both the good and the bad are asleep in it and it will wake up at the Resurrection. All are unconscious and there is no torment of the wicked or reward of the righteous in "Hell" where all the dead, both the good and the bad now are. In this version, Hell will end at the resurrection and there will be no Hell after the resurrection and judgment.

The Jehovah's Witnesses believe that Hell is the "common grave of mankind" where people go when they die. They are not conscious there.

A. B. Robinson, September 1996 [A Jehovah's Witnesses].  
"We do not have the word 'hell' in the NWT. We translate gehenna as gehenna, hades as hades and sheol as sheol. By doing this we can get the true import of these words. Gehenna is a garbage dump and sheol and hades often refer to the grave. We believe everyone who dies goes to 'hell' or sheol [hades]. The dead are unconscious, asleep if you will [Ecc 9:5,19 and 1 Thes 4:13-16] and will remain such until they are resurrected. We also believe that 'hell' will be emptied, as is clearly stated in Rev 20:13. The persons who were in hell, both the righteous and the unrighteous [Acts 24:15] will be resurrected and judged. Those who are deserving of it will then be thrown into the lake of fire, the second death [Rev 20:14,15]."

Brian Holt in an E-mail to me. He said, "JW's do not have the word 'hell' in the NWT," then said everyone who dies goes to Hell.

In today's English Hell has come to mean a place of eternal torment after death, and to translate hades into Hell is an untrue translation. The grave is Hell was not the intentions of the translators who first put the word "Hell" into the Bible, the grave is Hell is not the way it would have been understood by English speaking people when it was first used by the translators or the way it is understood today.

I have been told that what I believe "is what Jehovah's Witnesses have been teaching for years." One person said to me, "You believe the same thing Jehovah's Witnesses believe. Why don't you join them and leave us alone?" ONE WRITER SAID, "A NEW STANDARD OF TRUTH HAS BEEN FOUND. IF THE



OCCULTS OR LIBERALS BELIEVE IT, THEN IT IS WRONG." The problem with this is (1) I do not believe as they do that the grave is Hell. (2) That most all denominations, whether they are occults, liberals, or whatever, teach many things that the Bible teaches and many that the Bible does not teach. Nothing is right or wrong because a denomination teaches it, not even right or wrong if the Jehovah's Witnesses denomination teaches it. It is right if the Bible teaches it or wrong if the Bible does not teach it. Catholic, Baptist, Jehovah's Witnesses, Church of God, and all others each teach many things that the Bible teaches and each one teaches many things that the Bible does not teach. Anything is right if the Bible teaches it even if the Jehovah's Witnesses teach it and wrong if the Bible does not teach it. JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES TEACH ADULTERY IS A SIN; IS IT WRONG TO TEACH THAT ADULTERY IS A SIN BECOUSE JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES TEACH IT TO BE? To say, "That is what the Jehovah's Witnesses teach," is said for the same reason the Baptist says, "That is water salvation" or "That is Campbellism." THEIR REAL PROBLEM IS NOT THAT ONE OF THE OCCULTS TEACH IT, BUT THAT THEY HAVE NO OTHER ANSWER AND KNOW THAT THEY CAN TURN MANY OFF JUST BY SAYING "THAT IS WHAT JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES TEACH" JUST AS THE BAPTIST DID WITH "THAT IS WATER SALVATION." The Moslem religion believes in eternal torment; can we say it is wrong because those who believe in eternal torment believe something the Moslems teach? No, it is wrong because the Bible does not teach it.

Why? What is the real reason they say that is Jehovah's Witnesses teaching? I think one reason is that they just do not want to deal with it. Do not want to take the time. Another reason is the same reason the Baptist call us "Campbellism" and say, "You believe in water salvation." They could not show that a person can be saved without baptism, therefore, they would say, "You believe in water salvation" for they know this would make others prejudice and not believe the Bible. Now the same thing is being done to anyone who does not believe in Hell by saying, "You are nothing but a Jehovah's Witnesses." EVEN THOUGH WHAT I BELIEVE IS FAR FROM WHAT THE JEHOVAH'S TEACH, they believe there is a Hell, but it is going

on now, and I do not believe the Bible says anything about any kind of Hell; not one that is going on now or one that will be at any time after death. The truth is that if Jehovah's Witnesses did believe as I do (they do not, but even if they did) as long as the Bible teaches it, I would not care if it were what they believed, but would say that it is great that they believe the Bible on that point, and would wish that they believed the Bible on all points. If you made two lists, one a list of things any denomination believes that is not in the Bible, and a list of things it believes that is in the Bible, both lists would be long. The persons who say "That is Jehovah's Witnesses teaching" believes many of the same things that would be on the list of things the Jehovah's Witnesses believes.

Some of the many things Jehovah's Witnesses teach that I do not believe.

1. Jesus was not the Son of God
2. The Millennium
3. Only 144,000 will go to Heaven
4. All the rest of the saved will live forever on this earth for all eternity
5. They don't believe in blood transfusions
6. Hell is the grave and all the dead are now in Hell. Unfortunately, it is not true that they do not believe in Hell but believe in a Hell that is now going on. The more there are that do not believe that God slandering teaching the better, but, they do believe in Hell, just not one of the many orthodox Protestant versions of Hell although many Premillennialists who are called orthodox Protestants believe as they do, that Hell is the grave. Unto the resurrection death is death, not any kind of life anyplace.

**IF "THAT IS WHAT JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES BELIEVES" MAKES ANYTHING WRONG, IT IS SUCH A BROAD ARGUMENT THAT THERE IS NOTHING IN THE BIBLE THAT IS NOT DESTROYED BY IT FOR THERE IS NO BIBLE TEACHING THAT IS NOT BELIEVED BY MANY FLASE RELIGIONS.**

PROBABLE ORIGIN OF THIS VERSION OF HELL. Sheol is translated Hell in the King James Version thirty-one times and grave thirty-one times. It puts all in Hell or the grave together,

both the good and the bad and it is a place that those in it know nothing, a place where they will be only unto the resurrection. If one believes the mistranslation of the King James Version, then he or she must believe the grave is Hell version of Hell for it is clearly taught in the Old Testament of the King James Version. The Jehovah's Witnesses and others who believe this version have all the proof they need in the mistranslations in the King James Version; I cannot see anyway that a person that believes the King James Version just as it is cannot believe in the same Hell that the Jehovah's Witnesses believes in, their Hell is clearly taught in it.

### **THREE CATHOLIC VERSIONS OF HELL**

**[1] The Medieval Dark Age Catholic version of Hell:** The soul being immortal came from Greek philosophy, and was brought into the church by some of the church fathers, by Augustine more than most others. The doctrine of Hell came soon after the immortal soul doctrine along with Purgatory, the sale of indulgences, Limbo, worship of Mary and saints, Nether World, Holy Water, the rosary, forbidding Priest to marry, the crucifix, Monks and Nuns, forbidding eating of meat on Friday, and many other teaching; and was fully developed by the Dark Age Catholic Church before the Protestant Reformation. I have found it difficult to pen down just what is the official teaching. It seems to be that in the past they believed that only a very few, the very bad, will go to Hell, which they believe is a real place, at their death with no judgment, but most will go to Purgatory at death. A few of the very good will go to Heaven at their death with no judgment [an instant rapture]. At death most Catholic will go immediately to Purgatory, which seems to be a limited version of Hell, unto they have suffered enough to pay for their sins or unto their love ones have paid all they can, then they go to Heaven. How long a person will be in Purgatory is sometimes taught to be a short time and sometimes millions of years to those who have no one to win indulgences for them. It has brought enormous wealth to the rich Catholic Church from the poor who paid what little they had and even done without food to help a loved one. The Catholic Purgatory gives no hope for heathens, heretics, or the unbaptized.

## **[2] The new Catholic version of Hell:**

Pope John II, "Hell is not a punishment imposed externally by God, but the condition resulting from attitudes and actions which people adopt in this life...So eternal damnation is not God's work but is actually our own doing...More than a physical place, Hell is the state of those who freely and definitively separate themselves from God, the source of all life and joy." In a statement made to his general audience, July 28, 1999.

There are other high up Catholics who have made statements like this one but I see no use in adding more when you have this from the top person in the Catholic Church. Maybe this is why two of their Bible English translations do not have the word "Hell" in them, and who knows how many other Catholics translations in other languages do not; however, because it has been the official doctrine for centuries and the decrees of councils and Popes, the Roman Catholic Church cannot officially not teach Hell is a place of eternal torment without giving up completely her claim of infallibility. Protestantism has not made this claim of infallibility and many are giving Hell up.

**[3] THE NETHER WORLD: IS THIS A NEW (third) CATHOLIC VERSION OF HELL?** More and more in today's writing, The Neither World is being used as if it is a Bible place that is clearly taught in the Bible; but I have yet to read where anyone told where it is in the Bible. Do both the Nether World and Abraham's bosom now exists at the same time? If so, how are they different? I have heard the same preachers preach one at one time and the other at another time. The American Heritage Dictionary says, "NETHER, Located beneath or below; lower or under: the nether regions of the earth."

**Where did this world that is located beneath or under this world come from?** It is not in the Bible, therefore, how anyone know about it? It came from the Catholic Church. Like Hell, they mistranslated it from hades to get it into the Bible. BOTH HELL AND NETHER WORLD WERE MISTRANSLATED FROM THE SAME WORD (HADES) AND BOTH FROM THE SAME PASSAGE. See Acts 2:27 New American Bible "*for you will not abandon my soul to the Nether World.*" Also Psalms 16:10 etc. THE NETHER

WORLD IS A NEW NAME BEING PUT INTO THE BIBLE BY THE SAME PEOPLE (the Catholic Church) WHO PUT HELL INTO IT, AND IT IS BEING PUT INTO THE BIBLE IN THE SAME WAY, BY MISTRANSLATING THE SAME WORD THEY MISTRANSLATED TO PUT IN HELL.

1. First: hades was mistranslated Hell in Catholic translations
2. Second: the same word in the same passage is now mistranslated Nether World in some Catholic translations.

IT WORKED FOR THEM THE FIRST TIME, SO THEY TRIED IT A SECOND TIME. When they need to prove Hell, they use one mistranslation; and when they need to prove the Nether World, they use another mistranslation of the same word in the same passage.

The Nether World and Universalist version of Hell, the "age lasting" Hell are very singular in many ways. Both have those who are not worthy of being in Heaven going through some kind of punishment but will end up in Heaven. The main different is that some in the Nether World are too evil to ever be saved and will always be tormented by God, but in the "age lasting" Hell taught by Universalists all will end up in Heaven.

**The Bible version of Hell:** There is no Bible version of Hell. Both the name Hell and the concept, a place where God will forever torment most men was not known about in Old or New Testament times. The Greeks did not know it about or anyone back them. Christ or Paul used neither the place nor the name. It was not known about by anyone unto long after the last page of the Bible.

### **WHICH HELL DO YOU BELIEVE IN?**

Most of the versions of Hell below are based on the belief that:

- A person has some part of them self that is immortal from birth and is not subject to death.
- That death is not death, the dead are more alive then the living, "*You shall not surely die.*"

(1). SOME BELIEVE SATAN IS THE TORMENTER. According to Jonathan Edwards and most Hell fire preachers, Satan will be doing the tormenting of all that are in Hell forever.

- (2). SOME BELIEVE GOD IS THE TORMENTER. Today many believe God will be doing the tormenting.
- (3). Some denominations believe Hell will be on this earth.
- (4). Others believe that Hell will last for a while; but will end with all that are in Hell being saved and going to Heaven.
- (5). Some believe that Hell will only last unto the ones in it have paid for their sins, and then they will be destroyed.
- (6). Some believe Hell is hot.
- (7). Some believe that Hell is cold.
- (8). Some believe Hell is dark.
- (9). Some believe Hell is Metaphorical, it is not literally hot, cold or dark; we cannot understand what it is really like and are given pictures to tell us how bad it is.
- (10). Some believe that Hell is only mental anguish.
- (11). Some believe that Hell is a place of separation from God without any torment from God.
- (12). Some believe that Hell is under the earth.
- (13). Some believe Hell is who knows where. Most, but not all, now realize there is not a place of torment under the earth and have moved it. Now who knows where they think Hell is, maybe somewhere out in space.
- (14). Some believe Hell exists now, and the lost dead are now being tormented in it.
- (15). Some believe Hell will not exist unto after the judgment.
- (16). Some believe that Hell now exists with the angels that sinned in it, but no person will be in Hell unto after the judgment.
- (17). Some believe that although God is omnipresent [present in all places at the same time], nevertheless He is not present in Hell. They believe those in Hell are separated from God, they believe death is separation from God and the second death is an eternal Hell, and at the same time they believe God is there tormenting them and gives them life. All life comes from God. He would have to be present and not present at the same time. The lost would be separated from God and not separated from God simultaneously, for He would be wherever they were separated from Him if He were doing the tormenting.
- (18). If you go back in time 50 or 100 years, most all preachers were teaching "Hell" to be a place of "fire and brimstone."

Today "fire and brimstone" is almost never used by preachers or in today's theology. Do you believe in the "Hell" of today or the "Hell" of 100 years ago?

### **HELL HAS BEEN MOVED**

Pagan philosophers mostly believed the soul was somewhere underground unto it was reincarnated. The first time Hell is used in the King James Version, it is on this earth, and is the punishment and scattering of Israel [Deuteronomy 32:22-26]. "Though they dig into Hell" [Amos 9:27 King James Version]. Most of the "church fathers," and the Church in the Dark Age, believed Hell was underground. Both the Catholic Church and the "Apostle's creed," which is used by many Protestants says Christ descended into Hell at His death; and preached to the souls in prison. Many encyclopedias and lexicons still say this. The New Oxford American Dictionary says, "hell 'hel' a place regarded in various religions as a spiritual realm of evil and suffering, often traditionally depicted as a place of perpetual fire beneath the earth where the wicked are punished after death." When I was a child, I heard repeatedly that the Devil lived under the ground and would get you if you were bad. Now almost no one believes Hell is under ground and it has been moved to some dark place on the backside of some far away no one knows where place. Most who believed Hell to be under the earth also believed the earth will end at the coming of Christ. I have never heard them explain how the earth will be destroyed, but the Hell that is under ground (inside of the earth) will last forever.

O-well, one is as good as another and one place is as good as any other for there is no Bible teaching for any of them. They are all man made, and believing any of them is to believe a lie. "But in vain do they worship me, teaching as their doctrines the precepts of men" [Matthew 15:9]. The only sure thing is that what men believe about Hell is that Hell is always changing to suit the times and the denominations.

### **BELIEVERS IN HELL MUST**

**Must do away with death.** If death is real, if when God said death, God meant what He said, then Hell cannot be.

**Must prove that men are now immortal** Must prove that there is an immaterial, invisible part of a person that has no

substance and this nothing, whatever "it" is, is now as immortal as it will be after the judgment; and this nothing is the only part of a person Christ will save and the only part of a person that will be in Heaven. If a person is now mortal, he cannot now be immortal.

**Must make words like destroy, perish, die, death, lost be used only with a theological sense.** If they are used "in the fair, stipulated, and well-established meaning of the terms" then Hell cannot be.

**Must prove that Hell is in the Bible, both the name and the particular place they call Hell.** If they do not prove there is a Hell, but teach it, they have added to the Bible.

**Must prove that the "nehphesh" animals have in Genesis 1:20; 1:21; 1:24; 1:30; 2:19 is mortal but the "nehphesh" men have in Genesis 2:7 is immortal.**

#### **FROM WHERE DID HELL COME?**

IT CAME FROM PAGAN PHILOSOPHERS, and was brought into the church along with Purgatory, the sale of indulgences, Limbo, worship of Mary and saints, Nether World, Holy Water, the rosary, forbidding Priests to marry, the crucifix, forbidding eating of meat on Friday, candle-burning, and many other teachings; and was opposed by such men as Luther, Tyndale, Moses Lord, and many others. It came into the church in the Dark Age from Pagan Greek philosophers and writers like Dante Aligheri's (1265-1321) "The Divine Comedy" and Milton's "Paradise Lost" added things like Satan has a red suit, horns, and pitchfork and is forever tormenting the damned. Aligheri was a pagan who believed the teaching of Plato on the soul being immortal and his book "The Divine Comedy" is basically Plato's view of the soul. This view of Hell was adopted in the Middle Age Church to create fear of leaving the church. The church in the Dark Age and the translators of the King James Bible were more influenced by this Pagan philosophy and writers of that time then they were from the teaching of God.

Growler 1995 Encyclopedia ASPS says, "In Greek Mythology, Hades is the underworld ruled by the god of that name, who is also known as Pluto; in Norse Mythology, Hel is a cold and shadowy subterranean



realm." Both Hel and Hell are from the same root word-"Kel."

The American Heritage Dictionary, Page 2108 says, "KEL-1. O-grade from kal 1. A Hell, from Old English Hell, Hell; B HEL, from Old Norse Hel, the underworld, goddess of death."

Compton's 1995 Encyclopedia, "Hell and Hades" "The modern Western understanding of Hell derives from the latest period in ancient Israel's history, and it was more fully developed by early Christianity...There is no fully developed teaching about Hell in the New Testament, though there are frequent mentions of it. Only in the course of later church history was it elaborated into official church doctrine. Today the New Testament statements and their later explanation are taken literally by some Christians, regarded as allegory or myth by some, and denied altogether by others."

Encyclopedia Britannica, Volume 2, Page 402, "Old English. Hel, a Teutonic word from a root meaning 'to cover.'"

Encyclopedia Americana, Volume 14, Page 81, "Much confusion and misunderstanding has been caused through the early translators of the Bible persistently rendering the Hebrew Sheol and the Greek Hades and Gehenna by the word hell. The simple transliteration of these words by the translators of the revised editions of the Bible has not sufficed to appreciably clear up this confusion and misconception."

[1]. HEL AND OTHER PAGAN TEACHING WERE BROUGHT INTO THE BIBLE [as Hell] BY REINTERPRETING FOUR WORDS FIFTY-SEVEN TIMES in the King James Version, but much fewer times in later translations, and none at all in many translations. The American Standard Version, which many say is the most accurate translation ["This honored version of 1901, long held to be the most accurate translation in the English language" Star Bible catalog Page 3, 1996], uses it 13 times; and even then has a footnote which says, "Gr. Gehenna" or "Gr. Tartarus."

Csonka says, "Every good Bible student know Hades is not Hell" Truth Magazine, 1995, Page 17. Then why do so many in the Lord's church teach it is?

"The word Gehenna does not occur in the LXX or Greek literature...In contrast with later Christian writings and ideas, the torments of hell are not described in the NT...Neither does the NT contain the idea that Satan is the prince of gehenna, to whom sinners are handed over for punishment" The Dictionary of New Testament Theology, Volume 2, Page 208-209.

One writer in the Lord's church [who believes in Hell] said, "The New Testament is loaded with metaphors that describe Hell" and then he says Gehenna is one of the metaphors. On the page before he said that Gehenna is not used in secular Greek literature, not used in the Septuagint, and not by Josephus in the last part of the first century in any of his writings. When he said they did not use Gehenna, he is using it to mean Hell; therefore, he is saying Hell was not used by any of the above. Neither is it in any of the Apocryphal books. The first time Gehenna (not Hell) is used by any Christian writer was by Justin Martyr in about A. D. 150 and he said the unrighteous will suffer and then pass out of existence. NO ONE KNOW OF OR USED "HELL" FOR THE FIRST 150 YEARS! THEN IT WAS A HELL THAT LASTED FOR ONLY A LIMITED TIME THEN ENDED!

[2]. NOT IN VOCABULARY: Heaven and Earth are named together about 30 times, and each is named separately 100's of times, but not one time is Hell named or even spoken of. Why? No doubt, it would have been if Hell was real and there is such a place. We are told not to swear by Heaven or Earth [Matthew 5:34], but today men swear by Hell more than both Heaven and Earth together. Why were they not told not to swear by Hell? It was because Hell is a word that was not in their vocabulary? No word with the meaning of today's English Hell was used in the ancient writing as a swear word or any other way; no such word was in their vocabulary and they knew of no such place. THE CONCEPT OF THE PLACE CALLED HELL, OR THE NAME HELL IS NOT IN THE BIBLE, AND DOES NOT OCCUR IN ANY WRITING OF EITHER THE HEBREWS OR THE GREEKS UNTO

LONG AFTER THE BIBLE. THE OLD TESTAMENT HEBREW, OR THE NEW TESTAMENT GREEK, HAS NO WORD THAT IS EVEN CLOSE TO TODAY'S ENGLISH WORD "HELL." It is not in Greek literature in New Testaments times or before, first century writers did not use it, Josephus or any other historian of that time did not use it, it is not in the Septuagint, it was unknown about unto long after the last book of the Bible was written.

HOW DO WE KNOW ABOUT THIS PLACE CALLED HELL? WHERE DID HELL COME FROM? Not by faith that comes by hearing God's word. It is from the doctrines and precepts of men [Matthew 15:9]. It was not used in the first century because it was a place they knew nothing about. The word "Hell" is of Saxon origin about the 3rd to 5th century A. D. and originally was any covered over place such a roof or a grave. The nearest thing I can find to the English word Hell is in Greek Mythology and Norse Mythology [According to Socrates, Plato and other Greek philosopher], was a shadowy subterranean realm somewhere under the earth where souls went unto they could be reincarnated; but this shadowy place was far from being as terrible or as dreadful a place as today's Hell is, and "souls" would only be in it unto they were reincarnated. This underground place did not have the name Hell and is nothing like the Hell that grew out of it in the Dark Age.

"Three hundred years or so ago the word 'Hell' was commonly used to refer to any dark or foreboding place. A grave could be referred to by that term without readers or hearers automatically envisioning 'the lake of fire, which is the second death' [Rev. 20:15]. The hole dug in the ground to receive the body of a deceased loved one is certainly a foreboding place. A prison, dungeon, lunatic asylum, or a valley such as the valley of Hinnom outside of Jerusalem with equal propriety could be spoken of as 'Hell' three or four hundred years ago. That is no longer so...in our time 'Hell' has a fairly settled meaning...its use conjures up visions of the awesome lake of fire judgment reserved for sinners" Russell Boatman, Dean at Saint Louis Christian College, Christian Church, "What The Bible Says, The End Time," College Press, Page 305.

"Hell has entirely changed its old harmless sense of dim under-world: and that meaning, as it now does, to myriads of readers...it conveys meanings which are not to be found in any of the New or Old Testament words for which it is presented as an equivalent" Canon Farrar, Excursus II, "Eternal Hope."

A doctrine as terrible as Hell must not be assumed, but demonstrated by unquestionable proof. Such proof is not in the Bible. Heaven is in the Bible over 600 times, but Hell not one time. Why? The Bible is full of warnings. Paul warned that many "*shall not inherit the kingdom of God*" [1 Corinthians 5:9], but he never said anyone would "go to Hell." **Paul said he declared the whole counsel of God [Acts 20:27]; yet not one time [even in the King James Version] did he use the word Hell.** Why? T. L. Andrews said our English word Hell has come to mean the eternal abode of the sinner where this tormenting punishment takes place? Florida College Lectures, 1997, Page 168. When? The English word Hell did not exist in Paul's time. It therefore come to mean the eternal abode of sinners long after the New Testament; and came from man, not God. Therefore Paul could not, and did not use it.

IF HELL WERE A REAL PLACE, WHICH WAS KNOWN ABOUT IN THE TIME OF CHRIST, OTHERS OF THAT TIME WOULD HAVE KNOWN ABOUT IT AND USED ITS NAME; BUT NONE DID. Gehenna was the name of a real place near Jerusalem [the city dump], which the people near Jerusalem would know about it, and would understand what Christ was saying when He used its name as a place of destruction. The rest of the world would not know about Jerusalem's trash dump or know what its name was, and would not have understood. If Paul had used the name Gehenna in Rome or in writing to Gentiles, it is unlikely that any would have known what or where Gehenna was. When the Greek philosophy about the underworld was brought into the church by the "church fathers," what Christ had said about Gehenna was made to order for them to misuse. "Gehenna" was soon mistranslated into Hell; probably it came from "Hel" [see above]. Whatever is not taught in the Bible cannot be a Bible doctrine. If it is the doctrine of man, is it not sinful to teach it as God's word?

Hell is not a Bible word. It is a word chosen by Bible Translators to translate four Bible words, sheol, hades, Gehenna, and Tartarus. Not one of the four has the meaning of Hell as it is used today. Not only is there no Hebrew or Greek word for Hell, but also at first even the English word Hell did not mean a place of torment after death as it does today; like many English words it has had a radical change of meaning. In Old English it was a covered place. A farmer would say "I helled my potatoes" meaning he put them in a hole and covered them to keep them from the cold. Helling a house meant to cover it with a roof. Helmet, a covering for the head is derived from the same word. Hell was never the best translations of hades, but formerly it would have been acceptable in Old English. It is not an acceptable translation of hades in modern English and has been abandoned by many of the newer translations. When the King James Version was made, the doctrine of Hell was completely developed and the translation of sheol and hades into Hell were a mistranslation. Most likely a deliberate mistranslation for in 1611 it had taken on the modern meaning of a place of torment after death.

Those who believe in Hell use the word as if both the place and the name are used repeatedly in the Bible. Their proof texts are metaphors, parables, and symbolical language as is found in the book of Revelation. If there is a place as terrible as Hell, why is it never spoken of in clear words that the common person could not misunderstand? If Hell were real, it would be strange if a doctrine as important as Hell would be would have to depend on an interpretation of a parable or symbolical language.

[3]. NOT IN EARLY CREEDS The two earliest creeds, The Apostles Creed, traditionally ascribed to the 12 Apostles, and the Nicene Creed, 325 A. D., were both doctrinal statements saying what those that used them believed, but neither one contained the concept of Hell.

[4]. TODAY'S PREACHING - versus - FIRST CENTURY PREACHING. Heaven is taught throughout the Bible [used about 635 times in the New American Standard Bible], but there is nothing about today's Hell. Adam was warned that he would die if he ate, but not that he would go to Hell. Moses

warned about death to those who did not keep the law, but he said nothing about Hell. The Bible is as silent as a tomb on it. **It is beyond belief that there would not be many clear and unmistakable warning about Hell if there were such a place. There are many clear and unmistakable warning that the wages of sin is death, but not a one about Hell or an eternal life of torment.**

**HOW HELL WAS PUT INTO THE BIBLE  
AND IS BEING KEPT IN THE BIBLE**

"Jesus said it [Hell] was a place where 'the fire...never shall be quenched...Hell is further described as a place where" Whitlock, Seibles Road Church of Christ bulletin, August 9, 1998.

Christ did not say anything about Hell, but was using Gehenna as a metaphor of destruction; but Whitlock uses Hell and in the same sentence he quotes only a part of a sentence used by Christ, adds to it, and makes it all one sentence. In doing so he has put the word Hell into the mouth of Christ, but he must deny that this is a metaphor. [1] He changes one proper noun into another proper noun, but does not tell us from where he got the proper noun "Hell." [2] He makes Christ say something He did not say. [3] He says, "Hell is further described as a place where," but he did not say where it is described as a place. Hell is not described as a place or is not described in any other way in the Bible. This is the very way the words of Christ were first misused by some of the so called church fathers in about the third century and after, long before it was mistranslated into any Bible translation. Unto after the end of the second century only a few of the "church fathers" taught that men have an immaterial, invisible part of a person that is immortal and it was not unto later that Hell came into being. The half converted "church fathers," looking for a way to put their philosophy into Christianity, used the words of Christ in the same way Whitlock did. The church fathers had to have a place to put their immortal soul, which came from their Greek philosophy. Very often statements like the one John Benton made, that the same word aionios, (eternal) is used to describe both Heaven and Hell. "How Can a God of Love Send People to Hell?" Page 44, 1985. Dr. Bert Thompson said both

Heaven and Hell are described with the exact same terminology in the Bible. Reason and Revelation, July 2000. The sad thing is that many will believe such a statements without question. The truth is that aionios, (eternal) is not used in any passage with sheol, hades or Gehenna, not in any passage that any of the three words that are translated Hell in the King James Version. Dr. Thompson did not give one passage where Hell is described with the same terminology as Heaven. There is not one.

Summary: In Pagan and Greek philosophy [Plato, Socrates and others], souls went to a place underground to "a cold and shadowy subterranean realm" unto they could be reincarnated. They believed in the soul being immortal and would be reincarnated, but they did not believe in Hell, a place of everlasting torment before or after the judgment was unknown to them; and they had no word for it. The doctrine of Hell, as is believed today, became fully developed in the medieval Dark Age. Tyndale and many others in the Protestant reformation fought the Catholic Church teaching that most go to Purgatory to be purified on their way to Heaven, but "Hell" was accepted without Purgatory by most Protestant churches. It was preached in all its terror by the Jonathan Edwards type of Hell fire preacher and many Gospel preachers a few years back, with Satan tormenting the lost from the time of their death. Today it is almost never preached or written about by Gospel preachers; but when it is, it is almost always toned down from the Jonathan Edwards type of Hell fire preaching; and it is now God, not Satan, who will be doing the tormenting.

## **WHY HELL IS VINISHING FROM CHURCHES AND THE BIBLE**

### **The Results Of Attributing Evil Pagan Teachings To God By Religious People**

**THIS GOD SLANDERING DARK AGE DOCTRINE OF HELL  
MAKES GOD EVIL, CRUEL, SADISTIC, AND FIENDISH. By  
some unknown and twisted reasoning it is assumed that for  
God to be just He must forever torment the lost for His**

justice demands this; HOW DOES "GOD IS A JUST GOD" DEMAND THAT THERE IS A HELL OR PROVE THERE IS A HELL? From the first sin, God's sentence to Adam was not eternal torment but death. Throughout the Bible, the sentence for sin is always death, not torment. "*The wages of sin is death.*" That His justice demands that He must forever torment the lost is without any foundation in His word. To put it pure and simple, it is a doctrine of man and it makes God evil, cruel, and fiendish for if the punishment exceeds the crime by millions of times, it is injustice, not justice.

If a man should put a single person that had raped and killed his wife in a dark pit and torment him day and night for ten years, most would condemn him to the hottest part of "Hell." Yet, some teach that God made mankind knowing that most of them would be lost, and many millions would never hear His word; yet He will torment them worse than anything we can imagine, not for ten years; but time without end. It will be God doing the tormenting; God will be the one who makes the fire and keeps it burning forever. Satan or the evil ones will not be tormenting themselves. Many try to justify God for doing more than any man can do, and being more cruel and sadistic than the most evil man could ever be by saying we cannot understand the evil of sin. The God of the Bible is a God of love and justice; not as many make Him: sadistic, fiendish, cruel, evil, and in character much like Satan. In the Hell that is preached today no one will be corrected by the torment; therefore, it can only be sadistic?

**The Ultimate Evil:** "The idea of never-ending conscious agony is so completely revolting to our instinctive moral and judicial senses that we could fittingly call it the ultimate evil. If we're honest about the matter, this is exactly what it is. After all, is it possible to come up with a worse notion than perpetual fiery conscious misery - with no merciful respite or end to the suffering? The mere idea is so disturbing that it makes it a very hard subject to discuss calmly. How can anyone with an ounce of human compassion contemplate the idea dispassionately when the view of ceaseless torture is so profoundly disturbing?" Chapter eight,



know.net/

**The Deprived, Revolting Evil:** "To torment a child that dies without ever knowing anything about God or His word forever day and night with a torment worse than any pain we can have on this earth would not be 'justice,' but sadistic. What kind of a person could love a God who was tormenting his wife and children with more pain than anyone has ever had in this life? When we are in Heaven, do you think we will be singing of God's love and mercy while He is cruelly tormenting most of mankind and many you now love, your wife or husband, your father and mother, your child, your friend? Is there a greater perversion of Scripture than to attribute such characteristics to God? Is it reasonable to believe that the righteous in their glorified state can be indifferent to, and unaffected by, the endless sufferings of countless millions of their fellow beings; among whom would probably be found parents, children, husbands, wives, etc.? Is it possible that they will be destitute of deprived of qualities which are considered most lovely and godlike in this life; viz., piety, sympathy, compassion, commiseration for others' woes, etc.? Will insensibility to the woes of the wretched ever become a virtue? Will that which is a vice in this life, become a grace in the glorious future life?" From a web page by "Ron" which is no longer on the net.

Today, many think that the electric chair or hanging of a person who has killed many is inhumane though it takes only a few seconds; but these same people see no inconsistency in believing it is just for God to torment the same person, even if that person has never heard His word, with a torment which they say is much worse than the few seconds would be and this torment by God will not last only for a few seconds but for an endless eternity.

**More Cruel And Sadistic Than Any Heathen God:** THE CALVIN GOD, which is believed in and worshiped by many, is a God many times more evil, more cruel and sadistic than any heathen god. Before the Calvin God made the world, He rigged the outcome and chose to make most of mankind to be lost

before He made them. He even made it impossible for them to believe, but will torment them forever for not believing. The torment by the worshipers of heathen gods soon end with death of the ones being tormented; but Calvinism teaches God made most men, many millions, just so He could torment them without end for eternity "for his good pleasure." According to Hell fire Calvin teachers, this torment will be many times worse than any torment by the worshipers of heathen gods; and will never end in the death of those being tormented. How could any person who has an ounce of compassion, love, and worship such a God?

Those who believe in the Calvin God say this God chose you to be saved or to be lost before he made the world. If you are one of the few chosen by this evil God to be saved, even if you live in the most out of the way place in the world and never know of God or Christ, when the time comes for you to be saved you will be. You can do nothing about it and you cannot say no. If you are one of the many he chose to torment forever there is no use to send preachers to you; there is no use for you to read the Bible or do anything; there is nothing you or anyone can do. According to Calvin this God made you just because he wants to torment you forever, and he will. Such a God is like a very rich ruler who torments a thousand people "for his good pleasure" and enjoyment, and chose you to make rich and happy. He would not be worthily of your love, but only your contempt. To destroy the evil, either in this lifetime or at the judgment is one thing; but to make them be evil before they were born, and then torment them without end with more pain than they can know in this lifetime for being what he made them to be is not justice. He would be an unjust and evil God. He made them evil and gave them no chance not to be, and then torments them for being what He made them to be. If you put a person who worked in a store in the electric chair for unknowingly short changing a person one cent, your injustice would not equal that of a God that made one person just so he could torment that person forever. Many say He did this with most of mankind. Most are filled with grief when a loved one or friend has some sickness that makes them suffer even when they know the suffering will soon end with death.

Yet, they worship a God who they believe will take pleasure in the suffering of billions without end; and not only will he take pleasure in it but he will be the one that is tormenting them and making them suffer and he made them just so he could torment and make them suffer. CALVIN DID NOT GET HIS DOCTRINE FROM THE HEATHENS FOR THE HEATHENS HAD NO DOCTRINE AS CRUEL, AS FIENDISH, AS BLACK, OR AS UNJUST.

**A Scandal Against The Almighty:** "For were a woman to commit a crime against her husband, and he punishes her by holding her hand in the fire until the flesh burned off the bones, he would be pronounced one of the most cruel beings in the world; and if he were to escape justice, he would be hunted as a wild beast; and when brought to trial and condemned, he would be pronounced worthy of thrice the punishment that the law could inflict. And he would have been tried and condemned by men, most of whom, perhaps, believed that God would take that same woman, for that same crime that she had committed against her husband, and put-not only her hand, but her whole self into a Lake of Fire and Brimstone;-not for half an hour-not for a day-not for a year-nor for ten thousand years only, but for all Eternity. Also, that this Burning of her in a Blazing Hell would be so agreeable to the determination of the Almighty that no pity could be excited, no mercy shown; but that there, in that Lake of Fire she should gnash, and groan, and wail Eternally. Oh! How horrid the picture! And what a terrible crime, even in the light of their own actions, to charge God with such cruelty!" John Kent, "Eternal Burning, A SCANDAL AGAINST THE ALMIGHTY" 1879.

**A God Of Infinite Horror:** "That God would rise the wicked and give them immortality only to torment them in a devil's hell unendingly is both gross and vulgar, even blasphemous. Such a God is not the one described in the Bible...If the God of heaven subjects innumerable billions to unending and indescribable torment, it can only be seen as the one infinite horror." Leroy Garrett, Restoration Review, November 1990.

**A Mockery Of Truth And A Blasphemy Against Deity:** "My opponent will make an effort to try and demonstrate that our loving, compassionate, merciful God will be content with nothing less than the perpetual, never diminishing, horrific *torture* of the vast majority of mankind. Not only is that *not* what the Scriptures teach, it has the distinct disadvantage of portraying our God as a *Monster* the likes of which the human mind cannot even conceive. It is to proclaim a God foreign to the inspired revelation. Thus, it is a mockery of Truth and a blasphemy against Deity." Al Maxey, Maxey-Thrasher Debate on the Eternal Destiny of the Wicked by two ministers of the church of Christ at: <http://www.zianet.com/maxey/MxThrshr.htm> - I recommend this debate to all members of the church of Christ of which he is a member, and to all who want the truth.

**Worst Than Gods Of Paganism:** "Paganism in its worst forms has never surpassed, if it has equaled, the savage and terrible descriptions which have been given by Christians of their God. The character ascribed to Him; the dreadful wrath and vengeance with which He is moved; the cold and malignant purpose of creation in regard to million of souls; the stern severity and gloom of His government; the horrible and never-ceasing tortures which He will inflict on His helpless, children-all this, and much more of like character, defies the power of language to set it forth in its true light, or to present it in a manner adequate to its shocking revolting reality." Thomas Thayer, "The Origin, And History Of The Doctrine Of Endless Punishment."

**Makes The Universe A Theater Of Cursing And Blasphemy:** "What, then, is the doctrine of endless misery? Stripped of all its drapery, it is no more or less than this: That a large part of the human family are doomed to suffer the most intense and indescribable torments as long as God shall exist, without the least hope or possibility of being benefited by their sufferings. In some part of this beautiful universe, God has prepared

an awful, dismal, burning hell, and there countless myriads of human beings shall weep and groan, unpitied and unrelieved, while ceaseless ages shall roll; and when ten thousand times ten thousand years shall have passed, they shall have as long to suffer as if their sufferings had but just began. And, then, to think of the number of the lost to remember that there are on this earth not less than eight hundred millions of human beings, and that out of these there are not more than fifty millions that can be saved, upon the broadest system of partialism; and that, by consequence, there must be more than seventy thousand souls going down to hell every day; and, then, to think of generations that have past, and reflect upon the vast and countless multitudes that must be congregated in that huge reservoir of tears and woe; the very thought bears the lie upon its front. The degree of the punishment outrages all ideas of proportion between guilt and punishment, and the number of the victims shocks all feelings of humanity or mercy. It makes the universe a theater of cursing and blasphemy, rather than a field for the display of the boundless perfections of a merciful and benevolent Creator." I. D. Williamson, *An Examination Of The Doctrine Of Endless Punishment*, 1860.

**God The Tormentor:** Spurgeon, one of the greatest of Baptist preachers, said, "When thou driest, thy soul will be tormented alone; that will be a hell for it; but at the day of judgment thy body will join thy soul and then thou wilt have twin hells, thy soul sweating drops of blood, and thy body suffused with agony. In fire exactly like that which we have on earth, thy body will lie, asbestos like, forever unconsumed, all thy veins roads for the feet of pain to travel on, every nerve a string on which the devil shall forever play his diabolical tune of hell's unutterable lament." From his sermon "The Resurrection of the Dead." Like most who believe God will forever torment many billions, he must have some revelation that is not in the Bible to tell him about their suffering. In his day most orthodox Protestants believed the Devil would be doing

the tormenting, but today most orthodox Protestants think he was wrong, that God is the one who will be doing the tormenting. The man made "Hell" is forever changing. What was orthodox in his day is no longer orthodox. For many Baptists his truth is no longer truth.

Ebenezer Erskine in "The Judgment" "How shall the adulterer satisfy lust when he lies on a bed of flames? The swearer shall have enough of wounds and blood when the devil shall torture his body and rack his soul in hell. The drunkard shall have plenty of his cups when scalding lead shall be poured down his throat, and his breath draw flames of fire instead of air."

**An Atrocious Slander On God:** Henry Ward Beeches speaking of Michael Angelo's painting, The Last Judgment said, "Let anyone see the enormous gigantic coils of fiends and man; let anyone look at the defiant Christ that stands like a superb athlete at the front, hurling his enemies from him and calling his friends toward him as Hercules might have done; let anyone look upon that hideous wriggling mass that goes plunging down through the air-serpents and man and beasts of every nauseous kind, mixed together; let him look at the lower parts of the picture, where with the pitchforks men are by devils being cast into cauldrons and into burning fires, where hateful fiends are gnawing the skulls of suffering sinners, and where there is hellish cannibalism going on-let a man look at that picture and scenes which it depicts, and he sees what were the ideas which man once had of Hell and of divine justice. It was a night-mare as hideous as was ever begotten by the hellish brood it-self; and it was an atrocious slander on God...I do not wonder that men have reacted from these horrors."

Jonathan Edwards, "The world will probably be converted into a great lake or liquid globe of fire, in which the wicked shall be overwhelmed, which will always be in tempest, in which they shall be tossed to and fro, having no rest day or night, vast waves and billows of fire continually rolling over their heads, of which they shall forever be full of a quick sense within and without;

their heads, their eyes, their tongues, their hands, their feet, their loins and their vitals, shall forever be full of a flowing, melting fire, fierce enough to melt the very rocks and elements; and, also, they shall eternally be full of the most quick and lively sense to feel the torments; not for one minute, not for one day, not for one age, not for two ages, not for a hundred ages, not for ten thousand millions of ages, one after another, but for forever and ever, without an end at all, and never to be delivered."

Benson, "He will exert all his divine attributes to make them as wretched as the capacity of their nature will admit...They must be perpetually swelling their enormous sums of guilt, and still running deeper, immensely deeper, in debt to divine and infinite justice. Hence after the longest imaginable period, they will be so far from having discharged their debt that they will find more due than when they first began to suffer." He has God charging interest on the debt of the suffering sinner owes Him at such a high rate that the sinner gets more behind as time goes on. If the punishment exceeds the crime by billions of times would it be justice or injustice?

Dr. E. Beecher said it, "Involves God, his whole administration, and his eternal kingdom in the deepest dishonor that the mind of man or angel can conceive, by the violation of the highest and most sacred principles of honor and right, and on the scale of infinity and eternity" Page 225. "The human mind cannot be held back from abhorring such a theory, except by the most unnatural violence to its divinely inspired convictions of honor and right" Page 306, Conflict of the Ages.

WHAT KIND OF JUSTICE IS THIS? To fill many books with the most harrowing descriptions of torment would not equal the torment we are told that God will give to just one person for all eternity. After someone who never knows of God in his lifetime on earth has been in torment in Hell for not believing in God for trillions times trillions of years, we are told they will still have eternity with not one second less time to suffer. Those who believe in Hell say, "It is justice." My question to them is how do they know it to be justice; where did God tell

this to them? It being justice is something they had to make up to try to justify their heathen Hell even if they make God be much more evil than Satan. They are saying, "Stepping on a person's lawn may get you a disapproving look, but stepping on God's lawn will get you eternal torment by God." No one could know this without a revelation from God and there is no such revelation, it is an addition, it is making God evil just to justify their evil teaching.

DO YOU WONDER WHERE IN THE BIBLE THEY FOUND THINGS LIKE THE DEVIL POURING SCALDING LEAD DOWN THE THROAT OF A PERSON AND MANY THOUSANDS OF LIKE THINGS? THE ANSWER IS THAT THEY ARE IN THE SAME PASSAGE WHERE THEY FOUND HELL AND THE SAME PASSAGE WHERE THEY FOUND THE NAME OF HELL. THEY FOUND THEM IN THE TEACHING OF MEN, NOT THE BIBLE.

"As a child, Robert Ingersoll heard a preacher proclaim the doctrine that God subjects sinners to unending torment in hell. Ingersoll decided that if God were like that, then he hated Him. Later he wrote of this belief that it 'makes man an eternal victim and God an eternal fiend. It is the one infinite horror. **Below this Christian dogma, savagery cannot go.** There are substantial moral and logical difficulties in believing in a God who tortures His enemies forever. Like Ingersoll, thousands of thinking men have turned away from such a God" Tim Crosby in Ministry.

E. Petavel, D. D., "The lamentable results of the Platonic doctrine may be seen in the theology of a Tertullian and an Augustine,--theology called orthodox.--which makes the God of love an Executioner whom innumerable victims will curse eternally. Such a doctrine is a burden even to its adherents. It has drawn from them admissions, which we are bound to record. Henry Rogers declared that 'for his part he would not be sorry to see every child die at the age of four years.' Albert Barnes admits, with a soul full of anguish that he cannot understand why there are men destined to suffer forever. 'The Gospel,' says Isaac Taylor, 'fills us with a universal sympathy which sometimes make us regret that it must



be true in all its teaching.' Calvin himself cannot refrain from confessing that the decree of God concerning sinners seems to him horrible ('decretum horrible fateor'). In a word, the traditional dogma conducts to pessimism by making evil eternal. **What has been the result? Extremes meeting, the doctrine of eternal suffering has led to Universalism.** More or less secretly many of the partisans of the traditional dogma, unable to hold it any longer, have quitted their position, to embrace the hope of a universal salvation; while others wander in the penumbra of eschatological skepticism" *The Extinction Of Evil*, Page 78, 1889.

## **THE CAUSE OF ATHEISM AND STUMBLING IN MANY**

**Matthew 18:6**

### **A DOCTRINE THAT MAKES ATHEISTS**

**God has been made so cruel, and this doctrine is so unthinkable that it has probably created more atheists, and caused more weak believers to fall away than any other false teaching.** The dread of Hell has caused misery and mental anguish to countless millions and **INSTEAD OF THE HORROR OF HELL TURNING MANY TO GOD TO ESCAPE ETERNAL TORMENT, MANY MILLIONS HAVE BEEN TURNED AWAY FROM SUCH AN UNJUST GOD.** The doctrine of Hell is one of Satan's best tools to turn many away from Christ. Do you want to give an account to God at the judgment for teaching it? No heathen religion has a God as unjust and fiendish as many "Christians" make their God.

Edward White said, "It cannot be denied that the frightful doctrines on the future of humanity...supported by the general authority of nearly all Christendom for at least fourteen centuries, are regarded with contemptuous skepticism by the bulk of the existing male population of Europe, who assigns these articles of 'the faith' as the chief reason for their ever extending and fierce revolt against Christianity" *Life In Christ*, Page 65, 1878.

**GOD IS NOT A GOD OF TERROR, A CRUEL AND EVIL BEING THIS DOCTRINE MAKES HIM TO BE. DO YOU THINK HE WILL SAY TO THOSE WHO TEACH HE IS UNJUST, "WELL DONE,**

*GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT...ENTER YOU INTO THE JOY OF YOUR LORD" [Matthew 15:21]?*

If the reason anyone converts is because of a fear of Hell, his or her conversion is just superficial, not real, not because he or she had a love for God, just afraid of being tormented in Hell. A conversion because of the fear of Hell makes a hypocrite, not a Christians. The harm that has been done by the heresy of eternal torment is beyond belief.

### **DILEMMAS OF THEIR OWN MAKING**

The doctrine of Hell puts those who teach it in dilemmas from which they have no way out.

[1] Dilemma number one: According to most who believe in Hell only a few will escape it, but they say all who die before the age accountably will escape Hell and will go to Heaven. By their own teaching, the Abortionist maybe sending more to Heaven and saving them from Hell than preaching is. Yet, many preachers that teach "Hell" with all its horrors bitterly oppose abortions, which by their own teaching, is saving more from "Hell" than they are. Why? According to their own teaching, in the US alone by abortion millions have been sent to Heaven but most of them would have ended up being in eternal torment if they had lived. If I believed their teaching about Hell, I would be all for a sure way to save millions from an eternity of torment and put them safely in Heaven.

[2] Dilemma number two: Many pagans count girl babies of little or no use and kill many of them. For centuries, millions of girl babies in China have been killed at birth. Today, because of the law in China of one child per family, many girl babies are being killed at birth by parents who want a boy. According to the teaching of those who believe in Hell there are millions of Chinese girls in Heaven that would have been tormented in Hell if they had lived, but not many Chinese boys are in Heaven.

[3] Dilemma number three: According to them, the children killed in the Old Testament in Gehenna would be blessed for by not having a few years of life with pain and problems they will forever live with God in Heaven.

There are many more dilemmas like these. How many children have been sent to heaven by wars? How many children

were send to Heaven when the two A-bombs were dropped in world war two; do we need more wars and bombs to keep more out or Hell and to send more to Heaven? How many children will be in Heaven because they had no food or some sickness? By their teaching, a child that is killed or dies soon after birth is blessed over those that live for most of them that do not die as a child will live forever in torment and all those that do die when they are a child will live forever in Heaven. According to their own teaching (if they were right), Heaven will have more in it that was killed as a child than by all the preaching.

Annihilationnation is God giving people freedom to choose not to accept Christ and the life He died to give them. Their not-accepting Christ and life means they have chosen to accept death. God gives them their choice, and lets them pay the wages of their sin, death, for they have chosen not to let Christ pay it for them. He is a just God, not a cruel sadistic God who will torment forever. Some say, "God is a God of justice and sin must be paid for, or God would not be just." Yes, but being sadistic is not justice in anyone's book, and the very fact that He is just would not let Him cruelly and sadistically torment anyone forever without end. The wages of our sins were paid by the death of Christ; those who have not been baptized into His death will pay for their own sins in the second death, not by having scalding lead poured down his or her throat for all eternity. God made all out of nothing and has the right to send any back to nothing. Sending those back to nothing that choose to not give Him the worship He is entitled to is His right and there is nothing cruel about it. They have the life He has given to them and have chosen to live it for themselves.

### **MAKES GOD HAVE A DOUBLE STANDARD**

#### **One for Him and another for us**

What would be wrong for us, to torment all that do not believe, is made to be right and good for God to do "for His good pleasure" on a scale that is infinitely greater than would be possible for all men combined to do.

**Many have tried to lessen the cruelty in a number of ways.** [1] Perhaps the most common one is to make Hell be only in the mind of the lost. Billy Graham said, "I have often

wondered if Hell is a terrible burning within our hearts for God, to fellowship with God, a fire that we can never quench." This does not help any and maybe makes it crueler. Mental pain is as bad and sometimes worse than physical pain. God tormenting most of mankind by making them live in mental pain for eternity would not make Him any less cruel. [2] Some have tried to justify this cruelty by saying the punishment must fit the crime. If a person commits a crime against a person he or she does not know, it is not as bad as the same crime would be if committed against his or her mother and the same crime committed against God is infinitely worse, but no one could know this without a revelation from God; where in God's word does He say the same trespasses become infinitely worse when it is against God? Jesus teaches that what ever we do or do not do for mankind we do or do not do it for God [Matthew 25:40, 45], and He makes no distinction as to whom the sin was against. **For centuries many of the best thinkers in the orthodox churches have tried to find a way to justify Hell.** I think the best they have done is to say the same crime/sin committed against an infinite God demands an infinite punishment, and God would not be just if He did not torment all sinners forever; they have tried to make it look as if He has no way out and must torment in Hell. What new revelation do they have that makes God be wrong when He said, "*The wages of sin is death*"?

- First: they are speaking where the Bible does not say anything and are making God be bound by their theology; therefore, they give God no choice, making God be bound to forever torment most of mankind all to justify their "Hell."
- Second: God's law in the Old Testament had the same punishment if the sin were against man or against Himself. To lie was the same if the lie were to a person or to God. His law was an eye for an eye no matter whom the sin was against. Their theology makes it be one eye if the lie were told to a person, but if the same lie were told to God it would be an endless number of eyes.
- Third: If any sin against an infinite God demands an infinite punishment of eternal torment in Hell, all have

sinned. If the only payment for our sin against an infinite God is eternal torment, Christ did not pay it for us. If the payment is death, Christ did pay it for us.

- Fourth: God made us and if He had chosen not to give anyone eternal life, to let us pass out of exists, to return to not existing, He would still be a good and merciful God for giving us the life we have. But, God has given us much more if we will only believe and obey Him. He has given His only Son that we may given life, not death. He has saved us from the wages of sin; the death that we deserve and given us life.
- Fifth: Who could love and worship a God that according to traditional doctrine would have made our father, mother, wife or husband, our children, and many we know and love just so He could torment them and He gives them no change to not be tormented.

Throughout the Old Testament, God destroyed His enemies, Sodom and Gomorrah, the flood, drowning in the Red Sea, etc. He did not torment them forever. The Bible does not teach it is the character or nature of God to torment the lost.

Not only is Hell an addition to the Bible but also Hell is many times crueler than anything the pagans ever even thought of. Because for most it is something that is far away and not something they can see now, I do not think they can see how cruel they are being too most, or how cruel they are making God be. Because it is not something that is not real to them, they are able to tell themselves "it is justice." If the Hell they teach was real and they could look over into it and see God tormenting most of mankind in the terrible way they now teach that He will be doing, they would be terrified of such an evil being as they say their God is. HOW CAN ANYONE NOT SEE THIS?

The doctrine of an immortal soul that cannot die and must forever be tormented is the most heartless doctrine any person ever believed. BELIEVING IN HELL IS AS HEARTLESS AS ANY PERSON CAN BE, AND IS LOVING AND WORSHIPING THE MOST CRUEL, SADISTIC, AND FIENDISH OF ALL GODS. **If being created in the image of God means mankind cannot die but must forever be tormented, then being in the image of God**

**is a curse for most of mankind;** it would have been better for them to be as animals are. God made all things that are, if Hell does exist, it could only have been God that thought it up and made it.

**DO THOSE WHO TEACH THE DOCTRINE OF HELL REALLY BELIEVE IN HELL?** The plain inference is that they do not believe in it. They see some of their family, their friends, those they work with or live next door, that they say are going to Hell at death, but do little or nothing about it. If they really believe in Hell when they see unsaved people they know and love dying all around them, why do they do so little to save them? They seem to care more about what is on television than they do about the eternal torment of those they say they love, and countless millions of others.

**The Saints In Heaven Are Deprived Of Qualities God Has Given To Us, Sympathy, Pity, Love For Others.**

"The smoke of their torment shall ascend up in the sight of the blessed forever and serve as a most clear glass always before their eyes to give them a constant, bright, and most affecting view... THIS DISPLAY OF THE DIVINE CHARACTER AND GLORY WILL BE IN FAVOR OF THE REDEEMED, AND MOST ENTERTAINING, AND GIVE THE HIGHEST PLEASURE TO THOSE WHO LOVE GOD, AND RAISE THEIR HAPPINESS TO INEFFABLE HEIGHTS. SHOULD THIS ETERNAL PUNISHMENT AND THIS FIRE BE EXTINGUISHED, IT WOULD IN A GREAT MEASURE OBSCURE THE LIGHT OF HEAVEN AND PUT AN END TO A GREAT PART OF THE HAPPINESS AND GLORY OF THE BLESSED." Samuel Hopkins, "The works of Samuel Hopkins, D.D." Page 458.

What kind of sick man could get the highest pleasure from seeing a cruel God doing his cruel work on billions and even on many he knows and loves? He makes the saints in Heaven be deprived of qualities God has given to us, sympathy, pity, love for others, caring for others; and made them to be cruel monsters that delight in the pain of others, and loves to hear the groans of those they now love, and the groans of the countless millions of the lost. He makes the saints in Heaven taking satisfaction from seeing God inflict eternal pain without

end on those who they loved on earth be more cruel and blood thirsty than those in Rome who took satisfaction in seeing lions eating Christians.

**Saints On Earth Become Like The God they Worship:** (See “The Crusades, bloody Mary” in chapter one.)

“I am reminded of this talk show, which showed a group of religious “Christians” screaming at people in a department store parking lot. Waving their bibles, they were shouting lines like ‘You’re all going to hell!’ (Of course what they really meant by this was ‘You’re all gonna be tortured forever and ever!’) Needless to say, they looked like hideous fiends, and to think that such people actually believe they’re obediently doing God’s will. *What deception.* I can’t help but be a mite suspect of the character of those who *unswervingly* defend the eternal torture doctrine...I personally believe that these people who staunchly support eternal torture – these folks who almost seem to relish the idea of human beings consciously roasting in agony for all eternity and who become ridiculously irate when a fellow Christian rejects such a ghastly view (even though based upon a thorough biblical analysis) – I believe that such people have given reign to their flesh in this one area. Their very character must be questioned; it has somehow become warped and perverted. I say this because they would zealously do everything in their power to oppose supporters of everlasting destruction. Some go as far as to teach that adherents of literal destruction aren’t even saved, that they aren’t fellow brothers and sisters in the Lord. Such people have such a sinister, repulsive, hostile air to them that I wouldn’t doubt that, if this was the Inquisition era of medieval infamy, they would not hesitate to put to death or torture adherents of everlasting destruction”  
From a web page [www.hell-know.net](http://www.hell-know.net) chapter eight.

“The smoke of their burning flesh shall be as a sweet smelling savor in the nostrils of the Almighty” Jonathan Edwards, “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God.”

Summary: THE REAL ISSUE IN THE DOCTRINE OF HELL IS THE NATURE OF GOD. IS HE A GOD OF LOVE AND MERCY OR

IS HE A CRUEL, SADISTIC, AND FIENDISH GOD TO MOST OF MANKIND AND MADE THEM JUST SO HE COULD TORTURE THEM AND GIVE THEM NO CHANCE TO NOT BE TORTURED AND WILL NOT LET THEM DIE? THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN SUCH A GOD MUST DEFEND EVERLASTING TORTURE AND THE GOD WHO MADE MOST OF MANKIND KNOWING THAT HE WOULD TORTURE THEM FOREVER; AND ACCORDING TO THE CALVIN AND JONATHAN EDWARDS VERSIONS OF HELL THIS GOD WILL DELIGHT IN IT, AND ACCORDING TO CREEDS, AUGUSTINE, SPURGEON AND MANY OTHERS, THOSE IN HEAVEN WOULD FIND DELIGHT IN SEEING THOSE IN HELL BEING ROASTED IN FIRE. SUCH A GOD AND HEAVEN CANNOT BE DEFENDED. A GOD WITH SUCH VINDICTIVENESS IS A TOTALLY CONTRADICTION TO THE GOD WHO WOULD HAVE ALL MEN COME TO REPENTANCE. God is not an eternal prison keeper who loves to torment all that are in His prison. Those who believe in an immortal soul must believe in an eternal hell, and in eternal punishment that has no purpose, a punishment that is not proportionate to the sin, and in a god with a nature that the basest of men would not defend; eternal torment in Hell requires a god that is so dreadful that it make many reject him and his bible. **When I gave up the evil God of Hell, and believed in the true God; it brought a peace and joy I never believed possible. I now worship a God who is worthy of being loved and worshiped.**

#### THE FATE OF THOSE WHO ARE NOT IN CHRIST

[1] **UTTERLY DESTROYED** [Acts 3:23]

[2] **DEATH** [Romans 6:23; 6:21; 7:5; 4:17; 8:6; 1 Corinthians 3:22]

[3] **MUST DIE** [Romans 8:13; John 8:24; 6:50]. This is not the first death, which comes to all, to both those who are saved and those who are lost [Hebrews 9:27], but is the **SECOND DEATH** (eternal nothingness) [Revelation 21:8]. All will die once but the lost will die twice

[4] "*And when sin is accomplished, it brings forth **DEATH***" [James 1:15]

[5] "*Condemned them to **EXTINCTION***" Revised Standard Version [2 Peter 2:6]



- [6] They *“are WORTHY OF DEATH”* [Romans 1:32]  
[7] PASSES AWAY [1 John 2:17]  
[8] Their END is DEATH [Romans 6:21-22]  
[9] Their wages for sin *“IS DEATH”* [Romans 6:23]  
[10] They *“MUST DIE”* [Romans 8:13]  
[11] *“Their END is DESTRUCTION”* [Philippians 3:19]  
[12] *“Whose END is TO BE BURNED”* [Hebrews 6:8]  
[13] *“Everlasting DESTRUCTION”* [2 Thessalonians 1:9]  
[14] *“Sudden DESTRUCTION”* [1 Thessalonians 5:2-3]  
[15] *“Swift DESTRUCTION”* [2 Peter 2:1]  
[16] *“Will reap DESTRUCTION”* [Galatians 6:8]  
[17] *“DESTRUCTION of ungodly man”* [2 Peter 3:7]  
[18] Are on the broad way leading to **DESTRUCTION** [Matthew 7:13-14; Philippians 3:19; 1:28; 2 Peter 3:7]  
[19] God will **DESTROY** [1 Corinthians 3:17; 2 Peter 2:12]  
[20] Will be *“DESTROYED”* like Sodom [Luke 17:29]  
[21] **BRING TO NOTHING** [2 Thessalonians 2:8]  
[22] Will be **TURNED TO ASHES** like Sodom and Gomorrah [Peter 2:6]  
[23] Will *“BE BURNED UP”* [2 Peter 3:10]  
[24] Will *“PERISH”* [John 3:16]  
[25] Will be *“SLAIN”* [Luke 19:14]  
[26] Will be *“THROWN AWAY”* [Matthew 13:18]  
[27] They *“SHALL NOT SEE LIFE”* [John 3:36; 5:40; 1 John 3:15]  
[28] **DO NOT HAVE THE “LIFE”** Christ gives to them that obey Him [John 3:36; 5:21; 5:24; 5:29; 5:40; 6:27; Matthew 19:29; 1 John 5:12]  
[29] Will **LOSE LIFE** [Matthew 10:39]  
[30] Will have **NO ACCESS TO THE TREE OF LIFE** [Revelation 2:7; 22:2; 22:14]  
[31] Will be **BLOTTED OUT OF THE BOOK OF LIFE** [Revelation 3:5]  
[32] Shall **PASS AWAY** in *“the Day of Judgment and DESTRUCTION OF UNGODLY MEN,”* the *“heavens shall pass away...shall be dissolved...burned up”* [2 Peter 3:7-13]  
[33] Will be *“DEVOUR”* [American Standard Version]  
**“CONSUME”** [New American Standard Version] [Hebrews 10:27; 12:29]

[34] Fate of the wicked in the parable-always destroyed, death, not tormented

- **THEY WILL BURN UP like the useless chaff of wheat** [Matthew 3:12, Luke 3:17]
- **BURNED like weeds, tares and bad fish** [Matthew 13:30-50]
- **Like harmful plants will be rooted up** [Matthew 15:13]
- **Cut asunder like the unfaithful servant** [Matthew 24:45-51]
- **Cut down like useless fig tree** [Luke 13:6-9]
- **SLAIN (killed) like enemies** [Luke 19:27]
- **Cast out and KILLED like the unfaithful husbandman** [Luke 20:9-17]
- **Are BURNED UP like withered branches** [John 15:6]
  - If the above language does not denote the utter destruction of the wicked, what language could God have used that would? None. Those who try to explain away the above would try to explain away any language that could be used.

[35] Fate of the wicked in the Old Testament (the fate of people and nations in this lifetime)

- *"Behold the day comes, it burns as a furnace [see 2 Peter 3:10-12] and all the proud and all that work wickedness shall be stubble; and the day that comes **SHALL BURN THEM UP**, says the LORD of hosts, that **IT SHALL LEAVE THEM NEITHER ROOT NOR BRANCH**" [Malachi 4:1-3]. Probably said of the nation of Israel. Burn up a plant and leave it neither root nor branch and nothing will remain of it. Nothing will remain of the nation.*
- The wicked *"shall soon **be cut down like the grass**"* [Psalms 37:2]
- *"Shall be cut off...**shall not be**"* [Psalms 37:9-10]
- *"Will **be as nothing**"* [Isaiah 41:11]
- *"Become **as if they has never existed**"* [Obadiah 16]
- *"Shall perish...in smoke shall they **consume away**"* [Psalms 37:20]
- *"They shall **be destroyed**"* [Psalms 37:38]. *"**Altogether destroyed**"* New Revised Standard Version
- Shall *"**melt away**"* [Psalms 112:10; 68:2]

- "*But the way of the wicked will perish*" [Psalms 1:6]
- "*But all the wicked, He will destroy*" [Psalms 145:20]
- "*Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My book*" [Exodus 32:33]
- "*The wicked is reserved to the day of destruction*" [Job 21:30]
- "*They are like the chaff which the wind drives away*" [Psalms 1:4]
- **Souls shall die** [Genesis 3:3; Ezekiel 18:4; 13:19]

[36] Add to this the fact that Hell is not in the Bible, not the name or the concept; nothing is said about God tormenting anyone after the judgment; nothing is said about the wicked after the second death; and you have a clear picture of the fate of the wicked. **GOD COULD NOT HAVE SAID IN HUMAN LANGUAGE ANY CLEARER OR STRONGER WHAT THE FATE OF THE WICKED WILL BE.** If you think it could be said any more clearly, try it. You cannot do it. **BETWEEN THE STATEMENTS OF THE INSPIRED WRITERS OF THE BIBLE ABOVE, AND THE UNINSPIRED TEACHING OF MEN, THERE IS AN ENORMOUS DISCREPANCY AND CONTRADICTION THAT CANNOT BE EXPLAINED AWAY.**

Our choice is **life** or **death** [see Deuteronomy 30:19-20]. To **live** or **die** [Ezekiel 18:20], an eternal life in Hell forever being tormented by God is not one of our choices.

*"But even if we are an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we preached to you, let that one be accursed! As we have said before, so now I **PRPEAT**, if anyone preaches to you a gospel contrary to what you received, let that one be accursed"* [Galatians 1:7-8]. Is there another time Paul said something so serious that he repeated it? If "*the wages of sin is death*" and someone preaches to you "the wages of sin is eternal life in torment" that one should be accursed of preaching a gospel contrary to that which Paul preached.

### **AFTER THE RESURRECTION THE FATE OF THOSE WHO ARE IN CHRIST**

[1] **Eternal life** [Romans 6:23]

[2] "**Shall inherit eternal life**" [Matthew 19:29]

[3] After the judgment they "**shall go away into eternal life**" [Matthew 25:46]

[4] Will "**have eternal life**" [John 3:5]

[5] Christ will raise them up on the last day [John 6:40]

[6] Will be immortal after the resurrection [1 Corinthians 15:51-56]

[7] Will have incorruption [1 Corinthians 15:42]

[8] Will have glory [1 Corinthians 15:43]

[9] Will be like Christ "*We shall be like him; for we shall see him even as he is*" [1 John 3:2]

[10] Are "**heirs according to the hope of eternal life**" [Titus 3:7]

[11] Will have a spiritual body [1 Corinthians 15:44]

[12] "**And as we have borne the image of the earthly** (The earthly flesh and blood body of Adam was made to live on this earth but it "*cannot inherit the kingdom of God*" 1 Corinthians 15:50), **we shall also bear the image of the heavenly**" (Shall be like the spiritual body of Christ for life in Heaven) [1 Corinthians 15:47-56]

[13] "**Will never perish**" [John 10:28]

[14] Forever with the Lord [1 Thessalonians 4:17]

[15] MANY MANSIONS IN MY FATHER'S HOUSE: "**In my Father's house** (Who is in Heaven Matthew 5:16; 5:45; 5:48; 6:1; 6:9; 7:21; 10:32-33) **are many mansions...I go to prepare a place for you.**" (Where did Christ go to prepare a place for us? In the mansions in His Father's house in Heaven. "*For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but himself says: 'THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD, SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, UNTIL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR YOUR FEET.'*" Acts 2:34-35) "**And if I go and prepare a place for you,** (A place in my Father's house in Heaven) **I come again, and will receive you unto myself; that where I am there you may also be** (With me in the place I go to prepare for you in My Father's house in Heaven [John 14:1-3]. **But now I go unto him** (unto My Father who is in Heaven) **that sent me**" ("*The word-Chris who was with the Father in the beginning and has always been a heavenly being with God became flesh, and dwelt among us*" John 1:14) [John 16:5]. He is no longer flesh, but has now gone back to Heaven to prepare a place for the saved and will come

back for them. *"He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne"* [Revelation 3:21]. Christ is now on His Father's throne in Heaven where He went to prepare a place for us.

**[16] FLESH AND BLOOD CANNOT INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF GOD:** *"And as we have borne the image of the earthy [flesh and blood], we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. Now this I say, brethren that FLESH AND BLOOD CANNOT INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF GOD; (Our bodies in the image of Adam made for this earth are not suitable for Heaven) neither do corruption inherit incorruption (Neither can our corruptible bodies in the image of Adam inherit in the heavenly realm). Behold, I tell you a mystery: We all shall not sleep, (Shall not die) but we shall all be changed, (ALL the saved that are asleep when Christ comes and ALL the saved that are alive) in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, (Raised in the heavenly image of Christ, not in the corruptible image of Adam which they had when they died). For this corruptible must put on incorruption, (This earthly body in the image of Adam must put on incorruption, a spiritual body in the image of Christ. Adam never had a spiritual body before or after he sinned), and this mortal must put on immortality (This mortal body which is the body we now have must be changed to an immortal spiritual body which will not be the body of this earth which we now have). But, when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory"* [1 Corinthians 15:50-54]. In this passage Paul is telling the Corinthians what their body will be after the resurrection.

- It cannot be *"flesh and blood"* for flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God [1 Corinthians 15:50].
- It cannot be a body of *"corruption"* in the image of Adam for a body of corruption cannot inherit incorruption [1 Corinthians 15:50-54].

- It cannot be the mortal body that we now have for this mortal body must put on immortality [1 Corinthians 15:53-54].

[17] *"We that are alive, that are left unto the coming of the Lord, shall in no wise precede them that are fallen asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven, with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first; then we that are alive, that are left, shall together with them be caught up in the clouds (To meet Him in the air and will have a body not of this earth) to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall ever be with the Lord"* [1 Thessalonians 4:16-17].

[18] *"Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we shall be. (We know what the image of Adam is for we now have it. His image was flesh and blood both before and after he sinned, and we know that we now have his image, a body of flesh and blood, but we do not now know what the spiritual body in the image of Christ will be like.) We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him because we shall see Him just as He is"* [1 John 3:2].

[19] **WILL BE LIKE ANGELS** *"The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage, but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age (The age to come. Not all will be worthy to attain to it) and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage; for neither can they die any more, FOR THEY ARE LIKE ANGELS, (Like the angels, the saved will have a body that will be suitable for Heaven. Not an earthly being and will no longer have a body in the image of Adam made for this earth, but will have a spiritual body in the image of Christ. ANGELS HAVE NEVER HAD AN EARTHLY BODY IN THE IMAGE OF ADAM. WHEN WE ARE LIKE ANGELS WE WILL NOT HAVE AN EARTHLY BODY IN THE IMAGE OF ADAM) and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection"* [Luke 20:34-36]. Adam was made of the earth and had a flesh and blood body and Eve was made from his body before their sin, they never had a spiritual body or a body like the angels. To have a body like Adam before he sinned would be to have a flesh and blood body and be male and female. It would be nothing like the Angels.

[20] *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his great mercy begat us again unto a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **unto an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fades not away, reserved in heaven for you, who by the power of God are guarded through faith unto a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time**" [1 Peter 1:4].*

[21] **SEEK THE THINGS ABOVE** *"If then you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. **WHEN CHRIST, WHO IS OUR LIFE, IS REVEALED, THEN YOU ALSO WILL BE REVEALED WITH HIM IN GLORY**" [Colossians 2:1-4].*

[22] **WE NOW BEAR THE IMAGE OF THE EARTHLY [Adam] WE SHALL BEAR THE IMAGE OF THE HEAVENLY [Christ]** *"And just as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly" (Not the flesh and blood image of Adam before or after he sinned, not an earthly body, not a body of dust) [1 Corinthians 15:48].*

## **GOD HAS SPOKE**

### **In The Clearest Way That Is Possible With Human Language**

*"For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not anything, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten...for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in Sheol, where you go" [Ecclesiastes 9:5-10]. "His breath goes forth, he returns to the earth: in that very day his thoughts perish" [Psalms 146:4]. "So man lies down and rises not: till the heavens be no more, they shall not awake, nor be roused out of their sleep" [Job 14:12]. If you read God's word and you still believe a person now has an immortal soul; and is not subject to death, there is no human language God could use to tell you otherwise. You have believed men and Satan, and will not hear God.*

There is nothing hard to understand about the nature of a person or the fate of the wicked. It takes much help from theology to not understand the clear teaching of the Bible. Much help to make many believe Satan's lie over God's word.

Much help for anyone to not be able to see the simple truth when he or she reads the Bible.

**COULD GOD HAVE GIVEN HIS REVELATION ABOUT THE FATE OF MANKIND AFTER DEATH IN A WAY THAT ALL COULD UNDERSTAND IT? THE ANSWER IS YES. HE COULD AND DID CHOOSE WORDS, PARABLES, SYMBOLS, AND METAPHORS THAT CLEARLY TEACH THE DEATH OF, NOT THE ETERNAL TORMENT OF THE LOST. THE UNSAVED DIE, PERISH, ARE DESTROYED, AND ARE LOST. THE OBEDIENT ARE SAVED FROM DEATH, AND GIVEN LIFE AND IMMORTALITY AT THE JUDGMENT. GOD COULD NOT HAVE SAID IT ANY CLEARER. IF YOU THINK HE COULD HAVE, TRY TO SAY IT ANY CLEARER.** The words and expressions are used that put the truth beyond all possibility of question. Eternal life with torment would not be death.

BE HONEST WITH YOURSELF, WITH GOD, AND GO TO HIS WORD WITH HONESTY, LOVE, AND REVERENCE. Can pagan teachings, which are promoted in the name of Christ, result in knowledge of the truth that can save?

**DO YOU WANT TO DIE? WHEN THE BIBLE SAYS, "*THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH*" IT LITERALLY MEANS WHAT IT SAYS, "*THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH*" NOT ETERANL LIFE IN TORMENT.** Do you want to face God's wrath at the judgment and be found not fit to live? Do you want to know that the second death will be an eternal end of you? If not, then: Hear and Believe [Romans 1:16; Hebrews 11:6]. Repent [Luke 13:5]. Die to sin, and through baptism be buried and raised to walk in newness of life with Christ [Romans 6:1-23; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38 John 3:5]. "*For if we have become united with him in the likeness of his death (through baptism), we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection*" [Romans 6:5]. "*God gave unto us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that has the Son has the life; he that has not the Son of God has not the life*" [1 John 5:11-12]. Live faithfully unto death, and receive the crown of life and immortality at the resurrection [Revelation 2:10; 1 Corinthians 15:52-55; John 5:21]. "*But they that are accounted worthy to attain to that world, and the resurrection from the dead...neither can they die any more: for they...are sons of God*" [Luke 20:35]. "*It was necessary that the word of*



*God should first be spoken to you. Seeing you thrust it from you AND JUDGE YOURSELVES UNWORTHY OF ETERNAL LIFE, lo, we turn to the Gentiles" [Acts 13:45-48]. THE QUESTION IS NOT WHERE WILL YOU SPEND YOUR ETERNITY, BUT WILL YOU HAVE AN ETERNITY.*

*"For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; who WILL transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory" [Philippians 3:20-21]. "To him that overcomes, to him will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of God" [Revelation 2:7]. THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD TOTALLY DESTROYS THE DOCTRINE OF AN IMMORTAL SOUL FROM BIRTH. IF ANYONE HAD A SOUL THAT WAS ALIVE AND IN HEAVEN, IT COULD NOT BE RESURRECTED FROM THE DEAD, IT WOULD HAVE NO NEED OF THE RESURRECTION.*

A brief summary of some of the main points of this book.

- An immortal undying soul makes death, the wages of sin, and the resurrection impossible. Who do you believe, God or Satan?
- Going to Heaven at the moment of death makes a person judgment be at death, not at the second coming of Christ, and makes the resurrection impossible. Who do you believe, Christ or the Platonic philosophy of the survival of the soul?
- When unconditional immortality says the soul is the real person and can never die, that the soul of Christ, which was the real Christ was alive before the resurrection on the third day, that only the body of flesh dies, it makes the real Christ to have never died, only a body of flesh; therefore, the real Christ never died for us and we are still in our sins.

*"But now has Christ been raised from the dead, the first fruits of them that are asleep. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But, each in his own order: Christ the first fruits; then they that are Christ's at his coming." Could Paul have been any more specific? ONLY*

**THROUGH THE RESURRECTION AT THE SECOND COMING  
OF CHRIST WILL ANYONE HAVE LIFE AFTER DEATH.**

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This is a part of 'Immortality or Resurrection.' Part of chapters 5 and 10.

This book is free on line at:

<http://www.free-ebooks.net/ebook/Immortality-and-Resurrection-Updated>

And at:

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