

THE TRUTH CONCERNING HELL
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SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

Luke 16:19-31

The rich man...in hell he lift up his eyes. We must be careful about how we treat others while alive upon the earth.

¹⁹There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day:

²⁰And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores,

²¹And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.

²²And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried;

²³And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

²⁴And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.

²⁵But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.

²⁶And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence.

²⁷Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house:

²⁸For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.

²⁹Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.

³⁰And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent.

³¹And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

Isaiah 5:14-16

What does the scripture mean when it says that “HELL HATH ENLARGED HERSELF..”?

¹³Therefore my people are gone into captivity, because they have no knowledge: and their honourable men are famished, and their multitude dried up with thirst.

¹⁴Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it.

¹⁵And the mean man shall be brought down, and the mighty man shall be humbled, and the eyes of the lofty shall be humbled:

¹⁶But the LORD of hosts shall be exalted in judgment, and God that is holy shall be sanctified in righteousness.

1 Peter 4:16-19

The righteous are SCARCELY SAVED...

¹⁶Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.

¹⁷For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?

¹⁸And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?

¹⁹Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.

1 Peter 1:7

⁷That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

1 Peter 4:6-8

⁶For for this cause was the gospel preached also to them that are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit.

⁷But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.

⁸And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.

Additional Scriptures:

- **Matt. 16:18** “The gates of Hades” means “the powers of destruction. God’s way of saying that his church cannot be destroyed.
- **Rev. 6:8** “And I looked and behold a Pale Horse and his name was Death. And Hell followed him.
- **Rev. 1:18** I am He that liveth and was dead and have the keys of hell and death.
- **I Cor. 15:55** “O death where is thy sting?”
- **I Sam. 66:23-24** The undying worm

BELIEFS ABOUT HELL

Christians

In Christian theology, hell is the place or state into which unrepentant sinners pass after this life. Hell is generally thought to be eternal, and to include both punishment and separation from God

Jehova’s Witnesses

Jehovah's Witnesses do not believe in the existence of hell. Instead, they hold that the souls of the wicked will be annihilated. The death that Adam brought into the world is spiritual as well as physical, and only those who gain entrance into the Kingdom of God will exist eternally. However, this division will not occur until Armageddon, when all people will be resurrected and given a chance to gain eternal life. In the meantime, "the dead are conscious of nothing." Based on their reading of prophetic books

like Daniel and Revelation, Jehovah's Witnesses believe that only 144,000 people will go to heaven to rule with God and Jesus. The remainder of the righteous will enjoy paradise on earth - a restored Garden of Eden in which there is no sickness, old age, death or unhappiness. They believe that the Heavenly Kingdom was established in 1914 CE. A "little flock" or "Anointed Class" of about 135,400 people currently inhabits Heaven. Another 8600 are still alive at the present time; will also spend eternity with God at a later date. After the world is purified, a theocracy "God's Kingdom" will be established on earth for 1000 years. Those who survive Armageddon, the "other sheep," will live in peace in the newly created utopia—a paradise on earth. They will be joined by the worthy dead who have been resurrected. After 1000 years of God's Kingdom, Satan, his demon forces and all those rebellious ones who turn against God will be finally destroyed. In order to be saved, a person should:

- Accept the doctrines formulated by the WTS governing Body,
- Be baptized as a Jehova's Witness, and
- Follow the program of works as laid out by the Governing Body.

Mormons

Mormons do believe in hell. Those who did not repent while on Earth will experience a **temporary hell** after death (during the time that all spirits go to the spirit world before the Resurrection), but will have an opportunity to repent afterwards and avoid the eternal hell. Hell as an eternal place of misery it is inhabited only by Satan and those who explicitly reject "the Heavenly Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost" even after the period of instruction after death.

Unity Christian Church

A religious movement founded by Reverend Sun Myung Moon in Korea in 1954. World War III, which Unification Church members say is yet to come, will satisfy the indemnity condition for the Third Blessing. After this, the Kingdom of God on earth can be established, in which all peoples, cultures, races, and religions will be united together and united with God in a Four Position Foundation. The world will finally enjoy eternal peace, love and joy.

This is the ultimate hope of the Unification Church and its followers.

Scientists

Science does not include an official belief about the afterlife. However, it reports that during auditing, a person often recalls memories of past lives and that Scientology ascribes to the idea of being born again into another body.

Muslims

The level of hell depends on the degree of offenses. Suffering is both physical and spiritual. Being a Muslim does not keep one out of Hell, but it is not clear whether Muslims remain in Hell forever. Non-Muslims, however, will be punished eternally. Alternatively, Hell can be seen as a place of progress where souls are instructed until they are fit to go to heaven.

Nation of Islam

Members do not believe in the hereafter, whether it be heaven or hell. To the nation of Islam, heaven and hell are regarded as special conditions here on earth now, not as special places to go after death.

Seventh Day Adventists

They do not believe that Hell is a place of eternal punishment. They view Hell as a place where the unsaved will be burned up, reduced to ashes, and annihilated. They cite Biblical verses to show that the “everlasting” in “everlasting hell” means ‘as long as there is something to burn in hell.’