

A Biblical Tour Of Hell

Matthew 25 & Luke 16/ and various other texts

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*There are many tourist attractions across the world drawing millions of visitors annually. However, there is one place that no one can visit while still "in the body"... and that place the Bible calls **Hell**. This is a place I'm thankful I can't even visit to take a tour of!! We can't go there—no one can until after death. So, to know what it is like, we must depend on the Word of God to give us a "verbal tour".*

So man false views of hell today:

** Just a swear word * Here on earth * annihilation*

** Doesn't exist * Reincarnation * Just separation from God*

September 11th, 2001 - A quote from one of the surviving firemen:

"It was like looking through the gates of hell."

I want us to get a vision of hell today, and a burden for souls- by looking through the gates of hell.

PRAYER

Hell is a Place of...

1. Ungodly Separation

Matthew 25:41- "Depart from me"

Believers can know and experience God's presence in a real and wonderful way in this life (Psalm 16:11), and someday in heaven we will be in His physical presence (Rev. 21:23), but those in hell will never enjoy Christ's presence.

2. Unending Duration

Matthew 25:41 "everlasting fire"

Eternal bliss & eternal banishment will both continue as long as God continues! (Psalm 90:2 and Rev. 14:11a) FOREVER is an incomprehensible length of time!!!

Supernatural bird- earth to moon illustration

3. Unquenchable Fire

Matthew 25:41 Mark 9:43-46 & 48

Brother Lowery's words to the firemen of Queens aboard their large fire truck in the mid 80's: "Men, we are really doing very similar work – both trying to save people from fire. You are trying to save them from physical fire, I'm trying to save them from hell's fire. The difference is that you can put out the fires you are called to, but hell's fire cannot be put out."

4. Unearthly Origins

Matt. 25:41 "prepared for the devil and his angels"

Hell was not prepared originally for mankind, but for Lucifer and his mutinous followers. (Isa.14:12-15) Jude 6 informs us of a portion of the demons being presently chained in hell, while a great portion are roaming planet Earth with Satan. Mankind now goes to hell, because it is the house of their father, the Devil. (John 8:44)

Review of these first four descriptions: Hell is a place of...

Ungodly Separation

Unending Duration

Unquenchable Fire

Unearthly Origins

Hell is a Place of...

5. Unavoidable Entrance

Matt. 25:46 "and these shall go away"

The rich man in Luke 16 goes immediately to hell – his riches could not buy him an exemption. (Prov. 11:4- Riches profit not in the day of wrath" - Bill Gates Illustration) All men are on two roads (Mt. 7:13 & 14), and the gate of destruction is open wide, there are no barriers. (Refer to Bridge of God picture)

6. Unparalleled Torments

Matt. 25:46 "everlasting punishment"

I see 8 torments in hell (beyond it being a place of eternal, unquenchable fire).

5 Torments Found in Luke 16:10-31

There will be unbearable pain v. 23

There will be unanswered prayers vs. 24 -31

There will be unsatisfied thirst vs. 24 & 25

There will be unforgettable memories v. 25

There will be unsuccessful escapes v. 26

3 Additional Torments Found In Hell

There will be unpleasant sounds Mt. 13:41-43

There will be unlighted dungeons Mt. 22:13

There will be unfulfilled desires Rev.22:11

The lost will still have their sinful nature with all of its evil desires...but, hell will have no places or activities of evil to fulfill those desires.

7. Unlimited Space

Isaiah 5:14a "Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure:"

Hell is "elastic." Though there are over 6 billion people alive today, there would be room for all in hell. It would stretch to make room.

Isaiah 5:15 – The proud will be humbled through judgment; Isaiah 5:16 – God will be exalted through judgment.

Appeal To Salvation

Another place where there is a GREAT AMOUNT of Room – is at the foot of the Cross. Jesus died & paid for the sins of the whole world (I John 2:2), and our loving, merciful, longsuffering God is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. (II Peter 3:9)

Unsaved Friend: Come to Christ/You Need Not Perish

Talk of the glories of heaven!

You must turn in sincere repentance and simple faith to Jesus Christ.

Appeal To Evangelism

Saved Friend: Witness for Christ/ Rescue the Perishing

*In 100 years of the NYC Fire Department – in all 5 boroughs – 700 firemen have died in the line of duty. 344 died on one day! **They were trying their best to rescue the perishing/ they were caring for the dying!***

Christian friend: May you see friends, neighbors, relatives, work associates, class mates – stumbling on the brink of woe!!

May this tour of hell shake us from our apathy/ our lethargy and our disobedience and move us to fervent, compassionate evangelism!!