

# Scriptural Hell



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## Scriptural Hell

I was in prayer one morning and found that the Lord wanted me to preach on Hell. Now, I do not like preaching doom-and-gloom kind of things. I prefer to preach on the good topics of love, grace, and His tender mercies, which are new every morning. But, I wanted to be obedient to His voice, because His miracles come when we are obedient to His voice. This lesson will walk you through the Old Testament, the New Testament, and Revelation on the topic of "Hell." Let the Word of God speak to your heart and give you scriptural truth about this place we call "Hell."

The first place I would like us to start is with a verse found in the book of Hebrews. Listen with your heart to gain God's truth, understanding, and His wisdom. In Hebrews chapter 13:8, the Bible says, "*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*" The word of God is clear that Jesus, or God, does not change. So, in simple logic, we should find a description of "Hell" in the Old Testament, the New Testament, and in the book of Revelation. Do you see the connection? So, in my earthly logic, I perceive the Old Testament as relating to "yesterday", the New Testament relating to "today", and the book of Revelation relating to "forever."

Let us begin our enquiry about "Hell" in the Old Testament in the book of Isaiah. Understand that there are 35 verses where the New King James Version uses the word "Hell." We are only going to look at a few. So, turn with me to the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter of the book of Isaiah and we read:

*"Hell from beneath is excited about you, to meet you at your coming; It stirs up the dead for you, All the chief ones of the earth; It has raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations.*

*(Isaiah 14:9)*

In verse nine we see words that are not very comforting. According to the prophet Isaiah "Hell" is a real place full of dead people. At one time these people held power and riches in their hands, but now they are weak and powerless. In fact, they are stirred with excitement about your coming into their world. Once again, logic tells us that they are dead physically but they are alive spiritually.

In the prisons we see how the compounds are stirred with excitement when new prisoners are ushered into the unit. The men whistle, howl, and even bark, for they know that these new men are as weak and powerless as they are. Just stop and think for a moment: Hitler will be all excited about your coming into his spiritual eternity. Yes, notice the dead people are spiritually alive somewhere. Where is that special somewhere? That special somewhere is, "HELL"!

This time let us hear the next words that the messenger of God delivers to us.

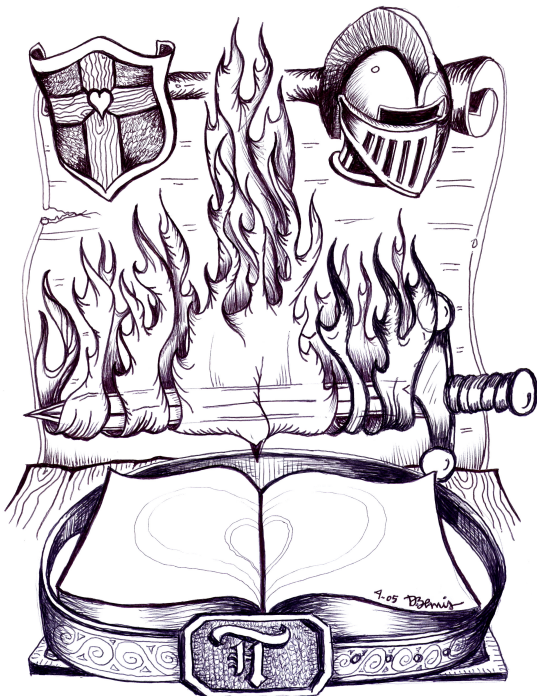
*They all shall speak and say to you: 'Have you also become as weak as we? Have you become like us? Your pomp is brought down to Sheol, and the sound of your stringed instruments; the maggot is spread*

*under you, and worms cover you.’*  
(Isaiah 14:10-11)

We gain more information on “Hell” from these verses. We see that this is where the dead people live, and these dead people can speak. Listen to the words spoken by the dead; and again, they are not words of comfort but words that hint at torment.

- They all speak and say the same thing
- They all admit to being weak
- They all lost everything and now live in Sheol
- Sheol in Hebrew means “the dwelling place of the dead”, or “the underworld” and even “a pit”
- What brought them to this pit was their pride or pageantry
- They admit to having maggots under them and worms over them

I do not want to go to this place of weakness, maggots, and worms. I do not want to dwell where these dead men are living. Did you learn anything



from either the prophet Isaiah or did you learn more from the voices of the dead in “Hell?”

The time has come to let scripture speak to your heart, and the time has come to let scripture become your personal truth. If you let scripture become your truth then other people will not be able to confuse you. Let scripture define your theology or your doctrine.

Listen to what is said next in our text:

*“How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations!*

*For you have said in your heart: ‘I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.’ Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, to the lowest depths of the Pit. “Those who see you will gaze at you, and consider you, saying:*

*‘Is this the man who made the earth tremble, who shook kingdoms, who made the world as a wilderness And destroyed its cities, Who did not open the house of his prisoners?’ (Isaiah 14:11-17)*

We find Lucifer in this place of “Hell” and his name means “bright shining light”; figuratively his name means SATAN or the DEVIL. In this portion of scripture we see that he, too, has lost his power and that he is weak and powerless. We also see that

it is Satan who has weakened the nations of the earth. Nothing has changed with Satan, either. Since the beginning he has been trying to destroy, kill, and steal from God's people. We find in this portion of scripture that he, Satan, is responsible for the downfall of many nations.

But we hear from the prophet Isaiah that he is cut down and dwells in the underworld of the dead. Lucifer was cut down and has fallen from his one-time position in Heaven. We also see the reason for his fall. He tried to exalt himself above God. Anyone that thinks they know better than God has just exalted them as Satan did. I fear their demise is "Hell". I want you to understand that if you hang on to "bitterness or hatred" then you are telling God that you know better than He. You are exalting your thinking above God's, thus you are acting just like Satan.

I also noticed that Lucifer also keeps the prison doors shut on his people, while God wants to set the captive free (Isaiah 43-6-9). Oh, dear reader, what a contrast of ideology. Satan is still trying to ruin each of us while God is trying to save us from his reign of torment.

In another place in the Old Testament it reads:

*And He said: 'I will hide My face from them, I will see what their end will be, for they are a perverse generation, children in whom is no faith.*

*They have provoked Me to jealousy by what is not God; they have moved Me to anger by their foolish idols. But I will provoke them to jealousy by those who are not a nation; I will move them to anger by a foolish nation.*

*For a fire is kindled in My anger, and shall burn to the lowest hell; it shall consume the earth with her increase, and set on fire the foundations of the mountains. (Deuteronomy 32:20-22)*

If we are not right with God, according to what He sees and what He hears, then God will release us to our perverse ways. According to scripture, if we have no faith or trust in our Heavenly Father and His promises, then He will release us to our own destruction. The final outcome of all this is to burn in "Hell". This is not my idea; just read the scripture with your own eyes and ask God for His understanding.

So let us review what we have learned from the Old Testament scriptures:

- The dead speak
- They all are weak
- They all lost everything
- Sheol in Hebrew means the dwelling place of the dead, or the underworld and even a pit
- Pride and pomp brought them to this pit
- Maggots are under them and worms are over them
- No faith gains you access to "Hell"
- Keeping your idols gains you a place in "Hell"
- You burn in "Hell"
- God hides His face from us in "Hell"

I do not know about you, but I do not want to live in this place called "Hell". Hence, I need a Savior because I need to be saved!

Next we will look into the New Testament and this time we will listen to the words of Jesus:

*“There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man’s table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. (Luke 16:19-22)*

The final outcome of both of these men is physical death, but they are still alive spiritually. Lazarus the beggar was escorted to Heaven by angels and is at the side of Abraham. On the contrary, we find the rich man also died but no angels greeted him. There is not one human being that will not die. Each and every one of us is racing toward physical death. Some of us will die sooner than others, but we are all going to die and after that face judgment (Hebrews 9:27). Let us continue reading this parable spoken to us by Jesus recorded by Dr. Luke.

*And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. “Then 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.’ But Abraham said, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are*

*tormented. And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.’ (Luke 16:23-26)*

Jesus explained many things in this portion of scripture. First, that the rich man found torment and the beggar found comfort. But, we also see that all the riches the man had were left on the other side of death in a place called Hades. The rich man could see Heaven and those in Heaven could see the one-time rich man. But there was a great separation between the two that no one can cross. Those in “Hell” cannot cross to Heaven and those in Heaven cannot cross over to “Hell.” This torment and this separation are just two things that Jesus wants to save us from. I ask you; what separates us from God? According to scripture, it is sin. Sin separates us from God (Isaiah 59:2).

In our translation they used the word “Hades”, but Hades, Hell, and Sheol are all the same place: a place where the dead live.

The Lord has made a way for us to cross over from death to life, or from Hell to Heaven, and it is through Jesus Christ (Matthew 5:24). Jesus Christ says that He is the way, the truth, and no one comes to the Father except through Him (John 14:6). But, going to Heaven or Hell is a choice we must make on this side of physical death. Remember that no choice is a choice, and no choice will mean that you desire to live in “Hell” in torment, in the flames, and with the worms.

Let us think about what Jesus has taught us in this selected portion of scripture.

- There is a Hell
- Hell is a place of torment
- Hell is dry, hot, and thirsty
- In Hell there is fire
- There is separation from God in Hell
- No one can pass between Heaven and Hell
- Heaven is a place of comfort

Let us move on in this portion scripture found in the book of Luke.

*“Then he said, ‘I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father’s house, for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.’ Abraham said to him, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.’ And he said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ But he said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.’” (Luke 16:27-31)*

The very first things that Jesus points to are the Old Testament books written by Moses and the prophets. Jesus tells us that we must start understanding all the scriptures given to us. The Old Testament is the Bible that Jesus read. In the old stories and the documentation of past events, such as the great flood, we can find the heart of God.

An example of this is found in the story of Noah. For 120 years Noah told everyone that judgment was coming, but no one listened. After all

those years Noah was only able to save his family. But God reached out to all the people because He wants to save everyone (Genesis 6).

Next, we find Jesus teaching us that people will not even listen to someone who has been raised from the dead. Remember: they had Lazarus who was raised from the dead and they would not listen to him. The fact is they wanted to kill Jesus and him (John 11). Jesus was predicting that people would not believe even when He would raise from the dead. But God has made a way for people to be saved. You might ask the question, “Saved from what?” Let me give you a short list of things that God wants to save us from in reference to “HELL”.

1. Save you from being weak
2. Save you from living in Sheol
3. Save you from living in the underworld, or the pit, with dead people
4. Save you from your pride and pomp
5. Save you from having maggots under you and worms over you
6. Save you from burning in “Hell”
7. Save you from torment
8. Save you from separation with God
9. Save you from being thirsty, dry and hot

As I look at this list, I think God is a good God and He gave His only Son that we can be saved from that list on “HELL.”

Let us now look into Revelation and see what we find inside the words of John on the Island of Patmos. In the latter chapters of Revelation we read:

*Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful."*

*And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death." (Revelation 21:5-8)*

In Revelation we glean from our text the following ideas: number one would be that these words, or the words of Jesus, are faithful and true according to the one sitting on the throne in Heaven. Again we learn that He is able to quench the thirst of those who need a drink. With this statement we see He has a plan to help us, if we will call out unto Him, to save us from thirst. Are your bones or is your spirit thirsty today? Then call out to the only one that can save us.

But the most exciting thing I read in this section of scripture is the fact that we can become His son. Jesus is the King of Kings and we can become His children with full inheritance. So, if you have been abandoned, rejected, or hurt while on earth, God is reaching out to you and saying, "Come unto Me for My burden is light" (Matthew 11:29-30). If we can let go of our hurt and realize we are being offered a better heritage, then behold all things will become new! The old man will die and a new man will emerge (2 Corinthians 5:17).

The scriptures then give us a list of people whom God is not going



to allow into Paradise. Let us explore some of these items.

First on the list is “cowardly.” Those people who are cowards of the faith might find themselves in “Hell”, according to what we read in Revelation. If we will not acknowledge Jesus in front of man because we are cowards, He will not acknowledge us before the angels of God (Luke 12:8-10).

Next on our list is the word “abominable”, which could be acts of homosexuality. The world might teach us that homosexuality is an “alternative” lifestyle, but God’s word teaches that it is an abomination. Those who practice such things will inherit “HELL” and torment. But if those people will just repent they will be considered “sons” of God and inherit eternal life in Heaven. The same is true for the “murderers”, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, and liars, as well as those who hang onto their personal idols. All of these people will be cast into the lake of fire and brimstone. According to the writer, this is called the second death.

My dear friend, this is that from which what the Lord is trying to save us. Let us listen once more from the good news found in John and what the Apostle Paul writes in his letter to Ephesus.

First, listen to Jesus in John chapter three:

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his*

*one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.*

Jesus came to save the world. If a person ends his life and goes to “Hell” it is because of his own personal choice to ignore God’s salvation plan. The same is true of doctors today. Maybe you have cancer, and the doctor says he can save you, but you refuse his treatment plan. When you die, you have no right to blame the doctor; it was simply your own personal choice to not obey. The same is true in Christendom today. People







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