

## IS THERE A LITERAL HELL?

### Matthew 5:21

**Introduction:** There are many opinions, ideas, thoughts, theories about hell. It is a myth, figment of one's imagination, it is here on earth, it is in the center of the earth. Is there really, honest to goodness a hell?

### I. JESUS SAID THAT HELL IS A REAL PLACE

1. Matthew 5:29 - It is a place of fire.
2. Matthew 16:18, Revelation 1:18 - It is a place with gates and locks.
3. Matthew 23:33 - It is a place of eternal damnation.
4. Matthew 9:43-48 - It is a place where there is life.
5. Luke 16:19-31 - It is a place of torment. Those there are aware of their torment, they see, feel, desire, remember, beg for relief, all their senses are maintained.
6. Jesus spoke MORE about hell and eternal damnation than He did about Heaven and its blessings.

### II. WHEN WAS HELL CREATED?

1. Since God is eternal, it could have been created at anytime.
2. Matthew 25:41 - Jesus tells WHY it was created: for Satan and fallen angels.
3. It was not created for the human race. It was created BEFORE man.
4. Before man came, Lucifer rebelled against God and with him an innumerable number of angels, therefore God created Hell as a place of eternal punishment and imprisonment for them.

### III. WHERE IS HELL?

1. Sheol (Old Testament) and Hades (New Testament) are titles for the "unseen state," the place of the dead before Jesus came and died. Jesus freed the saints and took them to the heavenly "paradise", but the wicked, unbelieving dead are still there awaiting final judgment and eternal damnation.
2. It is a real place.
  - Hebrews 2:14-16 - Satan once held the keys to the gates of hell.
  - Ephesians 4:8-10 - Jesus descended and took the keys from Satan.
  - Numbers 16:28-33 - In all probability, Hell is in the center of this earth.
  - Psalm 16:9-10 - David prophesied of the day the Lord would descend and rescue the saints below.
  - Matthew 12:38-40 - Jesus, Himself, said He would descend into the earth.

- Matthew 13:41-42; 22:11-13; Revelation 9:1-2; 14:11 - It is a place of fire and torment.

#### **IV. HELL IS THE PLACE OF ETERNAL PUNISHMENT OF THE WICKED**

1. Revelation 19:20 - The "beast" and the "false prophet" will be the first humans cast into the Lake of Fire of Hell.
2. Revelation 20:11-15 - All wicked and unbelievers of the human race will be brought from hell and judged, then cast into the Lake of Fire in Hell.
3. Matthew 25:41; 13:49-50 - Punishment in Hell will be forever.
4. Revelation 20:10 - Satan will ultimately be cast into the Lake of Fire forever.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

1. *"All whose names were not found written in the Lamb's Book of Life were cast into the Lake of Fire."*
2. Is YOUR name in the Lamb's Book of Life?
3. Have you believed, trusted, surrendered your whole being into the hands of the Lord Jesus?
4. There is no other way to escape eternal damnation.