

THE WICKED SHALL BE TURNED INTO HELL

Psalms 9:16, 17

Introduction: The Bible is clear that the wicked will be brought into judgment. From there they will be turned into hell. The Lord is known by the judgment which He executes. He will show no mercy at that time. He will deal justice to all. The victim will have no say. Nothing he/she does in judgment will change the decision.

I. THE SCENE OF JUDGMENT

The day of judgment is yet to come, but it is certain, it is sure, it has been predicted in the Bible. Who will be the judge is clear. Who will be there is also clear. We know what the law is and the final verdict of the wicked. From the Isle of Patmos John saw the verdict and described it.

1. God Sat on a Great White Throne (Rev. 20:11)

John saw a great throne of judgment and it was white. The throne is not as important as the One who sat on it. This One was God. He will be so mighty and powerful in judgment that the earth and heaven will disappear before Him.

2. The Small and Great Stood Before God (Rev. 20:12)

People who had a long time before disappeared from the earth were there. People whom the world had forgotten were there, both small and great, rich and poor. People who had lived obscure lives, uneducated and unknown, were there, people about whom we have read in history, who have been hailed as heroes, and great world leaders, composers, actors, rulers, educators, and those beloved and honored by the world.

3. The Books Were Opened and Another Book Was Opened. (Rev. 20:15)

"The Books" are the books of the Bible, the Written Word, the Old and New Testaments. The other book is the book of life where the names of the righteous are recorded.

People will be judged according to the things written in the books. People who have hated the Bible and disbelieved the contents will finally be judged by it.

4. From Where Were the People and To Where are They Going? (Rev. 20:13, 14)

People from the grave will be there. Those lost at sea will appear in judgment. People whose bodies have a long time ago turned to dirt will stand in judgment with all their five senses. People whose bodies were devoured by flesh eating fish will be there.

These people will be turned into hell. It is called a lake of fire. It is called the second death.

II. THE WICKED SHALL BE TURNED INTO HELL

Hell is a place of punishment for the wicked. In the New Testament the word "hell" is translated from two words, "Hades" and "Gehenna." "Hades," like "Sheol" of the Old Testament, sometimes means the grave. In other places "Hades" translated "hell," means a place of torment. "Gehenna" was originally the valley of Hinnom, near Jerusalem, where filth and dead animals were burned, symbol of destruction of the wicked.

1. A Prayer Meeting Will Begin in Judgment (*Rom. 14:11, 12*)

Those who have never prayed will pray there. Knees that have never bowed to Him will knuckle under the white light of judgment. Tongues that have cursed Him will confess and beg for mercy. This will be an awful prayer meeting.

2. The Prayer Meetings Will Continue in Hell (*Luke 16:23, 24*)

Most people will go to hell praying. This man was still praying. He was begging for mercy and water. He was suffering. He was in the fire. His tongue was hot. He was tormented. He did not want any one else to come there. It is, however, a fruitless prayer meeting.

III. HELL IS A PLACE OF ETERNAL PUNISHMENT

All the theories, explanations and Bible commentaries will never change hell. It was prepared by God for the devil and his angels because they had sinned. They were eternal beings, therefore an eternal hell was prepared for them. Hell is as eternal as heaven, as eternal as God or the devil. People on the other side of the grave are eternal beings. The righteous will live in an eternal heaven and the wicked in an eternal hell.

1. Fire in Hell is Never Quenched (*Mark 9:43*)

"Never shall be quenched" means that the fire will never go out. It will burn forever. Explanations and theories will not cool this fire. It is an awful place to go, so terrible that it would be better to have your hand cut off than to go there.

2. People Who Go to Hell Will Be There Forever (*Matt. 9:44-46; Rev. 20:10*)

"Their worm dieth not." There will be no dying in hell. Those who go there will live there forever.

The devil and wicked people go to the same place. They are tormented all day and all night. This continues forever.

3. The Differences of Hell

There is no rest day or night. People are deprived of freedom of speech. Decisions are already made. None can be changed. There will be no friends there. Everybody hates each other. There will be no kind words. Those who are there are continually haunted with the thought of no hope, no day to look forward to, no future, only punishment.

CONCLUSION:

All people will die, after which they will go to the judgment. Standing in judgment, looking back over the past, people will curse themselves for failure to prepare for that awful day. From judgment to an endless hell, from which one will lift up fruitless cries forever in an eternal hell of destruction.

Jesus is God's only way of escaping the fires and torments of Hell. ***"Whosoever believeth in Him shall never perish but have eternal life..."***

Right now is the time, if you have not already, to believe in God's Son, Jesus Christ.