



Series Topical

Passage Matthew 25:31-41

Title Answering the Tough Questions About Hell

Speaker: Charlie Campbell 11/05/2017

- **Discussion Starter:** In what ways do you feel more equipped to answer some of the tough questions about Hell?

Answering the Tough Questions About Hell (Matthew 25:31-41; 2 Thessalonians 1:9; Luke 16:23-24)

- According to Matthew 25:31-41, what are some of the things Jesus is confirming about Hell?
- A common objection is “A God of Love would never send anybody to Hell.”
 1. Discuss why even unbelievers think that God is good.
 2. How is the understanding that God is “Holy and Just” a key to understanding the justice of Hell’s existence?
- Another common objection is “God may send some people to Hell, but He is not going to send “good people” to Hell.” What is the flaw in this logic according to the following scriptures: Romans 3:23, Isaiah 53:6, Psalm 143:2?
- Another common objection to God and Hell is: “What about those people who have never heard of Jesus? Will they be condemned to Hell?” The Bible reveals that all people, even if they never hear about Jesus or the Bible, will be accountable to God based on what they have known about Him through creation and the moral law written upon their consciences.
 1. Read Romans 1:18-20. What does this passage reveal about all people being accountable to God?
 2. Read Psalm 19:1-4. What does this passage reveal about all people being accountable to God?
 3. Since people who have not been taught about God / Bible are still accountable to God based on what they learn of God through creation & moral law (conscience), how much greater accountability to God do people have when they *have been taught* about God and the Bible? Read Romans 2:14-16 and discuss.
- Another common objection to God and Hell is: “Why doesn’t God give people a second chance to be saved after death?” Charlie mentioned that **God DOES GIVE second chances** (and 3rd, 4th, 5th, 100th etc....), but that all these chances come to us **in this life**.
 1. Do you think God is gracious enough in giving us so many chances? Explain why.
 2. Read Hebrews 9:27 and 2 Peter 3:9. What additional insights do these verses give to help us understand why God does not allow more chances to be saved after death?

- The Bible is crystal clear that Hell is an incredibly horrible place of suffering: “gnashing of teeth, outer darkness, wailing, the worm never dies, fire never ceases, etc...” (Matthew 8:12, 13:42, 22:13, etc.).
 1. One reason Hell is so horrific is that it is a place created for Satan and his fallen angels who rebelled against God. Discuss this concept and how it relates to Hell being a place of suffering.
 2. Another reason Hell is horrific is because it is a place where God’s wrath & punishment are metered out on those who rejected God. Read 2 Thessalonians 1:9. Discuss this concept and how it relates to Hell being a place of suffering.
 3. The 2 Thessalonians 1:9 verse also reveals that Hell is a horrific place of suffering because its inhabitants are removed from the presence of God and removed from His glory. Discuss this concept and how it relates to Hell being a place of suffering.
- A Holy God’s wrath must be poured out upon sinners. God made a provision for us! His wrath can be poured out on us for our sin, or it can be poured out upon Jesus who died on the cross for the punishment of our sin. The choice is yours. Discuss how glorious the Gospel of Jesus is!
- Do you believe in Hell? In light of what we have learned about what is awaiting our friends, neighbors and loved ones who do not obey Jesus, who is the first person that comes to your mind who needs to hear the Gospel? And in what practical way do we reach out to them as in the Spurgeon quote:

“If sinners be damned, at least let them leap to Hell over our dead bodies. And if they perish, let them perish with our arms wrapped about their knees, imploring them to stay. If Hell must be filled, let it be filled in the teeth of our exertions, and let not one go unwarned and un-prayed for.”