

Hell

We have all seen cartoons and Halloween costumes and heard stories that Satan rules in hell much like God rules in heaven. Nothing could be further from the truth. God created hell (everlasting fire) for Satan and his angels.

Matthew 24:41-43

Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, **into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:** For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.

Hell was created as a prison for Satan and his angels. Notice how many Bible verses describe hell as a pit, which also gives you a good idea about where it is located, deep in the earth. Satan's arrival there is described in detail. Satan does not go to hell to reign, but as a prisoner. It

is total defeat and abject humiliation for him.
Even Satan does not want to go to hell!

Isaiah 14:6-17

He who smote the people in wrath with a continual stroke, he that ruled the nations in anger, is persecuted, and none hindereth. The whole earth is at rest, and is quiet: they break forth into singing. Yea, the fir trees rejoice at thee, and the cedars of Lebanon, saying, Since thou art laid down, no feller is come up against us. **Hell from beneath is moved for thee to meet thee at thy coming: it stirreth up the dead for thee, even all the chief ones of the earth; it hath raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations.** All they shall speak and say unto thee, Art thou also become weak as we? art thou become like unto us? Thy pomp is brought down to the grave, and the noise of thy viols: the worm is spread under thee, and the worms cover thee. How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the

ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. **Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.** They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms; That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners?

Satan will be chained in the bottomless pit (hell) before Jesus Christ's 1000 year reign on earth begins.

Revelation 20:1-3, 7-8

And I saw an angel come down from heaven, **having the key of the bottomless pit and a great**

chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

Do you know why Satan will be loosed a “little season” after the 1000 year kingdom? All mortal men and women who have lived for 1000 years under the perfect reign of Christ, will have to make a choice to follow Christ into eternity or to join Satan to battle against Christ, their king. Satan will deceive them, and many will follow him. They will be devoured by fire (judgement.)

Revelation 20:7-9

And when the thousand years are expired, **Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,** And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four

quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.

The mortal people who are deceived by Satan will choose to be deceived. They will know exactly what they are doing. Here is the description of the covenant that Jesus Christ, as king, has with His people. He is going to put His laws in their minds and hearts and everyone will know and follow them. The people that Satan is able to deceive will choose to disobey Christ's law.

Hebrews 8:10-13

For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; **I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and**

they shall be to me a people: And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.

The Bible also describes what it is like for a person to go to hell. God saved Jonah from hell but Jonah describes what it was like to go there.

Jonah 2:1-6

Then Jonah prayed unto the LORD his God out of the fish's belly, And said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the LORD, and he heard me; **out of the belly of hell cried I, and thou heardest my voice. For thou hadst cast me into the deep, in the midst of the seas; and the floods compassed me about: all thy billows and thy**

waves passed over me. Then I said, I am cast out of thy sight; yet I will look again toward thy holy temple. **The waters compassed me about, even to the soul: the depth closed me round about, the weeds were wrapped about my head.** I went down to the bottoms of the mountains; the earth with her bars was about me for ever: yet hast thou brought up my life from corruption, O LORD my God.

Does it surprise you that many descriptions of going to hell involve water and waves coming up over people?

Psalm 69:14-15

Deliver me out of the mire, and let me not sink: let me be delivered from them that hate me, and out of the deep waters. Let not the waterflood overflow me, neither let the deep swallow me up, and let not the pit shut her mouth upon me.

Psalm 88:4-7, 16

I am counted with them that go down into the pit: I am as a man that hath no strength: Free among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave, whom thou rememberest no more: and they are cut off from thy hand. **Thou hast laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness, in the deeps. Thy wrath lieth hard upon me, and thou hast afflicted me with all thy waves.** Selah.

¹⁶Thy fierce wrath goeth over me; **thy terrors have cut me off. They came round about me daily like water; they compassed me about together.**

Korah and his men were taken to the pit (hell) when the earth closed up on them. This is another affirmation that hell is under the earth.

Numbers 16:32-35

And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their houses, and all the men that appertained unto Korah, and all their goods.

They, and all that appertained to them, went down alive into the pit, and the earth closed upon them: and they perished from among the congregation. And all Israel that were round about them fled at the cry of them: for they said, Lest the earth swallow us up also. And there came out a fire from the LORD, and consumed the two hundred and fifty men that offered incense.

When people go to hell in the Bible, they are not gathered unto their people like God told Moses.

Numbers 27:13

And when thou hast seen it, **thou also shalt be gathered unto thy people, as Aaron thy brother was gathered.**

Here is a description of a rich man going to hell. It includes his reception by others in hell. It is very similar to the reception that Satan will get. . Men clap their hands at him and hiss him out of

his place. Notice also, “he shall not be gathered” is in direct contrast to the believing people whom God says “will be gathered unto his people.”

Job 27:19-23

The rich man shall lie down, **but he shall not be gathered**: he openeth his eyes, **and he is not**. **Terrors take hold on him as waters**, a tempest stealeth him away in the night. The east wind carrieth him away, and he departeth: and as a storm hurleth him out of his place. For God shall cast upon him, and not spare: he would fain flee out of his hand. **Men shall clap their hands at him, and shall hiss him out of his place.**

Have you ever heard someone say that they don't mind going to hell because all of their friends will be there? Hell is a very lonely place. Everyone is in solitary confinement. Psalm 88 is very specific, a person in hell is locked up and cannot associate with lover, friend, or acquaintances.

Psalm 88:6, 8, 18

⁶Thou hast laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness,
in the deeps.

⁸**Thou hast put away mine acquaintance far
from me; thou hast made me an abomination
unto them: I am shut up, and I cannot come
forth.**

¹⁸**Lover and friend hast thou put far from me,
and mine acquaintance into darkness.**

The people in hell are pretty disgusting to look at. Isaiah and Jesus Christ himself calls peoples' bodies in hell their "worm" and Isaiah says they will be an abhorring unto all flesh. Both passages agree that in hell, the worm (body) will not die and the fire will not be quenched. The punishment will be forever.

Isaiah 66:22-24

For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the LORD, so shall your seed and your name remain.

And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD. And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcasses of the men that have transgressed against me: **for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh.**

Jesus told his followers that they had be willing to deny their flesh (not physically harm themselves) in this life because this life was not the most important one. They had to think about their eternal life—and they would not want to spend it in hell. He made sure they knew that people in hell are worms. He says it twice.

Mark 9:43-48

And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to **go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not,**

and the fire is not quenched. And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet **to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.** And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes **to be cast into hell fire: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.**

Even if you choose to go to hell, you will not escape God.

Psalm 119:8

If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there.

Deuteronomy 32:22

For a fire is kindled in mine anger, and shall burn unto the lowest hell, and shall consume the

earth with her increase, and set on fire the foundations of the mountains.

What about the torments in hell? The Bible always associates hell with fire and brimstone and torments.

Does God really torment people? Absolutely not! Unbelievers experience fear when they think about their eternal future. John writes that a person who fears has torment because they do not have love. Hell will be a fearful place.

1 John 4:17-18

Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world. **There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.**

The following verses explain it all.

1 John 4:8

He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

1 John 4:16

And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. **God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.**

God does not torment people in hell. People in hell are tormented by fear.

In hell there is no compassion, mercy, truth, goodness, love, joy, peace or any of the rest of God's characteristics. It is a terrible place.

Psalms 86:15

But thou, O Lord, art a **God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.**

You will not find the Holy Spirit and the fruits in hell, either.

Ephesians 5:22-23

But the **fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance:** against such there is no law.

Certainly, if hell is a pit down in the center of the earth, everyone knows that the center of the earth is molten metal. Hell would be extremely hot and full of fire and brimstone. Remember, fire is judgement. Here is a verse that defines judgment by restating a sentence and substituting “hell fire.”

Matthew 5:22

But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause **shall be in danger of the judgment:** and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council:

but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, **shall be in danger of hell fire.**

Luke 16:22-24

And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; **And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments,** and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And 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.**

The Bible says that one of the torments, for unbelievers on earth during the Tribulation, is the Word of God being preached (prophecy.)

Revelation 11:3-10

And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. These are the two olive trees, and the

two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth. And if any man will hurt them, **fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies:** and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed. **These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.** And when they shall have finished their testimony, **the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.** And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves. **And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one**

**to another; because these two prophets
tormented them that dwelt on the earth.**

Say it now, or say it later, but you will say it and know it. The Bible says that everyone, on their knees, will confess that Jesus is Lord to the glory of God the Father. That means everyone, even those already in hell, will come to know Jesus is Lord. Those who do not do so before they die, will do so after they die when that knowledge is too late to save them. Can you imagine there being any torment worse than knowing the truth (the word of God) when it's too late to do anything about it?

It may be that what torments the people in hell is hearing God's word and seeing God's glory for eternity. Maybe they are able to see their believing friends and family, the ones who tried to tell them about the Lord Jesus Christ while they were on earth, enjoying eternity with our Lord.

Isaiah 45:22-23

Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else. I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return,
That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.

Philippians 2:9-11

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:
That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Even those who have rejected God cannot escape God.

Psalm 139:7-12

Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me. If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me. Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee.

After the Lord Jesus Christ has ruled His kingdom for 1000 years, and Satan has been allowed to gather an army of his fallen angels and mortals from the kingdom to try, (for the last time) to defeat Jesus Christ and to set himself up as God, there will be a judgement of all of the unsaved whose souls who have been in hell from the beginning.

Hell is basically a holding cell type of prison. The ultimate destination of everyone in hell is the lake of fire.

Revelation 20:12-15

And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. **And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.**

Remember, it's not just humans who are lost and will be judged. There are angels awaiting judgement, too.

2 Peter 2:4

For if God spared not the angels that sinned, **but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;**

Jude 1:6

And **the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.**

Gulf Coast Dispensational Church
Derek and Karen Conklin
RightlyDividingThe Word.org
513-520-6077