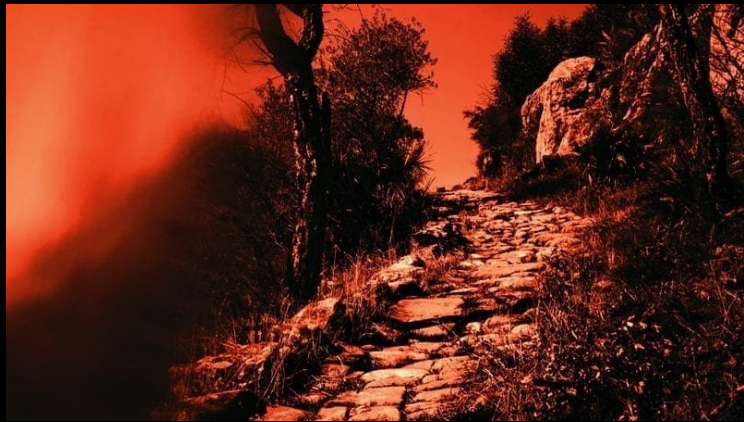


# The Place Called Hell (3)



Shalom Ministries International

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Happy  
Mother's  
Day!

# Why does Hell Exist?

- Because God is holy
  - Your eyes are too **pure** to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrongdoing (Habakkuk 1:13a).
  - He is a **holy** God...He will not forgive your rebellion and your sins (Joshua 24:19).
- Because God is righteous
  - For you have upheld my right and my cause, sitting as the **righteous** judge (Psalm 9:4).
  - The LORD is **righteous** in all his ways and faithful in all he does (Psalm 144:17).
  - Lord, the God of Israel, you are **righteous** (Ezra 9:15).
- Because God is just
  - For I, the LORD, love **justice**; I hate robbery and wrongdoing (Isaiah 61:8).
  - Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, for true and **just** are his judgments (Revelation 19:1-2).
- Because God is sovereign
  - He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth (Daniel 4:35).
  - The LORD does whatever pleases him, in the heavens and on the earth, in the seas and all their depths (Psalm 135:6).

# Where is Hell?

- Down to hell (abyss/Abyss; without a base)
  - For a fire is kindled in My anger, And shall burn to the **lowest hell** (Sheol) (Deuteronomy 32:22a, NKJV).
  - Then the fifth angel sounded: And I saw a star fallen from heaven to the earth. To him was given the key to the **bottomless pit**. He opened the **bottomless pit**, and smoke arose out of the pit like the smoke of a great furnace...Then out of the smoke locusts came upon the earth. And to them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. They were commanded not to harm the grass of the earth...but only those men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads. And they were not given authority to kill them, but to torment them for five months...In those days men will seek death and will not find it; they will desire to die, and death will flee from them (Revelation 9:1-6, NKJV).
  - And they begged Him that He would not command them to go out into the **abyss**. Now a herd of many swine was feeding there on the mountain. So they begged Him that He would permit them to enter them. And He permitted them. (Luke 8:31, NKJV).
- What does the term 'bottomless' mean?
  - Total isolation, eternal falling, a prison without darkness.

# The Duration of Hell

- Hell is eternal (Aionios)
  - Then they will go away to **eternal** punishment, but the righteous to eternal life (Matthew 25:46).
  - If your eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell, where the worms that eat them do not die, and the fire is not quenched (Mark 9:47-48).
  - For their worm does not die, And their fire is not quenched. They shall be an abhorrence to all flesh (Isaiah 66:24b, NKJV).
  - They will be punished with **everlasting** destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might (2 Thessalonians 1:9).
- Eternal, everlasting
  - Hell is a state of conscious, never-ending existence.
  - Eternal (aionios) punishment (the unrighteous) & eternal (aionios) life (the righteous) (Matthew 25:46).
  - If the life promised to the righteous is never-ending, then the punishment described with the same word must also be never-ending. **Eternal = Time without an end.**

# The Journey of the Unsaved

- What happens when an unsaved person dies?
  - The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, he lifted up his eyes, being in torment (Luke 16:22-23).
  - (God to the rich fool), You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared? (Luke 12:20, NASB).
  - Foolish man, this night they are demanding your soul from you (Luke 12:20, Weymouth New Testament, Young's Literal Translation).
- Demons demand the unsaved
  - An unsaved person entering Hades immediately upon death where a place of conscious torment.
  - It is not the Lord that is requiring the soul of the unsaved. It is demons.
  - The angels of God come to take the righteous home, so the demons of Satan come and usher the lost into hell.

# Four Stages of Unsaved

- Stage 1 (Hades)
  - A temporary place that separates and confined, while awaiting the final judgement.
- Stage 2 (Resurrection)
  - When: End of the Millennium
  - The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended (Rev. 20:5).
  - A time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out—those who have done what is good will rise to live, and those who have done what is evil will rise to be condemned (John 5:28-29).
  - The unsaved will be physically resurrected (the soul is reunited with the body) to stand before God for judgement.
- Two resurrections
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Resurrection: The righteous who reign with Christ during the Millennium.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Resurrection: The unrighteous (the rest of the dead) who are raised at the end of that thousand-year period to face the Great White Throne Judgment.

- Stage 3 (Judgement)

- When: Great White Throne: Final account of one's life and rejection of Christ.
- Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it...And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened...The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books...and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what they had done (Revelation 20:11-13).
- Individuals are judged according to their deeds recorded in the books, and specifically whether their names are found in the Book of Life.

- Stage 4 (Gehenna: Lake of Fire)

- When: After Judgement
- The second death, the eternal final state (Gehenna).
- Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death (Revelation 20:14).
- Hades is emptied of its inhabitants for the judgment, and then Hades itself (as a temporary realm) is abolished as its inhabitants are moved to the final lake of fire.

# The Final Destinations of Evil

- Antichrist (the Beast) and the False Prophet
  - In the Battle of Armageddon, they are captured after leading the nations against God.
  - They are cast The Lake of Fire before the 1,000-year millennium begins.
  - The two of them were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone (Revelation 19:20).
- Satan (The Devil)
  - The Abyss (Bottomless Pit): At the beginning of the Millennium, Satan is bound and thrown into the Abyss for 1,000 years to prevent him from deceiving the nations (Revelation 20:1-3).
  - After the 1,000 years, he is released for a short time, leads a final rebellion, and is then defeated for good.
  - And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever (Revelation 20:10).
- Demons (Devils/Fallen Angels)
  - They will follow their leaders (Satan).
  - The eternal fire was originally prepared for the devil and his angels (Matthew 25:41).
  - And the angels who did not keep their positions of authority...these he has kept in darkness, bound with everlasting chains for judgment on the great Day (Jude 1:6, NKJV).

# Key Lessons and Truths

- The seriousness of sin
  - Hell demonstrates that sin is not a minor offense but a profound rebellion against a holy God, requiring serious consequence.
- The extent of God's love
  - Jesus presented hell as a reality, so he went to the cross to save humanity from hell.
- The reality of divine justice
  - Hell is a just punishment for sins and a rightful conclusion for those who reject God.
- A call for urgent repentance
  - The warning of hell is a motivation to repent, seek salvation, and take spiritual life seriously.
- Consequence of choice
  - There exists a fundamental divide between heaven and hell, representing the eternal consequences of human choice.
  - (Moses to Israelites) See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction (Deuteronomy 30:15).