

Ready to Respond Is Hell a Real Place ?

Base my beliefs not on my reasoning or feelings but on God's revelation.

Understand what Jesus has taught us about the afterlife.

There will be a judgment day.

Matthew 25:41-46 "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. **42** For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, **43** I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.' **44** "They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?' **45** "He will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.' **46** "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

There is a heaven and a hell.

Matthew 13:47-50 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea, and gathering fish of every kind; **48** and when it was filled, they drew it up on the beach; and they sat down and gathered the good fish into containers, but the bad they threw away. **49** "So it will be at the end of the age; the angels will come forth and take out the wicked from among the righteous, **50** and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Hell is not a raucous party or a correctional institution.

Not every one is going to heaven.

Luke 16:22-26 "Now the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to Abraham's bosom; and the rich man also died and was buried. **23** "In Hades he lifted up his eyes, being in torment, and saw Abraham far away and Lazarus in his bosom. **24** "And he cried out and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus so that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool off my tongue, for I am in agony in this flame.' **25** "But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your life you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus bad things; but now he is being comforted here, and you are in agony. **26** 'And besides all this, between us and you there is a great chasm fixed, so that those who wish to come over from here to you will not be able, and that none may cross over from there to us.'

There is a finality to hell.

2 Thessalonians 1:6-9 RSV Since indeed God deems it just to repay with affliction those who afflict you, **7** and to grant rest with us to you who are afflicted, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels in flaming fire, **8** inflicting vengeance upon those who do not know God and upon those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. **9** They shall suffer the punishment of eternal destruction and exclusion from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might.

Realize why Hell is necessary.

G.K. Chesterton “Hell is God’s great compliment to the reality of human freedom and the dignity of human choice.”

Let God be God and learn to trust Him.

Romans 1:18-21 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and wickedness of men who by their wickedness suppress the truth. **19** For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. **20** Ever since the creation of the world his invisible nature, namely, his eternal power and deity, has been clearly perceived in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse; **21** for although they knew God they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking and their senseless minds were darkened.

D.A. Carson “Hell is not place where people are consigned because they were pretty good blokes, but they just didn’t believe the right stuff. They’re consigned there, first and foremost, because they defy their maker and want to be at the center of the universe.”

Join God’s First Responders Team

Additional Study on Hell

Monday Matthew 25:31-46 and Daniel 12:2

Tuesday Luke 16:19-31 and Psalm 145:17-20

Wednesday Matthew 25:1-13 and Romans 1

Thursday Revelation 14:9-11 and Revelation 20:11-15

Friday Revelation 21:1-8

Reading List :

The Reason for God by Tim Keller
Erasing Hell by Francis Chan
The Case for Faith by Lee Strobel
The Great Divorce by C.S. Lewis