

HELL

“I can’t believe in a God who would send people to hell.”

I was talking to a guy at work and he came out and said this to me. His point: How can a loving god send anyone to hell?

Anybody here ever been told that? Anyone here ever think that?

I talked to a well-known lady who’d taught Bible studies and had even taught in churches and she said this:

How can you say that the Bible says that Jesus is the only way to God. It all depends on how you interpret the Bible. I think that’s a close-minded view that you hold.

So today we are going to talk about what the Bible says about HELL and we are going to dispense with some myths and eliminate some heretical thinking.

Here are some of the Questions and Comments I always seem to get about God and Hell

1. How can you be so close minded as to interpret the Bible only one way?
2. Why does God send people to hell, why doesn’t he just wave his hand and forgive everyone?
3. How could a Good God send people to Hell? The God I believe in would never send anyone to hell?
4. Sending someone to hell for eternity just because he said a few white lies is cruel and unusual punishment?
5. Where is hell? I don’t believe all that rot about hell being in the bowels of the earth. I’m not a superstitious fool. I need some scientific evidence.
6. I’d rather party in Hell with Satan than have to live with all those rules in Heaven.

Anybody else here get these questions or have had people ask you these questions or make these statements?

By the way all these questions are questions about Theology.

Let me introduce what this word means it comes from 2 words.

Theos which means what? God

And Logos which means what? Word

or in this case the study

So Theology means the study of the true nature of God.

Now I don’t want you to get scared about this big word, why? Because Theology is Easy, I’m going to try and make it interesting too.

OK Let’s address our questions

Question 1: How can you be so close-minded as to interpret the Bible only one way?

Remember that lady I mentioned earlier.

Since I knew that she was a Christian I said something to the effect of “Well we know that the Bible says that Jesus is the only way to heaven?”

I’d barely finished that sentence when she said:

How can you say that?

I said: Well because Jesus said I am the way the truth and the life, no one comes to the father EXCEPT through me.

She said: How do you know that you are interpreting the Scriptures correctly?

I was stunned. I said: Well I can quote a bunch MORE passages that make it clear to you. I didn't have these passages ready at the time. But here they are for you:

Acts 4:12 [Peter telling the crowd about Jesus] 12 You can't be saved by believing in anyone else. God has given us no other name under heaven that will save us."

1 John 2:23 No one who denies the Son has the Father. The person who acknowledges the Son also has the Father.

"Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins." (John 8:24).

1 John 4:2 By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God;

1 John 5:5 Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

But then She said this, that showed me that even if I had those passages, she would have ignored them- she said: That's just your interpretation of it. I'm not going to tell anyone that they are going to Hell if they don't believe in Jesus. That's arrogant.

Now normally if I'm thinking correctly I'd have gone into my Columbo Tactic mode, how many people here have learned the Columbo Tactic from me at one of our Sunday School classes? For the rest of you, it's where you just ask questions like Detective Columbo in a self-deprecating way, you know like, I'm a bit confused, could you tell me why.....It allows you to witness without ever getting in trouble. Because all you are doing is gently asking questions.

But I'd been taken by surprise with this person who claimed to be a Christian and so I wasn't mentally ready. But here's what you should say if you ever get hit by this:

REMEMBER SHE SAID: How do you know that you are interpreting the Scriptures correctly?

1. So I would ask: Are you saying that Jesus is the only way but you don't know it.
She'll say something like: No I'm saying we can't be 100% sure that he is the ONLY way because it depends on how you interpret what he says.
2. You respond: Are you saying that though Jesus is the only way you don't think you should tell others.
3. She'll say: No I'm saying we don't know how to interpret his words.
4. You say: Are you saying that despite the fact that he is the only way, you are unable to understand what he means?
5. She'll say no. I'm saying you can't know that you are interpreting his words correctly.
6. At which point you say: Wait a second. Do you think that anyone else who'd been listening to you -to what's written up there would have understood by now what you'd been trying to say?
7. She'll say. Yes of course.

8. You say: Did you think that I was MIS-interpreting your words?
9. "Yes!" she'll say.
10. And were you starting to think I was an idiot to be UN-able to understand the obvious meaning of your words...

So what you are saying is:

There IS a plain meaning of your words

and you were getting irritated that I couldn't figure it out and you were thinking I was missing a few screws

OK so when we talk about Jesus' plain meanings about Hell and Heaven and being the only way to God. There is a plain meaning about it and anyone who tries to twist the plain meaning without a valid reason is being disingenuous i.e. is lying on purpose or stupid.

Why do I start with that rant when the topic is Hell? Because if people are going to try and twist Christ's words to say that we can't understand what he clearly said, rational people will realize that these twisters of the plain meaning of Christ's words are just wing nuts.

They don't have a leg to stand on. *I just gave you a few of the many verses*, this concept is repeated over and over again.

If we accept the Bible as accurate and I can prove that it is archeologically accurate you don't have a choice but to accept Christ's teachings that Hell exists and that he CLIAMED that he is the ONLY way to avoid it. You can't interpret his teachings any other way.

Now I want to make it quite clear that I wish that there was no Hell. And if I was in charge I'd say: hey if you are a nice person, you haven't killed anybody and are generally a great all around person, you don't kick your dog, you are not Hitler, you are always welcome into my heaven.

But sadly and perhaps thankfully, I don't get to decide.

So I have to tell the truth.

I have to tell you what I think God said. Even if I don't like what he said.

So what did Jesus say besides those verses I showed you? He said:

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Now everybody seems to want to stop there. What's the next verse?

18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands WHAT? condemned already - because he has WHAT? not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

But wait is this a mean thing for me to tell you that Jesus said he was the ONLY way to God and everyone else is going to be condemned?

It's not like I'm making this up. My hands are tied. If Jesus said it then either he's lying or he's telling the truth. Since I think he's telling the truth, I'd be lying to tell you anything else. This is not my opinion.

I want to take a quick side step here to tell you about something I love to teach. It's called Suicide Statements.

Suicide Statements here are not what you think, they are statements that kill themselves just by being said.

For instance: I can't speak a word in English, said in English of course.

Or "This statement is a lie"

Or I'm the humblest man in the world.

If you've been to the Sunday School classes you've learned all about them and how to detect them and respond to them. Here's one for instance that you'll run into a lot.

You are witnessing to someone and they say: Well there is no absolute truth.

What do you say?

Well you just ask: I'm sorry is that uh...ABSOLUTELY TRUE?

.....

So let's look at what a lot of people will say when you talk to them about Jesus or Hell or in this case what that lady said to me about the interpretation of the scriptures being intolerant.

Is it intolerant to think I know the truth? Is it judgmental? Well let's think about this.

If you think I'm being intolerant to know some truth, do you know the truth about me being intolerant?

Why isn't that intolerant of you then?

You see the minute you say that you know the truth about me being intolerant you are claiming to know the truth as well.

And in that case that makes you a hypocrite.

This by the way is a self refuting or a suicide statement.

So obviously it's OK to think you know the truth.

But let's go a step further if Jesus IS telling the truth and he is indeed the ONLY way to heaven it would be like going to a person with anthrax and knowing that the solution to his problems is the Antibiotic Cipro and NOT telling him that. Instead you let him fumble around and try eating MM's or put dead chicken entrails over his head like a witch doctor to cure him of his Anthrax. Both things will let him die. It is unloving to NOT tell someone if you know the truth.

So here's the question: If hell really exists, would it be loving or unloving of me to tell someone that it exists, if I think I'm sure I know ... the ONLY way he can get out of it?

If I really believed that hell existed and I really believed that I knew how you could be saved from it, what sort of a person would I be if I didn't tell you that?

And what's more I'm telling you that the Price is paid for. You don't have to do anything but accept it. You don't have to work for it, or earn it. Why is that intolerant and mean? If you have ANTHRAX, and I've travelled the whole world to find some CIPRO, and I tell you that a loving person bought it, paid for it at great expense but it's free for you. All you have to do is take it, and if you don't take it you will die. Does it make sense that you'd call me INTOLERANT?

I want to make a statement that may shock some of you.

None of you here today HAVE souls.

YOU DON'T HAVE A SOUL.

Now if you've been to my Sunday School classes you know what I'm about to say next don't you. We don't have souls we What?

We ARE souls.

What we have are bodies. We don't HAVE souls. We ARE souls. What this is is merely a soul receptacle, like a pair of clothes that will wear out and die.

Why is that important. Here's why:

God never kills anyone. He never kills their soul.

We often here people complaining how can God exist because 10,000 people died in the tsunami or earthquake. Well in God's dimensional framework they didn't die. All they did was leave their shells, their limited bodies behind. God merely moved them that is, their souls from one place to another. Nobody's soul ever stops existing. Today I'll show you a movie of this idea.

OK let's talk about Hell.

Here's our agenda for today:

Hell:

1. What is it?
2. Why is it? Why must God punish Sin?
3. When is it?
4. Who is it for?
5. Where is it?
6. Who is in Charge of it?

1. We'll start with item 1: What is it?

Let's first do a review of the hellish places referred to in the Bible.

There are many kinds of words used in the Bible for Hell..

- a. **Sheol**¹ is usually translated by "Hades" in the Greek translation of the Old Testament (the Septuagint). It is a very general term usually referring to the grave or death.
- b. **Abaddon** is a place of destruction in the Old Testament, and Revelation indicates that it is also the name of the angel of the abyss
- c. "**The pit**" usually refers to the grave
- d. **Gehenna**² is a place of punishment, torment and destruction and usually they talk about it's everlasting fire suggesting that it is also a place of torment. Gehenna was the garbage heap in

¹ including the grave (Isa. 14:11), and to the abode of both the righteous (e.g., Ps. 30:3; Eccl. 9:10) and the wicked (e.g., Ps. 9:17) after death. Other Old Testament texts equate Sheol with "death," as does Paul (1 Cor. 15:55 with Hos. 13:14).

Jerusalem that had caught on fire and the fire never seemed to go out. Jesus uses this as an example of Hell

- e. **The Lake of Fire**³ is mentioned only in Revelation where it is described as the final place of torment for the wicked. Judging from the descriptions of Gehenna and the Lake of Fire, they seem the same thing.
- f. **Hades** is used in the New Testament to refer to the abode of the wicked after death (Luke 10:15) and for the grave or tomb of the righteous (Acts 2:27-29). In Revelation, it is closely associated with “death.”⁴
- g. In Revelation, the **Abyss** is mentioned mainly as the abode of demonic forces and curses⁵
- h. **Tartarus** only used once, so we have very little information on it. It is where the fallen angels are temporarily imprisoned (2 Pet. 2:4),
- i. **Outer darkness** is a term used in Matthew to refer to a place of cursing, cut off from the blessings of God (Matt. 8:12; 22:13; 25:30). It is fairly equivalent to Gehenna, except that we have no references to it that mention fire. Tartarus is also described as being in darkness (2 Pet. 2:4).

So while there are many definitions of hell and words for hell, and they may define the same place and just be various characteristics of the same place or they maybe different places for different purposes, we won't try to spend time today to figure out all the subtle differences. We just want to find out why, what, where and when.

To figure that out let's go to Gen 2. God creates Adam and Eve and put them in the Garden then
Genesis Chapter 2

¹⁶...the LORD God gave him this warning: "You may freely eat any fruit in the garden ¹⁷except fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat of its fruit, you will surely die."

But being the geniuses that they were they rebel against God and sin. Then when God shows up they try to blame everyone else. Then

²¹ The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.

²³ So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden

Then God kicks them out of the Garden of Eden and Adam has to work hard from then on. This was the first sin by humans and we inherited that sin nature from our parents.

Now let me ask you this: What was the reason they were not allowed to eat of that tree?

Obviously the right answer is “Because God said so.”

But the cause of that was what, What would happen to them?: “For you will surely what? DIE.”

² (e.g., Matt. 5:22; 10:28; 23:33; Mark 9:43), (Matt. 5:22; 18:9; Mark 9:43; Jam. 3:6). It would seem that the spirits in Gehenna are not disembodied (e.g., Matt. 5:29,30; 10:28), which suggests that it is at least a place of eternal punishment after the general resurrection (John 5:28-29). But Gehenna also appears to exist and to be an active force in the present (Jam. 3:6), before the resurrection,

³ (Rev. 19:20; 20:10,14,15; 21:8), Gehenna is not mentioned in Revelation.

⁴ (Rev. 1:18; 6:8; 20:13,14). It is mentioned in Luke 16 in the context of the story/parable of Lazarus and Dives. Scholars are divided in their opinions as to whether Jesus affirmed this view of Hades or simply borrowed it for the sake of an illustration. Potentially, it affirms that Hades may legitimately be used to refer to a place where unbelievers are tormented before the judgment.

⁵ (Rev. 9:1,2,11; 11:7; 17:8; 20:1; 20:3), and the same is true in Luke 8:31. But in Romans 10:7 Paul speaks of the Abyss simply as the abode of the dead, and specifically as where Christ went when he died. Since the Bible indicates that Jesus did not suffer torment after his death (Luke 23:46), the Abyss does not appear to be restricted to the wicked and to demons. The word “abyss” itself refers to a deep or bottomless pit, so that the image is closely associated with “the pit” and perhaps with “Abaddon.” Probably, its meaning is as broad as that of “Sheol” and “Hades.”

⁶ prior to the judgment. It is also associated with the idea of a pit. It may have been used exclusively as a description of a place of punishment, but we can't be sure based on its one appearance. Its use in reference to the abode of the demons makes it a close match with “Abyss.” Since the Abyss is probably not for the wicked exclusively, Tartarus may also be a place for the righteous.

Now what happened to them the instant they rebelled against God? Did they die right then? ...No... All he seemed to do is just banish them from his presence.

Was God lying?

No he wasn't because they DID die. Do you know what kind of death they died? Was it physical death? Physical death is a part of it, but not all of it, because they didn't die as soon as they ate the fruit, did they?

But the real death was what? Exactly Spiritual death.

So what is spiritual death?

Anybody know?

**Exactly, spiritual death is eternal separation from God.
What is Hell?**

Hell is Eternal Separation from God.

So spiritual death in the end is what?
Hell.

What's the opposite of eternal separation from God? Eternal LIFE with God.

But why would someone want to be separated from God?

**They would be separated from God if they hated him
or if they purposely rebelled against him
or if they refused to obey him
or if they didn't want to spend ALL ETERNITY with Him.**

So what exactly was God saying to Adam and Eve? He was saying: if you rebel against me and eat of the tree, the consequences of that rebellion will be separation from me. Which is what? Exactly - Spiritual death.

2. Why is it?

Why does Hell exist? Why must God punish Sin?

Now coming back to our questions.

Here's our second question

II. Why does God send people to hell, why doesn't he just wave his hand and forgive everyone?

And we'll answer our 3rd question at the same time: III. How could a Good God send people to Hell? The God I believe in would never send anyone to hell?

Remember my friend who asked:

I have trouble believing that a Good and Loving God would be so cruel as to send ANYONE to hell. That's just unacceptable to me. Why doesn't he just forgive everyone.

By the way, that's not really him...that's just some Indian dude on the internet. I don't want you to think that if you ask me a question I'll take a picture of you and use your face in my next sermon.

But let's look at it closely.

There are really 4 options here.

1. Either God is good and he does not punish evil (which is what my friend's question is)
2. or God is good and he does punish evil (which is what we as Christians are trying to prove)
3. or God is not good and he does punish evil (which is irrelevant)
4. or God is not good and he does not punish evil. (which will haunt us later)

We'll toss out the last two for that is not the question although number 4 will be relevant in a few minutes.

Let's take number 1. God is good and he does NOT punish evil.

This sounds good. After all, God we are told is in the business of forgiving sinners.

But hopefully some of you have already seen the problem with this option.

Because this would mean that despite whatever you've done bad in the past you'd be forgiven.

But that sounds good you say.

Is someone told a white lie they would not be punished.

But that means that if anyone had done anything bad, they would not be punished.

That means no evil people will be punished. That means Hitler who killed 6 million Jews

Whoops! That means that despite everything that a mass rapist or a murderer or a child abuser or the 9-11 attackers had done and never felt sorry for, God would NOT punish that person or their sin. And in fact Hitler and those other evil guys would laugh at all the evil they have done and they would get to live next to us in Heaven forever and enjoy life and all eternity in the luxury of heaven. And God would NOT do a single thing to punish them or what they had done.

Wait just a minute you say. Hitler needs to be punished. Rapists need to be punished. Child abusers need to be punished. What sort of God would God be if he didn't punish someone as evil as Hitler. He wouldn't be a good God. A good God would make sure justice is served.

We just changed our tune didn't we. You see it is precisely because God is good that he has to make sure that justice is served. He does so by extracting a punishment for evil. All evil is punished. The price must be paid by someone.

Which is exactly item 4. God is not good and he does not punish evil. You see if God did not punish evil he'd end up as item 4. God would be bad if he did not punish sin.

It is precisely because God is good that He **has** to punish evil.

Imagine if there was a judge and every time someone brought a murderer or rapist to him and the rapist didn't ever care that he'd killed or hurt someone. And the Judge just said, oh, that's OK I forgive you. You can go. Would we think that was a good judge?

No we'd think that was a what judge? An EVIL judge.

So we now see why there both has to be a hell and why God must use it.

But here's a very critical point. **THE PRICE MUST BE PAID**

**BUT EITHER YOU PAY IT OR CHRIST PAYS IT
& UNLESS YOU ACCEPT HIS PAYMENT by accepting HIM you will pay for it.**

3. When is it?

There are some Christian groups and many cults that deny the idea that hell is eternal punishment. They say God will extinguish or annihilate your soul after you've suffered for awhile in hell. In other words your soul will cease to exist. It's like atheism in some sense.

Others say hell is temporary and that eventually God will refine us and we all will be saved out of hell and brought back to heaven. Their objection is that a loving God would never punish people in eternal torment.

I wish that were true. But I don't get to vote on this. And if I were to give people false information their blood would be on my hands.

We are here to see what the Bible says:

We agree that God is love ([1 John 4:8](#)), but He is also just ([Neh. 9:32-33](#); [2 Thess. 1:6](#)), and eternal ([Psalm 90:2](#); [1 Tim. 1:17](#)).

Cast into a tormenting fire [Rev. 14:11](#),

¹¹"And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever; and they have no rest day and night, those who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name." See also, [Rev. 21:8](#).

But remember you don't NEED to go to Hell if you don't want to.

Hell is a place of eternal fire and punishment

Unquenchable Fire [Matt. 3:12](#) *"And His winnowing fork is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clear His threshing floor; and He will gather His wheat into the barn, but He will burn up the chaff with **unquenchable fire**."*

Remember you don't NEED to go to Hell if you don't want to.

Eternal Punishment [Matt. 25:46](#), *"And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into **eternal life**."*

Remember you won't go to Hell if you are a Christ follower.

So I don't think we can every say it's not eternal.

So what is hell like? This takes us back to our What is it question?

The Bible describes it as a place of torment. In fact, Matthew 8 *“In darkness they will cry out and grit their teeth in pain.”*

But do you know what the worst part is? Hell is total separation from God. That’s the worst thing about it. It means they will be totally apart from God’s love, totally apart from God’s grace. Total separation from God.

1 Corinthians 16:22 says *“If anyone does not love the Lord, let him be separated from God- and lost forever.”*

Think about it: If I go through my entire life saying, “I don’t want God in my life on earth.” If I don’t want God interfering in my sex life, or my business life, or my thought life or my daily life for the few 80 years that I’m here on earth, why would I want to spend ALL eternity wanting him in my every single moment?

Why would I change my mind? Why would I say I want to live without God on earth but I want to live with God in heaven? That doesn’t make sense. And God gives us exactly what we want. God says, “You get to choose.

What is hell like? Think about this. If it’s total separation from God, then it’s the exact opposite of everything God is. We know that *“God is love.”* That is His nature. God is love. What would it be to live without God completely? It means no love. No hope, no faith, no compassion and worse no purpose.

The Bible says, *“There is no fear in love. Perfect love casts out all fear.”* The opposite of love is fear. You know what it means to live without love in your life? It means you’re scared to death all the time. That’s hell. It means you’re lonely all the time. That’s hell.

I once read about an experiment some sick Nazi’s did to people in a concentration camp. They had them dig a huge hole in the ground on day one. The prisoners were excited to be working and doing something and they worked hard to dig the hole. But the next day the Nazi’s had them go out and fill the hole. At first they thought some mistake had been made, but the 3rd day they were told to go dig the hole again and on the fourth fill it. Within a few days the prisoners started to get sick and go into depression. That’s hell. There’s no purpose to life, there’s no hope,

Compare that to heaven, living on the new earth, learning about God’s infinite wonders. The wonder of God will never end.

Remember question 3: One of the big myths about hell is that in hell it’s just going to be a big party for all the people who like to party. But that’s just misguided, no one will see anybody else in hell. It’s total separation from God and **everybody** else. There are no relationships in hell. Because you are exactly what you want to be. There’s nothing to stop you from being the person **YOU** want to be. There are no friends in hell.

And because no one can kill you, no one can hurt you physically anymore, you become what you’ve always wanted to become with no limitations and guess what everybody ELSE does too. If your core is not changed by Christ and not sanctified, you become the you, you were always going to be, if left to your own devices.

You won’t see anybody in hell. You won’t want to. And nobody will want to see you. It’s total aloneness.

It's Hell.

C.S. Lewis says:

Hell begins with a grumbling mood, always complaining, always blaming others . . . but you are still distinct from it.

You may even criticize it in yourself and wish you could stop it. But there may come a day when you can no longer.

Then there will be no you left to criticize the mood or even to enjoy it, but just the grumble itself, going on forever like a machine.

It is not a question of God 'sending us' to hell. In each of us there is something growing, which will BE Hell unless it is nipped in the bud.

But in hell there is no one to nip it in the bud.

It's like this. You are by yourself, all you, only you. Everyone is you.

Some people ask why is hell eternal. It's because once you reject Christ and rebel against him and die in that state, you will continue to do so it seems, because your own hate and anger will keep you there. It's eternal

Back to our agenda.

4. Who is it for?

OK next question: You have a friend and he says; Why would God put anyone in Hell for eternity just because they said a few white lies. Specially, since I'm basically a good person.

And on the FAR opposite side of that question when I was working with Junior High for seven years and I met a young girl who said "I've done so many bad things in my life that I can't do enough good things to make up for them and get to heaven.

Well I told her that no one goes to heaven for doing any bad things anymore and that you can't make up for the bad things by doing good things.

People go to hell for rebelling against God and rejecting him.

What these people who are searching need to know is that it has nothing to do with being good or bad.

You see now that Christ has died, it is effectively true that God, doesn't put people in hell for lying.

Let me say that again. God doesn't put anyone in Hell for lying.

God doesn't put anyone in Hell for stealing.

God doesn't put anyone in Hell for murdering.

In fact if we presume that Hitler did not become a Christian in his last moments, then Hitler didn't go to hell because he murdered so many people.

Hitler didn't go to hell because he was a racist.

Hitler didn't go to hell because he hated the children of God (the Jews).

Does anyone here want to guess why Hitler would have gone hell?

Exactly, God puts people in Hell for rebelling against Him. For rejecting Him.

For all the bad things Hitler did, the worst thing Hitler did and the thing that made him worthy of Hell was what?

It was rebellion against God.

And you know what – we have all been guilty of that.

Just like Hitler – we have all been guilty of that rebellion against God at some point in time. But through the grace of the almighty God, He has saved us.

We don't have to go to HELL. Nobody does.

In fact there is an additional very very important point to this: Just as God doesn't put anyone in hell for being bad, he doesn't put anyone in Heaven for being good either. You can't work your way into heaven. It's as simple as that. Heaven is for people who accept and love God, that is, Jesus Christ, Hell is for those who reject and hate Him and don't want to be with Him.

It's very logical. Especially when you rephrase it as so:

Living in the presence of God's grace forever is reserved for people who love him.

Living in the absence of God's grace forever is reserved for people who hate him and don't like him.

But having said that: You can't go around sinning? Why because part of Christ's payment for our sins includes repentance. If you continue to sin against God eventually you will rebel against him. Your heart will harden. So no you can't go around sinning.

5. Where is it?

Now many people ask: Where is hell? I don't believe all that rot about hell being in the bowels of the earth. I'm not a superstitious fool. I need some scientific evidence.

They can't imagine where it could be.

Well science has an answer for this. You see science believes that for brief moments after the Big Bang there were 10 dimensions if not more. These disappeared to our senses after 10^{-23} seconds. How did they figure this out? Well they were able to calculate this mathematically.

Wow you say: What does that mean? It's way too complicated.

Actually, I hope to simplify it for you

Let me explain the concept of multi-dimensional space here. Now you all know that we normally experience 4 dimensions? Do you know what these four dimensions are? Three of them are height length and width.

Do you know what the 4th dimension is?

Here's a hint. Unlike the other 3 dimensions, currently we can only go forward in the 4th direction.. Yup it is TIME.

OK now imagine if you were a 2 dimensional creature and you lived on this piece of paper. If you were 2 dimensional you'd only be able to move left and right or forward or backward. Now imagine if you ran into a 3 dimensional creature? What would that creature look like to you? Would you be able to comprehend it? Tough to understand. OK here's a video clip that will explain that better.

“Dr. Quantum Video” go to www.NoBlindFaith.com/dimensions.htm to watch it.

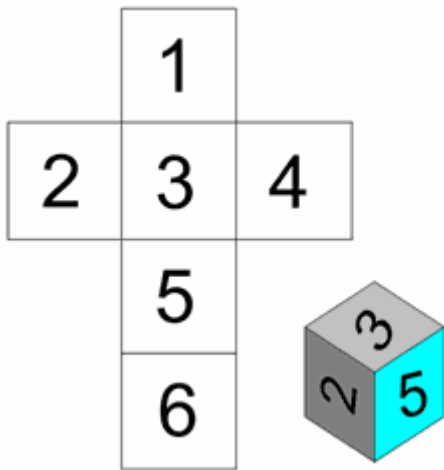
That my friends is a picture of death.

To that circle's friends, what had happened to that circle? She'd died to them. But she'd gone to a far greater place, a place with more directions, dimensions, more smells, sounds, more dimensions of music and more dimensions of colors and more dimensions of edges.

Let's go a step further. We talked about 2D creatures and 3D creatures. What about 3D creatures that we are and 4D creatures that could interact with us? See inside us, be inside us? Be beside us and we never know that?

Please note, the guy flying about in this video does not represent God. Why? Because God is OUTSIDE the dimensions. At the closest, perhaps he represents an Angel or some other multidimensional being. What I'm trying to show you here that Science has finally caught up with the Bible in agreeing that there could be beings in other dimensions besides the physical Being who could interact with out dimensions and then disappear like that guys' finger in the video.

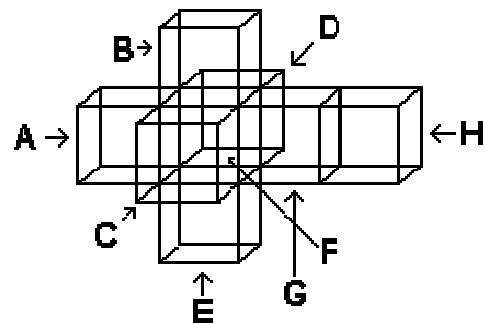
So a 2D creature could try to understand a 3D cube if they unfolded it.



Let's go a step further, if I were a 3D being, I could create a cube. It would look like this. However when I unfolded the cube it would look like this .

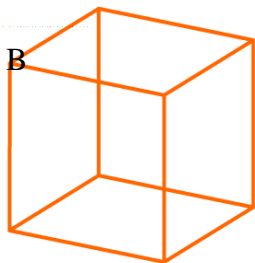
Imagine now that there existed a 4 dimensional cube where that 4th dimension is not time but another special dimension. We don't know what that looks like because we can't think in 4 dimensions. But like the 2D creature understanding the 3D cube when it was unfolded, we could unfold a 4D cube. What would that look like? How about this?

Now we don't know what that cube looks like in 4 dimensions



because we can't easily imagine it. Just like a 2D being would not be able to imagine a 3D cube. But we can imagine the unfolded cube and that is this a 4D cube unfolded into 3D. We call it the Hypercube or the Tesseract.

Now imagine if you were a 2D creature and I made this drawing of a 3D cube.



You would only be seeing it from this top side. Notice how Sides A and B are really the same size, but we'd see them as different sizes. But we know that they are really the same size.

And if we were to rotate the cube, we'd notice that as each side or face came to face us it would be the same size as the other face.

Now what would a 4D Hypercube look like? Well we can't represent it in 4D but just like the 3D cube as we rotate it, each side that came into our dimension would look the the full size.

[Go to www.NoBlindFaith.com/dimensions.htm to see a video of this]

On a side note: Salvador Dali drew this painting in 1954 to symbolize that Christ was a multiple dimensional being and that he died for all creatures in all dimensions. Notice the unfolded the 4D hypercube.



So there are 6 other dimensions. Dimensions that are out there but that we can't measure. Dimensions we have a hard time imagining. But they exist and we can show they exist mathematically.

Now I want you to think about this. If you were a 2 dimensional being and lived on a piece of paper. What would a wall be for you? It would be a line. So a closed room would be what? A rectangle with a door in it. Now if some 2D people were in a closed 2D room and you wanted to go into it. How would you do it?

Remember how Jesus walked through walls?

So how do you think Jesus got into the Upper Room? What if Jesus' resurrected body was a multidimensional capable body? What if all he had to do was hop over into the 4th dimension and into the Upper Room? What if this is the kind of body we will all have if we are raised again?

What if there are multiple other dimensions in this universe, and in those other dimension we find the Angels and the Demons and occasionally they interact with our world?

So where is Hell? Where is Heaven? What if hell and heaven are actually in these other dimensions? Maybe Science is finally figuring out what the Bible has been talking about for centuries.

If you are here today and you are not sure if you are going to heaven or hell, then decide now.

But if you feel that you don't have enough information about it. Or you may feel that you don't have time to look into this superstitious nonsense let me give you some more information before we go to the last point.

6. Which will be: Who is in Charge of Hell?

I want to clarify some things before we cover that.

At this church, we believe that Blind Faith is one of the worst things you can have.

We believe Christianity isn't a Blind Faith,
It's a Rational Faith
Built on a Logical &
Historical Foundation

We believe that you should never be a Superstitious Christian. Blindly believing things that aren't true and can't be verified.

To do that we want to equip you.
One of the things we teach is Apologetics.

What is Apologetics? I'm glad you asked.

Apologetics is the evidence and defense of the Rational Faith of Christianity using
Facts,
Logic
History,
Science,
Philosophy,
and Reasoning.

It's answering EVERY single tough question: Like why did bad things happen to good people. It what we use to proves Christianity is factually TRUE not some superstitious claptrap. And frankly if anyone could prove that Christianity was not true to us, most of us would stop being Christians, because we have better things to do with our time. Since we believe God is God and the creator of all things we are not afraid of the truth.

So if you are a doubter and visiting here today, I want you to know that I believe I can prove to you that it is more rational and logical to believe that God exists using Science.

I believe I can prove to you that the New Testament Bible is the most carefully preserved document that we have and that we can Historically and factually prove that it is accurate and that it has not been corrupted despite the 2000 year age.

And I believe that I can prove to you that Jesus Christ really existed using Historical documents that are NOT the Bible, that prove not only that Jesus was crucified but that Pontius Pilate was the guy who executed him during the reign of Tiberius Caesar. I can even point out to you an independent record showing that the sun was blackened and an earthquake occurred in 33 AD the day that Jesus died just like the Bible says.

And finally I believe I can provide to you a case that will stand up in a court of law that shows that it is more rational to believe that Jesus rose from the dead than to believe he didn't.

And wouldn't you agree it's important for you to look into this because if Hell is real the downside for you to die without knowing this is very very bad.

But you may ask: Well what about other religions don't they lead to God as well.

I'm so glad you asked. Because as of next Sunday at the 9 o'clock Hour, I will be Teaching about the major religions. If you've learned something today, come join us the first hour next week as we compare and contrast 4 major religions. What do they teach, do they have any sort of evidence that would support the claim that they are true. How do they compare to Christianity?

We will do

1. Islam
2. Hinduism
3. Mormonism
4. Buddhism and Sikhism.

This by the way is important to you if you have kids because they are going to be running into these religions at school. And at college there are cults waiting to recruit them. You need to be able to

immunize them. And if you work in the valley, chances are you work with people of these other religions or even Americans who have become followers of these other religions.

And while you are at it, I'd like to alert you to an Apologetics conference with Josh McDowell and Norm Geisler coming to Fremont on Sept 19th and 20th. Where we will answer many of these apologetics issues. If you are someone interested in learning more stuff like you heard today, you need to be there. We even have a mailing list that you can sign up for that tells you whenever Apologetics Speakers or debates are going to be in town. If you want to sign up we'll have a sign up sheet at the Information desk so we can send you info on it.

So now let's finish off our last point.

6. Who is in Charge of Hell?

Remember this statement?

I'd rather party in Hell with Satan than have to live with all those rules in Heaven.

We've already answered part of this. When we talked about partying with others. There are no others in hell with you. It just you and you and you.

But let's talk about the partying with Satan here.

Many people have this image of Satan sitting at the reception desk of Hell saying: Welcome to Hell Mr Saddam Hussein, ah yes your room will be over there with Mr. Stalin. The room temperature will be raised to over 2000 deg at 3 pm. Have a great stay for ever....ah ha ha ha ha.

But is that really true?

So who's in charge of hell? And who did Jesus die to save us from? Who holds the keys to death and hell?

Who is the judge that sentences people to hell? Is it Satan?

What do you think? Who did Jesus die to save us from?

Who is in charge of Hell?

Let's see what the Bible says?

Rev 1: 12 And when I turned I saw.. someone "like a son of man," ... his eyes were like blazing fire.... **17** When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. **18**I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! **And I hold the keys of death and hell.**

So who's in charge of hell? Who holds the keys to death and hell?
Jesus does. Jesus does.

Remember Hell is the last place that Satan wants to go. He's going to suffer there for ever. He's afraid of Hell. He hates hell, he wants to get as far from it as he can.

So who did Jesus die to save us from?

*Jesus died to save us from God. From the wrath of God and from the Judgment of God.
It was the punishment that he has to enforce because he is a GOOD god.*

But----- you don't HAVE to go to Hell. Because Jesus paid for it ALL.

So If God is calling you today, to turn from Hell then you just need to finally realize that only he can save you. It's not arrogant, it's not intolerant. It's justice, but your price has been paid in full. You don't have to go to Hell. You don't have to go to Hell. Please don't go to hell.

All you have to do is accept him and become a Christ follower. And you can do that today. If you understand and if he's calling you then after this is done, come up and tell me that.

See you next week in Sunday School.

Thank you.

