

# “Do You Believe In Hell?”

Luke 16:19-31

Is Hell a real place, or is it just an invention to scare people into doing right and to give leverage to religious leaders to gain control over people? Is Hell a real place where people will actually suffer torment in fire eternally? Jesus Christ said that Hell is real, and He warned us not to go there. Here are 3 truths regarding the doctrine of Hell.

**I. A Place of Present Torment = Sheol (O.T.) / Hades (N.T.) it Exists Now.** The Bible uses two words to describe this place.

**A. A Real Place Of Torment**

1. The torments of Fire – **V. 23, 24, 25, 28**
2. The torments of Frustrated (unfilled) Desires – **V. 24**
3. The torments of Fixed Memories – **V.25** “*It might have been.*”

**B. A Real Place Of Hopelessness – no hope...**

1. For Comfort – **V. 25**
2. For Communication with this life – **V. 27-31**
3. For Change = no escape – **V. 26**

**C. A Real Place Of No Mercy – V.24 ...three keys about “Mercy”**

1. Definition: Mercy withholds punishment we deserve.
2. Delight: Mercy is God's delight – **Micah 7:18**, “Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy.”
3. Decision: Mercy is only offered now – **Isaiah 55:6-7**, “Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.”

**II. A Place Of Permanent Torment = GEHENNA Or The Lake Of Fire Is A Real Place**

This word “*gehenna*,” describes the **lake of fire**. **Luke 12:4-5**, “And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him.”

**A. It’s A Place Prepared For The Devil – and his angels. Matthew 25:41**, “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:”

**B. It’s A Place Prepared For Unbelievers – Revelation 21:8**, “But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.”

**III. What Do I Believe?** Each of us must make a personal decision regarding the truth of Hell. People go to hell because they refuse God’s will. **Psalms 9:17**, “The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.” – Here’s what we must do...

**A. Look Away From The Deniers**

**B. Learn The Clearly Revealed Will Of God**

1. God’s will is that you be saved – **I Tim. 2:4**, “Who will have all men to be saved...”
2. God’s will is that you not perish – **II Peter 3:9**, “Not willing that any should perish” **John 3:16**

**C. Listen To The Invitation To Be Saved – Rom. 10:13** “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”