



**Riverstone**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

## Sermon Based Questions

Date- Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2021

Series- Final Things: Hell

### Final fate of the Wicked

*6 God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you 7 and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. 8 He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. 9 They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord. 2 Thessalonians 1:6-9*

#### 1. What is the final state of the wicked?

- Imagery: eternal fire, outer darkness, weeping & gnashing of teeth. Matt 25:41, Matt 8:12, Rev 14:1-10-11
- Wrath of God, second death. Rom 2:5, Rev 21:8
- Exclusion from the face of the Lord. 2 Thess 1:9

#### 2. Is judgement final or do we get a second chance?

- Does Ephesians 1:9-10 or Philippians 2:10-11 teach that ultimately everyone is saved? (Rob Bell- Love Wins)
- Final & Definitive: Matt 25:41 & Luke 16:26 although parables they seem to suggest that whatever happens at the end is- "set in stone."
- The Verdict- Restorationism should be rejected.

#### 3. Is it eternal or finite?

- Annihilationism? (John Stott)
- Eternal: The teaching of Christ- Mark 9:43-49, Matt 18:8-9 & Daniel 12:2.
- Degrees? (Matt 11:21-24 & Luke 12:47-48)

#### 4. Implications:

- What we do in life- echoes in eternity. "Gladiator."
- Hell is defined by final separation from the Lord. 2 Thess 1:9
- Hell is a natural consequence of prolonged rejection of God. 2 Pet 3:9
- Christ was forsaken so that we might be remembered?

### **A. Examining the texts.**

1. Read 2 Thess 1:6-9. What does Paul say here about judgement and what does it reveal about the character of God?
2. Read Matthew 25:41 & 46. What does this reveal about judgement?
3. Read Luke 16:19-31. What does this parable reveal? What is its main teaching point and what (if anything) does it teach us about the nature of judgement?
4. Read Mark 9:43-49, Matt 18:8-9 & Daniel 12:2. What do these passages reveal about the nature of judgement?
5. Read Matt 11:21-24 & Luke 12:47-48. What do these passages reveal if anything about "degrees of punishment?"

### **B. Meditation & application**

6. C.S Lewis said in the problem of pain, "Sin is the human being saying to God throughout life, "Go away and leave me alone." Hell is God's finally saying to the person- "You may have your wish." What do you make of this quote?
7. How would you reconcile the reality of hell as taught in the scripture with the revelation of God in scripture that he is "good and gracious?"
8. Jesus experience on the cross mirrored a "descent into hell," what were the implications of his being forsaken?
9. How does the reality of hell inform Christian discipleship and what actions does it motivate?

A Prayer: Heavenly Father- We recognize that separation from you is spiritual death. We praise you for the saving work of Christ and for the hope held out in the gospel. Help us to "kiss the Son," who was forsaken that we might be remembered. In Jesus Name- Amen