

Hell

and

Lostness

**The devil is not hell's creator or
controller.**

**He will be hell's occupant, but
not its owner.**

We are saved *by* God

We are saved *for* God

We are saved *from* God

**Hell is about
God's eternal
justice.**

G. K. Chesterton

Revelation

Reason

Intuition

“As churches become more concerned about being less threatening places for non-believers and about their image in their own cultures, Christians have become careful in how they use harsh sounding words like **lost, sin and repentance ...**

It is awkward for many Christians to come to terms with the stark reality that people could be forever lost. I’m afraid many Christians just don’t believe that those who have not heard or do not know Christ are lost.”

8 Current Beliefs

Materialism Life after death is unlikely Bertrand Russell

Skepticism Certainty = arrogance; gospel is now for postmoderns

Universalism Everyone goes to heaven John Hick

Inclusivism People saved by Christ without knowing Him

Postmortem Encounter Second chance after death C Pinnock

Ameliorationism Unbelievers suffer ? negative consequence for ?

Annihilationism Unbelievers ultimately annihilated John Stott

Literalism Unbelievers suffer eternal, conscious torment in hell

3 Teams

(not more than 5 in a team)

12 minutes

Select only 5 verses

(to teach the doctrine of hell)

List on poster paper

(1 minute to defend)

Four Foundational Questions

- “ **Is biblical revelation, in a didactic context, without error in all its affirmations?**
- “ **Were writers of scripture merely recounting prevailing but erroneous beliefs of their age or writing Divine truth?**
- “ **Can definite theological conclusions be made when based on accurate exegesis of scripture?**
- “ **Can prophecy be correctly interpreted literally when describing events or things?**

Three Papers

- “ Jonathan Edwards Sinners in the hands..
- “ Wendell Kempton The %d+word
- “ Tim Keller Preaching Hell in a Tolerant Age

3 Teams

(not more than 5 in a team)

15 minutes

Select 3 key paragraphs

**Read individually, then come to
consensus on your choices**

Jesus on Hell Gospel of Matthew Only

Hell is Real	Matt 5:21-22, 27-30; 23:15, 33
Hell is Ruled by God	Matt 10:28; 25:41, 46
Hell Involves Rejection	Matt 7:23; 8:11-12; 22:13; 25:30
Hell Involves Pain	Matt 13:30, 40-43, 49-50; 18:6-9

Jesus on Hell – Mark, Luke, John

Hell and Demons	Mark 1:24; 3:11; 5:7
Hell and Eternity	Mark 9:42-48
Hell and Scripture	Luke 16:19-31
Hell and the Present	John 3:16-21; 3:36
Hell and the Future	John 5:28-29; 8:21, 24

Jesus warned of hell

Jesus wept over the lostness of men

Jesus spoke of the justice and duration of hell

Jesus took the reality of hell upon himself

Jesus offers escape from hell

Jesus is the one who will send men to hell

3 Teams

(not more than 5 in a team)

10 minutes

**List on flip chart all prevailing
images, concepts and aspects of
hell from scripture**

Does human opinion change a situation? (Either) there is, or is not a future of eternal punishment. Whether we agree with it or not has very little bearing on the issue. The vote against it could be unanimous and still hell might be a reality. God did not consult us when planning His righteous judgment of the sinful human race. The ultimate question is whether the bible, which is our only source of information about what happens after death, teaches a doctrine of eternal, conscious punishment.+

J Walvoord

Physical anguish fire, flames, furnace, intense, prolonged,
real suffering without annihilation,

Spiritual anguish God is conspicuous by his absence, which brings
terror. Utter darkness: hopelessness, morning never comes, light never goes on
Bottomless pit, falling, every moment further away from the source of help and truth

Emotional anguish

Gehenna, the smoldering trash dump outside Jerusalem

Gnashing of teeth ó severe pain, physical and emotional

Relational anguish

The idea there will be fun in hell is a lie. (poker games, parties, orgies)

Solitary suffering interrupted only by the terror that someone you love might be headed
here too

“The awkward fact is that the church, for nineteen hundred years, has believed in the uniqueness of Christ, the truth of His word, and the necessity of God’s judgment of the impenitent: and we have to ask why...some or all of these beliefs now seem to have become so unbelievable.

Is it that new exegetical discoveries now cast doubt upon what the church has always believed? Has the church misread the bible consistently over so long a period of time?...

It is not new light from the bible, but because of new darkness from the culture...”

David Wells

Same 5 Teams

(not more than 5 in a team)

10 minutes

**List on flip chart the descriptions
of paradise found in Rev 21-22
(in contrast to hell)**

The Great Contrast Between Heaven and Hell

New Jerusalem

Rev 21-22

Water of Life



Lake of Fire

Rev 20, etc

Lake of fire



The Great Contrasts in Revelation

Two Cities Babylon (name for ourselves) Jerusalem (name of God)

Two Lambs Faithful and True Lamb, Impostor lamb with two horns

Two Seals (marks) Beast 13: 16 (Cain) Lamb 7: 3

Two Women Great Harlot, Bride of the Lamb 21: 9

Two Suppers Marriage feast of the Lamb - blessed

Great supper of God - cursed 19:9, 17

Two Armies Of the Lamb, of the Beast

Two Kingdoms Of earth, of Heaven

Two Deaths First - blessed 14:13 Second - cursed

Two Resurrections First - blessed Second - cursed

Two Universes New - blessed Old - cursed

Two Inheritances Water of life, Lake of Fire 21:7-8