



Big Idea

Despite the chatter going on in the world around us, all issues break down into one important truth: There are two worlds, and we have one choice. Heaven or Hell. Our destiny is not determined by what side we take on relevant cultural issues. It is determined by whether we choose to accept the love of God or reject it (and suffer the eternal consequences.)

- The Great White Throne of Judgement. All nations will gather before Christ, when he returns. He will separate them like sheep from goats. Those that will go away to eternal punishment and those that will be granted eternal life. The book of Matthew (chapter 25) makes no mention of a third category, no place for middle ground. Verse 32 says “All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats; (vs 33) and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left.”
- Hell is a literal place: A place where darkness is so dark it envelops from the inside out. It creeps into the spaces and places in the mind and soul and becomes almost tangible. Absolute sadness. Fear... Permanent Misery. It is a place of no return. No mercy, no forgiveness, no rest from the steady torture. What is worse is no one will remember you are there, anyway. Hell is hopeless.
- Our Bill of Debt Has Been Paid: Our choice in this life is to choose and thus live a life according to the love and the Word of Jesus Christ. To accept Him as our one true Savior and humbly accept that He paid for our sins on the cross. Because of His great love for us, we have hope! We have life! And we have the open invitation to dine with Him at His banqueting table in eternal life!!! All we have to do is accept the invitation.

“Earth is the closest a non-Christian will ever get to heaven and it is the closest a Christian will ever get to hell.”

Sometimes we experience things in this life such as sadness, a feeling of hopelessness, fear.... For Christians, these are warning signs that we need re-evaluate our direction and our faith. These experiences are a glimpse of eternal punishment – a fair warning from a merciful Father who has already suffered the cost of our sins. We so easily become distracted by the things of this world – all the cultural issues, opinions, and distorted information. However, scripture clearly outlines the truth in black in white. We will not be judged by things of this world. We need to refocus our minds and our hearts on what really matters; Furthering the message of Jesus, raising God fearing and God loving children, serving each other humbly out of love and ultimately worshipping our beloved Heavenly Father.

Discussion Questions

- What questions do you have about heaven or hell?
- Are you certain of your destiny?
- Do your daily thoughts and discussions point others in the direction of Jesus?
- Have you experienced a “warning” time in your life that caused you to redirect your path? Share.

Next Steps

- How can we pray for you this week? Write down each person’s prayer requests and make it a point to pray for them and text them with an encouraging word at some point this week.

Pray

- That our minds and hearts would be focused on things of Heaven, not of earth.
- That we would be servants for Jesus and further HIS message and agenda.