

# What The Bible Says About... HEAVEN & HELL

## INTRO.

A. Hebrews 9:27- One of the most sobering statements in the Bible

Revelation 20:11-13- Picture of judgment scene

B. Matthew 7:13-14- Everyone is traveling one of two roads

## I- THE FIRST ROAD LEADS TO "HELL"

### A. Terminology:

#### 1. OLD TESTAMENT:

- "Sheol"- "Place where the dead go (godly and ungodly)" - used 31 times

#### 2. NEW TESTAMENT:

- "Hades"- (N.T. equivalent of "sheol")- 'dwelling place of the dead" - used 10 times

- "Gehenna"- "Place prepared for punishment for ungodly"

- Valley S.W. of Jerusalem where Ahaz offered children as burnt sacrifice to god Molech - (II Chronicles 28:3)

- Later became "Jerusalem dumping ground"- used 11 times

- "Tartarus" - described as "black pits/chains of darkness" to which sinful angels were cast pending judgment.

- used 1 time - II Peter 2:4

NOTE: "Gehenna" is the term accurately translated "Hell."

### B. Description of Gehenna:

- Observation: Jesus used this word 10 of the 11 times it is used

- Matthew 5:22 - "... *hell of fire*"

- Matthew 5:29-30 - Better to lose an eye or hand than to be cast into hell

- Matthew 7:19 - trees which bear "bad fruit" will be thrown into the fire

- Matthew 7:23 - cast out from the presence of Christ

- Matthew 8:12 - "darkness on the outside... weeping and grinding of teeth"

- Matthew 13:49-50 - thrown into the "furnace of fire"

- Mark 9: 44,48 - "the unquenchable fire... where their worm (maggots preying upon flesh) does not die."

- Matthew 25:41- "eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels."

- Revelation 14:11 - "the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever."

- Revelation 21:8 - "lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

- Is Hell real? - Jesus taught that it is.

## II- THE SECOND ROAD (Matthew 7) LEADS TO HEAVEN

### A. Basis of our hope:

- Titus 3:7- "heirs of the hope of eternal life"

- II Timothy 4:8 - end of our race - "crown of righteousness"

- I Corinthians 15:18-19 - consequences of denying the resurrection

### B. How does the Bible view our final home (heaven)?

- Philippians 1:23 - "I desire to depart and **be with Christ.**"

- Philippians 3:20 - "For our citizenship is in heaven..." - Jesus will return from there

- Hebrews 11:10 - Abraham was looking for such a place

- Matthew 6:9 - says heaven is God's dwelling place

- Hebrews 4:9-10 - place of rest from toil (God's "Sabbath")

- I Corinthians 2:9 - wonderful beyond our ability to comprehend

C. What is **not** in heaven:

- Revelation 21:4 -

21:25 -

21:27 -

- Revelation 21-22 - views the "heavenly Jerusalem" (final view of the church/Jesus' bride)

- Revelation 22:5 - Christians will reign forever and ever.

D. Sweetest words Jesus ever uttered: - John 14:1-3

CONCL.

A. Are Heaven and Hell figments of man's imagination?

- Matthew 25: 31-46 - Jesus pictures final judgment

B. Two roads... two eternal destinies...