**Driven by Eternity**

***Video 2: The Eternal Home of the Dead***

**Matthew 7:13-14 (TEV)** Go in through the narrow gate, because the gate to hell is wide and the road that leads to it is easy, and there are many who travel it. 14But the gate to life is narrow and the way that leads to it is hard, and there are few people who find it.

The word “many” used here means **MOST**.

Jesus spoke of **HELL** more than He spoke of **HEAVEN**.

There are several terms used for hell in the Bible. They include:

* Sheol
* Hades
* Grave
* Gahanna
* Lake of fire

**Luke 16: 20-31 NKJV** But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fellfrom the rich man’s table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. And being in (great pain, agony, anguish) in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. “Then he cried and said, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.’ But Abraham said, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented. And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.’ “Then he said, ‘I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father’s house, for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.’ Abraham said to him, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.’ And he said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ But he said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.’”

Both **BODY** and **SOUL** are destroyed in hell.

Without the saving grace of Jesus Christ, people’s **DARKNESS** continues on into hell only without relief.

It is **THE WORD OF GOD** that instills faith, not just miracles or experiences.

There is a real **HELL** to shun, and a **HEAVEN** to gain.

**Revelation 20:11-14 (ICB)** Then I saw a great white throne and the One who was sitting on it. Earth and sky ran away from him and disappeared. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne. And the book of life was opened. There were also other books opened. The dead were judged by what they had done, which was written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it. Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them. Each person was judged by what he had done. And Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This lake of fire is the second death.

**Revelation 20:10 (NKJV)** The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone wherethe beast and the false prophet *are.* And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

**Matthew 25:46 (NKJV)** And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

**Mark 9:48 (TEV)** There ‘the worms that eat them never die, and the fire that burns them is never put out.

**Matthew 25:41 (NCV)** Then the King will say to those on his left, ‘Go away from me. You will be punished. Go into the fire that burns forever that was prepared for the devil and his angels.

Man belonged to **God**, but at the fall they were given over to **Satan**. That is why God and came as a man in Christ Jesus.

**Jude 22-23 (NKJV)** And on some have compassion, making a distinction; but others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.

Johnathan Edwards, July 8th, 1741 “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God”

A healthy fear of the Lord helped to start the first Great Awakening in America.

**Isaiah 66:22-24 (NLT)** “As surely as my new heavens and earth will remain, so will you always be my people, with a name that will never disappear,” says the Lord. “All humanity will come to worship me from week to week and from month to month. And as they go out, they will see the dead bodies of those who have rebelled against me. For the worms that devour them will never die, and the fire that burns them will never go out. All who pass by will view them with utter horror.”

***Serious Question:*** How do we escape such a horrible and inescapable end?

***Answer:*** Give your life wholly and totally to Jesus.

**Hell is the absence of everything God calls good.**

* **Light**
* **Time, days, seasons**
* **Sky, or stars**
* **Sun or warmth**
* **Land**
* **Property**
* **Authority**
* **Beauty**
* **Growth, fruitfulness, hope, or purpose**
* **Plants or animals**
* **Community: unity** w/ others or God – internal & external isolation / separation / division
* **Reflecting the image and glory of God**
* **Grace**
* **Mercy**
* **Food**
* **Music**
* **Pleasure**
* **Rest** – Mat 11:28 – extreme unbearable burdens, heaviness, and weariness
* **Gifts:** Miracles, prayer, prophecy, teaching, learning, serving, giving, leading, following, etc
* **Fruit –** Galatians 5:22, Love joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.
* **Love** – patience, kindness, truth, hope, endurance, faith. Is: jealous, boastful, proud, rude, demanding, irritable, always reminds of sin / failure, injustices

In Hell, there is nothing of the Spirit. Only the extreme of the flesh that is ever longing and never satisfied and always coming under the judgment and destruction of God without being destroyed.

**Discussion Questions**

1. Before reading this section, would you have defined eternal judgment as a foundational doctrine for a Christian to understand? What happens when we disciple people without really diving into this subject?
2. Many Christians fail to tell others about the realities of hell because they’re afraid of seeming negative or judgmental. But talking about these matters is actually an act of compassion. What might it look like for believers (as individuals and in church settings) to address this subject from a place of love?
3. How would you explain the relationship between faith and fruit (or works)? If salvation is a gift, why is what we do relevant to what we believe?
4. In chapter five, we discussed the idea that we tend to share the gospel’s promises without talking about the impact a decision to follow Jesus will have on someone’s life. Why is a life of submission to Christ’s lordship actually richer than one in which we simply receive spiritual perks without having to change the way we live?
5. Think about everything you’ve learned so far regarding salvation, judgment, and the impact our lives now have on eternity. How does chapter five’s insight on the nature of grace impact your outlook on these topics moving forward?