

HEAVEN & HELL

AN IMMANUEL SERMON SERIES

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WEEK TWO: HELL – WHO? WHY?

And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him. (Hebrews 9:27-28)

Why preach a sermon series on heaven and hell?

- The Bible talks about heaven and hell, and we want our preaching to be biblical.
- Among Christians, there is great confusion about the doctrine of the afterlife.
- _____ of us are so “heavenly minded” that we’re no “earthly good.” (Johnny Cash)
- Every _____ has to answer the question of what happens when we die?
 - Naturalism (Marxism, Nihilism)
 - Pantheism (Hinduism, Buddhism)
 - Existentialism (New Age Philosophy, Postmodernism)
 - Animism
 - Islam

“Gehenna, the place of punishment after the day of judgment, is distinct from hades, the underworld, and the pit, but identical with the furnace of fire. It is a place destined for the beast from the pit and for the false prophet, for Satan and his angels, for Death and Hades, and for all the wicked. And these are all hurled into it *after* the resurrection, and *after* the final judgment ... Burning in that Gehenna is everlasting, unquenchable *fire*. This is where the *worm* that does not die keeps gnawing and the *torment* never ends. It is a Gehenna or *furnace of fire* and at the same time a place of extreme, outer *darkness*. It is located ‘outside’, in the *depths*, so that one is thrown down into it. This place is far from the marriage table of the Lamb, far from fellowship with God and with Christ; it is rather in the company of Satan and his angels. The *wrath of God* in all its terror is manifested there. Consequently, Gehenna is not only a place of privation but also of sorrow and pain, in both soul and body; a place of *punishment* and *gnashing of teeth*, of *anguish* and *distress*, of *destruction*, of *corruption*, and of *ruin*. Gehenna is the real of the second death.” (Herman Bavinck, *Reformed Dogmatics, Volume Four*)

“Hell is a place of eternal conscious _____ for the _____. ”
(Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology*)

In the end, who will be in hell?

- _____, the beast (antichrist), the false prophet, the rebellious “Sons of God,” the demons, and Satan’s “angels” (Matthew 25:41, Revelation 19:20, 20:10, 2 Thessalonians 2:8-12, Genesis 6:1-4, 2 Peter 2:4, Jude 1:6, Matthew 8:28-29, Mark 1:24)
- _____ human beings (Romans 3:9-18)
 - _____ sinners (John 3:3, Ephesians 2:1-5, 1 Peter 1:3-5)
 - _____ sinners (1 Corinthians 6:9-11, Galatians 5:19-21, 1 John 3:4-10)
 - _____ sinners (John 3:16-18, Romans 1:18-23, 10:13-15)
- _____ (Isaiah 59:1-2, Job 1-2, Psalm 139:7-10, Nahum 1:2-8, Romans 2:5, Ephesians 5:6, Revelation 6:16-17)

“Hell is eternity in the presence of God _____ a mediator. Heaven is eternity in the presence of God, _____ a mediator.” (RA Finlayson)

In the end, why will the wicked be cast into hell?

- Hell exists for _____ to prevail (Exodus 34:6-7, Psalm 7:11, Revelation 20:12).
- Hell exists for the _____ of God (Psalm 50:6, Romans 9:22-23, Revelation 19:3).
- Hell exists for the _____ of the New Creation (Isaiah 65:25, Revelation 21:4, 21:27).