

Life After Life: Hell Is A Real Place

Revelation 20:11-15

Introduction

Can modern man believe in hell? A couple generations ago, that question would not even be considered. However, given the mindset of modern man, the idea of a place of eternal punishment reserved for those that reject Jesus Christ is often rejected.

We live in a culture in which no one takes responsibility for wrong action, They would rather address the consequence and not the cause of the action.

Last fall the following situation was exposed.

“The Washington DC Health Department is pushing for a new 24-hour waiting period before getting a tattoo or body piercings. The language of the proposed new regulations reads, ‘*The licensee or operator of a body art establishment shall ensure that no tattoo artist applies any tattoo to a customer until after twenty-four (24) hours have passed since the customer first requested the tattoo.*”

The Washington DC Health Department Spokeswoman, Najma Roberts told the Washington Post, ‘We’re making sure when that decision is made that you’re in the right frame of mind, and you don’t wake up in the morning . . . saying, ‘Oh my . . ., what happened?’ In other words, the potential new regulation would largely be aimed at stopping people from getting a tattoo while drunk, or under the influence of other drugs.”

So what's the lesson here? *The problem with this regulation is that it addresses the consequence, not the heart (root) of the problem. The problem is not the tattoo. The problem is the alcohol.*

Society wants to enjoy sin, but experience no consequence. *Therefore, they seek to remove the consequence and not the root sin.*

May I suggest that there is a day coming in which all who have rejected the grace of God will be held accountable for their actions and will face the God of Justice at the Great White Throne Judgment.

Contextualize this sermon in the series – Life After Life.

Contextualize this sermon text.

I. The Great White Throne Judgment (20:11-12a)

A) The Nature of the Judgment

(GWTJ is not the judgment of believers.)

B) The Attendees at the Judgment (Rev. 20:12)

Diverse Influence

Diverse Wealth

Diverse Religions (denominations)

Diverse Ethnicity

Diverse Nationality

C) The Standards at the Judgment (Rev. 20:12)

A) No Name in The Book Of Life

B) Record of Deeds

II. The Consequence of Hell (Revelation 20:15)

A) Place of torment (Mark 9:42-44)

⁴² *“But whoever causes the downfall of one of these little ones who believe in Me—it would be better for him if a heavy millstone^[J] were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. ⁴³ And if your hand causes your downfall, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and go to hell—the unquenchable fire, [⁴⁴ where the worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.*

B) Place of abandonment (2 Thess. 1:7-9)

This will take place at the revelation of the Lord Jesus from heaven with His powerful angels, ⁸ taking vengeance with flaming fire on those who don't know God and on those who don't obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. ⁹ These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction from the Lord's presence and from His glorious strength

C) Place of remembrance (Luke 16:25)

D) Place of regret (Luke 16:27)

E) Place of darkness (Matthew 22:13-14)

¹³ *“Then the king told the attendants, ‘Tie him up hand and foot,^[C] and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴ “For many are invited, but few are chosen.”*

F) Place of eternity

G) Place of easy access

Conclusion

Hell is not preached to scare people you into a decision for Christ (John 3:16). Hell is preached to remind you of the urgency of a decision for Christ.