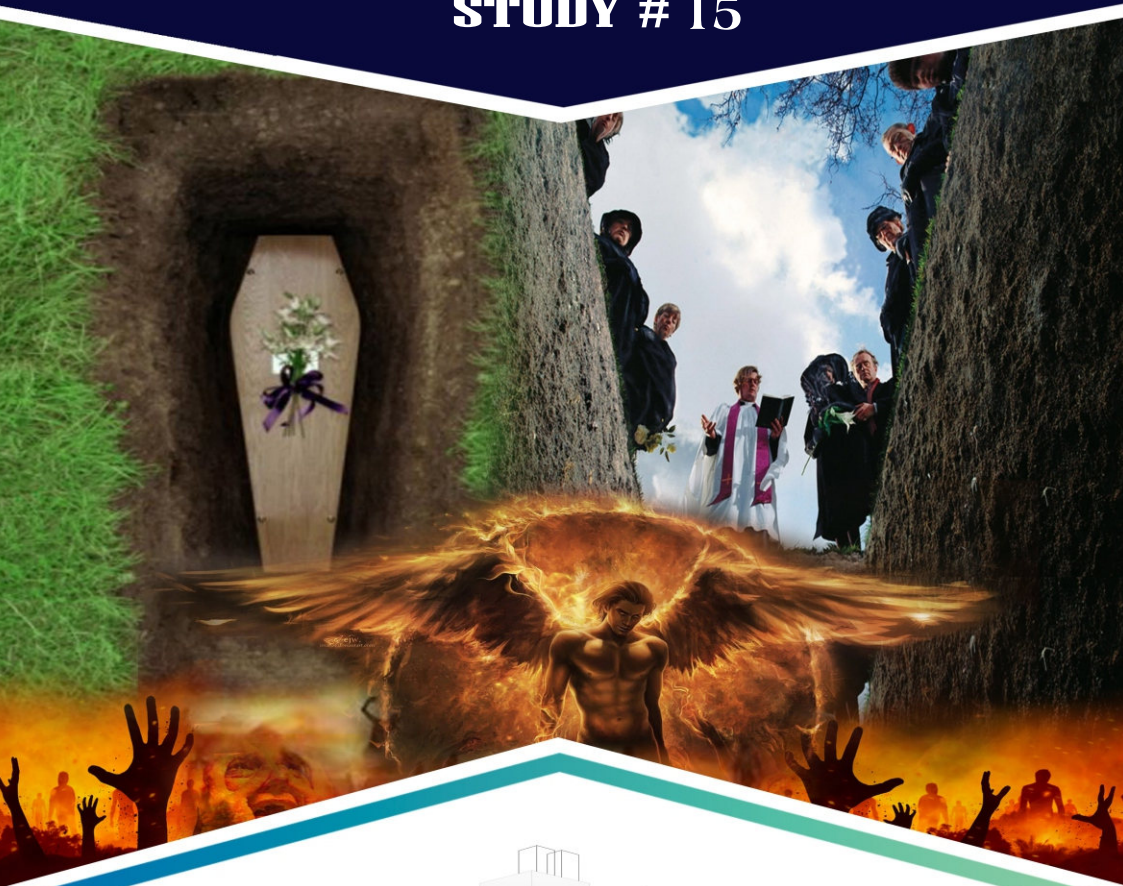


# *The Truth about Hell*

**STUDY # 15**



**THE GREAT TRUTHS OF  
THE BIBLE**

**"Thy word is truth" ...John 17:17**



# THE GREAT TRUTHS OF THE BIBLE

STUDY : # 15

## THE TRUTH ABOUT HELL

**PLEASE NOTE: Kindly refer to your Bibles for every scripture reference and read thoroughly.**

MOST SCRIPTURE PASSAGES ARE QUOTED FROM THE AUTHORISED KING JAMES VERSION (KJV)

Today let us study about **HELL** !

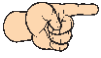
After having studied about the soul and that it dies and has **NO EXISTENCE** or **LIFE** after death, let us today then study about Hell and what it is !



Generally in all religions Hell is taken to be a **FIERY PLACE OF PUNISHMENT WHERE IMMORTAL, UNDYING** souls are tormented forever.







It is believed that this is an arrangement of God and **CREATED** by God.



It is also believed that the Devil is the “keeper of Hell” and somehow the Devil is not only **FIRE RESISTANT** but is very comfortable and **AT HOME** in Hell!



All this is very graphically described by many “men of God” who have recorded all this in books, booklets and magazines, having claimed to have seen Hell in “vision” or having visited Hell “in the spirit”.



## The Well to Hell



While drilling the world's deepest hole in Siberia, the geologists noticed the drill bit began to rotate abnormally, among other strange happenings, when they reached a depth of ten miles. They measured temperatures up to 2000 degrees at the deepest part, and then lowered a microphone into the pit. After hearing the sounds of all the suffering souls in hell, they stopped the project in the hope that what is down there will stay down there.

THERE IS EVEN A VERY POPULAR VIDEO CALLED “Heaven's gates and hell's flames”.

And very recently a pastor released a audio cassette called “The sounds of Hell” which was recorded deep in the mines of Siberia and had sounds of thousands

### 3

in torture and was claimed to be the sound of the tortured souls in Hell.

The pastor even said - "If you don't believe me, die and see for yourself!"

## IS ALL THIS TRUE ? DOES GOD'S SCRIPTURES TEACH ALL THIS ? —



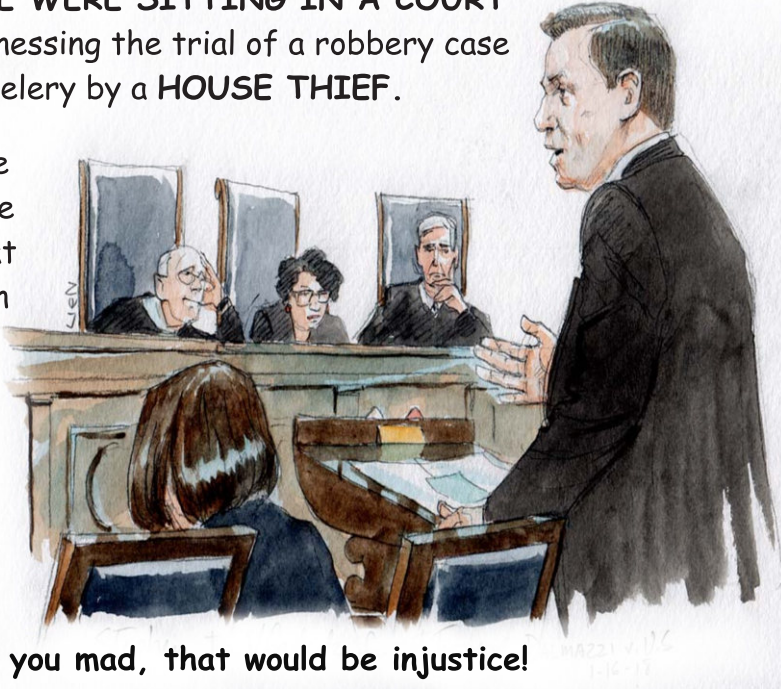
Before we go to the scriptures to analyze the matter, here is a little incident that took place in a court of law -



**TWO PEOPLE WERE SITTING IN A COURT OF LAW** witnessing the trial of a robbery case of jewelery by a **HOUSE THIEF**.

One was of the opinion that the punishment that was to be given should be **"HANGING"** unto death!

But the other immediately responded. —



**"Are you mad, that would be injustice!  
He has only robbed after all —not murdered !"**

But the first one replied **"No ! Such punishment if given would be a warning to all other such thieves. They will then be discouraged"**



"That may be so" replied the other "but one must give a  
**JUST PUNISHMENT!!**"

**THIS IS AN UNDERSTANDING AMONG MERE  
MEN — IMPERFECT SINFUL MEN !**

→ **WHAT ABOUT GOD AND HIS  
PUNISHMENT FOR SIN ?**

→ **WILL HE NOT GIVE A JUST  
PUNISHMENT FOR SIN?**

→ **IS NOT GOD JUST ?**



We read that **JUSTICE** is His "foundation" in -

**Psalm 89:14**

**"Justice and judgement are the habitation of thy throne: mercy  
and truth shall go before thy face".**

So what would be the **JUST PUNISHMENT** for the sins of men, —

It is agreed by **ALL** that mankind are **SINNERS**  
and that **SIN** must receive a punishment.

But what is the **JUST** punishment for the sins of men ?



Let us see—

Man lives a day of **24  
HOURS** duration



Sleep consumes  
**8 HOURS**



Work takes another  
**8 HOURS**





Eating and bathing etc.. takes probably another **2 HOURS**

That leaves **6 MORE HOURS**. Let us assume that he sins **CONTINUOUSLY EVERY MINUTE** of those 6 hours ! (that would be **1/4th** of a day)

Thus in a life time of 80 years his sin would be for 20 years.  
(1/4 of 80)



How much should be the **JUST** punishment for  
20 years of sin? !

—20 Billion years of Hell fire? !

20 Million, Billion years ? Eternity ?



**ISN'T THAT WHAT WE HAVE BEEN  
TAUGHT ?**



**IS THIS JUSTICE? THINK ABOUT IT !**

Do the scriptures **TEACH** the punishment of sin to be such ? —

**NO !!**

We read very clearly of the punishment for sin in -

**Romans 6:23**

**“...the wages of sin is death;...”**

**YES ! THEN WHAT IS.....HELL ?**

What do the scriptures teach about hell?

**WHAT IS THE TRUTH ABOUT HELL ?**



**DON'T WE ALL WANT TO KNOW? !**

Let us begin our study —

# 6

First of all "Hell" is an ENGLISH word

In TAMIL it is "Naragam"

In KANNADA it is "Naraka"

In HINDI it is "Narak" and in URDU it is "Dozakh"

The English word "Hell" originally meant



**To Conceal** or **To Hide** or **To Cover**

(CHECK ANY OLD DICTIONARY)

Thus farmers in Europe would usually say —

 "I must hell my potatoes" as in BURYING them in the ground


 Or "I must hell my house" as in THATCHING the house roof and covering it with hay !

But today the word HELL has a different meaning altogether,

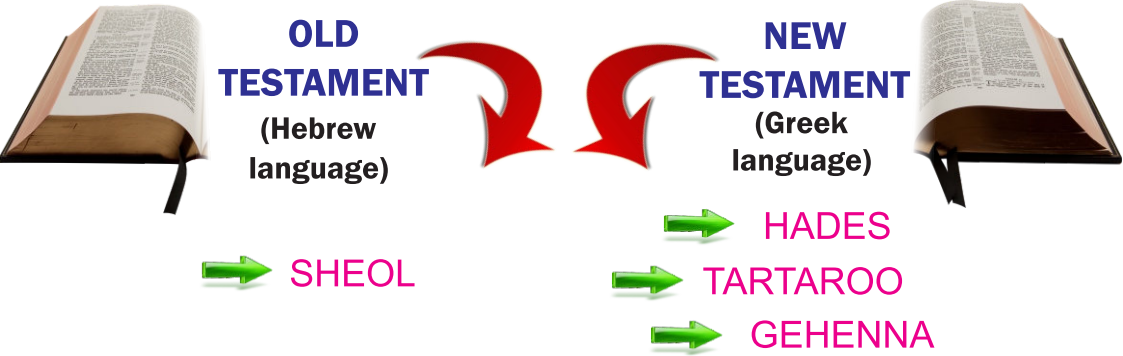
 IT MEANS A "PLACE OF TORMENT".

Let us now see the truth of Hell in the Bible—

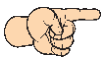
There are FOUR words translated as HELL in the English Bible.

 They are ONE Hebrew word and..... THREE Greek words.





A study into the **MEANING OF THESE WORDS** will reveal the truth about Hell in the Bible!



**The word Hell appears 53 times in the Bible**

→ In the **OLD TESTAMENT** it appears **31 times**

→ .....and in the **NEW TESTAMENT** it appears **22 times**

Let us now study the **OLD TESTAMENT** first—

# **SHEOL** (31 times)

Here the Hebrew word that is translated as Hell is **SHEOL**.

This word **SHEOL** appears in the Old Testament a total of **65 times** !!

It is **31** times translated as **HELL**

It is **31** times translated as **GRAVE**

It is **3** times translated as **PIT**

**Yes !.....65 times in all**



Isn't this peculiar ?

So what does SHEOL really mean?

And why this apparent DIFFERENCE in the meaning given for this one word ?

Let us see some scriptures where SHEOL appears to understand this matter better.

Let us first turn to -

### **Psalms 9:17**

**“The wicked shall be turned into hell , and all the nations that forget God.”  
(KJV Bible)**

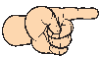
**“The wicked return to the grave , all the nations that forget God.”  
( NIV Bible )**

When studying this verse in KJV and NIV we realise.....

The word “turned into” means “return to” in NIV. One can only return to a place that one has already been in. Thus the “wicked” seem to RETURN TO hell that they once came out of ! Only.....to return again !!



### **WHAT DOES THIS MEAN ?**



Also the word “sheol” is translated “hell” in KJV and “grave” in NIV.

Are “hell” and the “grave” BOTH ONE AND THE SAME IN MEANING ?

Is this the CONCLUSION that we must come to.....??

Ah! Let us first see another scripture in.....

### **Genesis 37:35**

**“And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him;.....**

and he said, For I will go down into the grave unto my son mourning....”

Yes ! Here the word “grave” is the Hebrew word “SHEOL”.

So as we saw in the previous verse SHEOL in the Old Testament is translated as BOTH hell and grave.

### SO, WHAT IS THE REAL MEANING OF HELL ?

Perhaps we can confirm the meaning of “HELL” in this Hebrew word “SHEOL”

#### Isaiah 38:18

“ For the grave (SHEOL) cannot praise thee, death (SHEOL) can not celebrate thee: they that go down into the pit (SHEOL) cannot hope for thy truth”

Yes ! Here the word “sheol” is INTERPRETED and translated as the GRAVE and.....also the STATE OF DEATH and.....also the PIT.





## THIS IS GOD'S WAY OF TELLING US THE MEANING AND THE TRUTH!

Thus this word - "sheol" which we have seen is translated 31 times as grave and 3 times as pit is also.....translated 31 times as "HELL" ?

**THUS HELL.... MEANS GRAVE OR PIT OR THE "HIDDEN STATE" OF BURIAL !**

It does not have any meaning of blazing fire or anything resembling that thought !!

Rather it is the **REVERSE** as we shall see now in some Old Testament verses where "sheol" occurs—



**SHEOL or HELL is a state of "darkness" as we read in -**

### **Job 10:21**

**"...I shall not return , even to the land of darkness and the shadow of death;"**



Instead of groans and shouting, **HELL** or **SHEOL** is described as a place of "silence" in -

### **Psalms 115:17**

**"The dead praise not the LORD , neither any that go down into silence."**



Instead of regret or suffering **HELL** or **SHEOL** is described as a place or condition of "forgetfulness" in -

### **Psalms 88:11,12**

**"Shall thy loving kindness be declared in the grave ? or thy faithfulness in destruction ?.....and thy righteousness in the land of forgetfulness ?"**



HELL or SHEOL is a place of "non existence" in -

### **Ecclesiastes 9:10**

**".....for there is no work , nor device , nor knowledge , nor wisdom ,in the grave, wither thou goest."**

Thus **SHEOL** or **HELL** is nothing but the "state of death".

So Hell in the Old Testament simply means **THE STATE OF DEATH** or.....the grave or.....the pit.



**ALL GRAVEYARDS SHOULD APPROPRIATELY PUT UP A BOARD SAYING "HELL" FOR THE GRAVE AND THE CONDITION OF BEING DEAD IS THE TRUE MEANING OF SHEOL AND HELL IN THE OLD TESTAMENT OF THE BIBLE**



Now let us study the **THREE** words that are translated as "HELL" in the **NEW TESTAMENT**—

The first Greek word used is -



# 1. HADES

 (9 times)

This is the Greek equivalent of the Hebrew word "SHEOL" and simply means the grave.

This we see as we note a verse that appears both in the Old Testament and "HADES" in the New Testament Let us turn to -

**Psalms 16:10 / Acts 2:27**

**"For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; (SHEOL) neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption."**

**" Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, (HADES) neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption."**

Did you see that?! Though the words change with the change of language -

**THE BASIC MEANING** remains the same !

Just as the word " water" in English is " eaux" in French and... "agua" in Portuguese and....."paani" in Hindi and....."thaneer" in Tamil!



**DOES THE ELEMENT WATER CHANGE WITH THE CHANGE IN LANGUAGE ?**

Definitely the answer is **NO !**

**SO IT IS HERE WITH THE MEANING OF "HADES"**



# 13

We read also that even Jesus went to Hell !

We read of this in -

**Acts 2 : 31**

**“.....spake of the resurrection of Christ , that his soul was not left in hell,....”**



Yes! Jesus also went down to **HELL** (Refer **KJV** Bible) or  
“**Hades**” for a period of three days.

He was in the “ state of death” or the grave- being dead  
for 3 days till His resurrection on Sunday.

Imagine ! If **HELL** or “**HADES**” was a place of  
torment, then Jesus too would have to have gone to  
such a place of torment !

 **But, NO !**

The **TRUTH** is so **SIMPLE** !



Yes ! Jesus too went into HELL or "HADES" or "the state of death" for a period of parts of 3 days.

The scripture say -

**"...that his soul was not left in Hell."**

This "not left" refers to the **CONDITION** of the rest of mankind who are "left" in HELL till the second Coming of Jesus.

Yes ! Jesus received His resurrection within just 3 days while the rest of mankind must await the **SECOND COMING** of Jesus to receive theirs !!

Jesus further says He has "the keys of **DEATH** and **HELL** (Hades)"

What does this mean ? Let us now read from -

**Revelation 1:18**

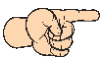
**"I am he that liveth , and was dead; and.....and have the keys of Hell and of death."**

We know this is symbolic language and "keys" represent that which **OPENS** a door and in this case it represents a "door of opportunity" and keys "received" represent **AUTHORITY RECEIVED**.



So, what are the "keys" that Jesus here speaks of ?

And what does "death and hell" represent ?



Does not both these words mean **the same thing** ?

**THE ANSWER IS NO !**

We see the meaning of this matter represented in Jesus words in **Luke 9:60** -

“let the DEAD bury their DEAD.....”

Yes ! Here the two “DEAD” represent the family of Adam and its condition-

Some have **ALREADY DIED** and others are.....under the condemned death condition but..... **STILL ARE LIVING**.

These are the **DEAD** or **LIFELESS** “dead” and.....the **LIVING** “dead”.

Thus the **KEYS** of Jesus are-

1

**DEATH**

- the authority over the living “dead” people of the world.

2

**HELL/HADES**

- the authority over the prison house of the grave  
- the dead “dead” of all mankind .



Yes! Jesus has **RECEIVED** the authority from God to lift and remove the death condemnation from both the **LIVING** and the **DEAD** at His second coming !

This is confirmed in **Acts 10:42** where we read -

**“....that it is he which was ordained of God to be the Judge of quick and dead.”**

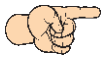
Now let us read about **A CITY THAT GOES TO HELL** ! -

Yes ! We read about it in -

**Matthew 11:23**

**“And thou , Capernaum , which art exalted unto heaven , shalt be brought down to hell(HADES):.....”**

Yes ! Here we see a **CITY** - Capernaum going to **HELL** or **“HADES”**.



**WHAT HAPPENED TO CAPERNAUM ?**

Capernaum (in Hebrew **“Kefar Nachum”** - “Nahum's hamlet”) was a settlement on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. This site is a **RUIN TODAY** it was inhabited from 150 BC to about 750 AD

(Information from Wikipedia on Google)

Yes! This city of **CAPERNAUM** was buried for hundreds of years in accordance with Jesus words of prophecy until in 1838, Edward Robinson, an American explorer discovered the ruins of this ancient city.





So we see that **HELL** translated from "Hades" simply means the "state of death" or **THE CONDITION OF BURIAL** as in the Hebrew word **SHEOL**.

Now let us read another interesting matter in -

### **Revelation 20:13,14**

**"And the sea gave up the dead.....death and hell delivered up the dead..... And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death."**

Here "hell" is said to "deliver up the dead that were in them".

Thus the scriptures teach us that **ALL** that are in Hell.....**SHALL COME OUT !**

And then what ?

We read in —Vs 14

— **"And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire....."**

— Yes ! **HELL** itself **EMPTIED OF ALL THE HUMAN DEAD** is destroyed in "a lake of fire" !



**HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE?**

**Well ! This is **SYMBOLIC** language ! Remember, it is the Book of Revelation !**

It speaks of the end or destruction of the "state of death" by.....**A RESURRECTION FOR ALL (Acts 24:15)**

That's how "Hell" or the **GRAVE** or the condition of **being dead** is to be **DESTROYED** When "**ALL in Christ shall be made alive.**" (1 Corinth 15:22)

Yes ! **THE CONDITION OF BEING DEAD** or.....**HELL** will

be destroyed when in the Kingdom time **ALL THE DEAD** will receive a resurrection or **AWAKENING** from the dead.

Now let us come to the **SECOND GREEK** word that is translated as Hell -



## 2.TARTAROO / TARTARUS (1 time)

This is the second Greek word translated "Hell" and appears only **ONCE** in the Bible !  
We read it in -

### 2 Peter 2:4

**"For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell(TARTAROO), and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgement...."**

Here we see this DOES NOT refer to humans at all!



**THESE ARE..... ANGELS IN HELL !**

Now what could this "hell" of the angels mean ?

We have already seen that "sheol" and "hades" refer to the **CONDITION OF DEATH** or.....**THE GRAVE !**

What then does this "hell" mean for the angels ?



We see the Greek word used for "hell" here is **TARTARUS** or **TARTAROO** and means.....- the **EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE !!**

This is confirmed in -

## Ephesians 6:12

**“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”**

This is translated in NIV as -

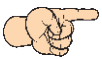
**“.....against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”**



Yes! Here this **“high places”** or **“heavenly realms”** refers to the **EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE !**

**(In Tamil the word is “Vaanamandalam” which clearly means the earth's atmosphere.)**

That is where these angels along with Satan who rebelled against God have been kept.



If our eyes could behold spirit beings we would see them flying all over as we see birds in the sky !

Now what does the words -

**“....delivered them into chains of darkness...”** mean ?

Here the words "chains" and "darkness" have symbolic meaning and **ARE NOT LITERAL** for we have seen that these 'fallen angels' are in the **EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE** and on the earth darkness and light alternate as **DAY** and **NIGHT** and there is **NO PERMANENT LITERAL DARKNESS !!**



**SO WHAT DO THESE SYMBOLS MEAN ?**

The word "chains" symbolises **RESTRICTION**.

These angels are **NO MORE PERMITTED** freedom of movement within God's endless universe as they enjoyed before !!

This is much like how we tie up our dogs when guests visit the house to restrict its movements !



Now what is **THE PLACE OF RESTRICTION.....** of these angels ?

We read -

**"....chains of darkness."**

Here the **DARKNESS** refers to the world in its



present condition as described in -

**Isaiah 60:2**

***“For , behold , the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people:...”***

Yes ! The place of the angels restriction is.....**THE EARTH.**

This is further confirmed in -

**Ephesians 2:2**

***“.....according to the prince of the power of the air.....”***

Yes! the earth's **ATMOSPHERE** or the “air” is the **HELL** or **GRAVE** for angels.



Just as humans have so many graveyards in each place **GOD HAS ARRANGED FOR THE ANGELS ONLY ONE GRAVEYARD AND ITS NAME IS - “EARTH”.**

Now to the **THIRD** Greek word translated as **HELL-**

A cartoon-style illustration of a hand holding a white rectangular sign.

**3. GEHENNA** (12 times)

This is the **THIRD** Greek word that is translated “Hell” in the New Testament (Refer RSV Bible for the footnote.)

Let us read from -

**Mark 9:43-48**

***“And if thy hand offend thee , cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go in to hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:***

Where their worm dieth not , and the fire is not quenched. . And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life , than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire: where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.”



### IS THIS PASSAGE LITERAL LANGUAGE?

Have any Christians **LITERALLY** followed these words of our Lord and done what it says ?

Do we see Christian “blind” and “lame” who have **DONE AS THESE SCRIPTURES SPEAK ?**

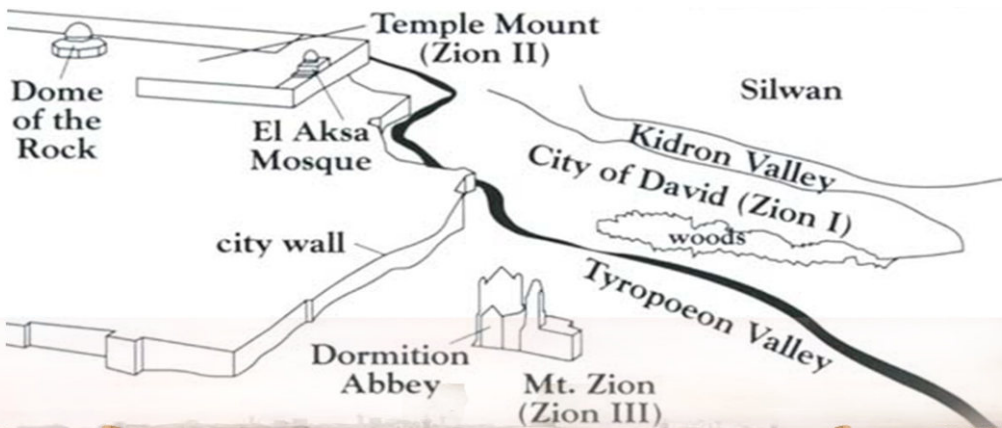
**DEFINITELY NOT!**

So what did Jesus mean then ?

Jesus here is speaking of a Hell that is the Greek word -



**GEHENNA.**



What does **Gehenna** mean ?

It is a place, which in Hebrew is called



**THE VALLEY OF HINNOM** which was outside the city of Jerusalem.

**WHAT WAS** the **HELL** in the valley of Hinnom ?

Let us read in the scriptures in -

### **Jeremiah 7:31**

**“And they have built the high places of Tophet, which is in the valley of Hinnom to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire, which I commanded them not,....”**

Yes! The Israelites would worship other gods there and offer child sacrifices in the fire ! But later they repented and.....converted that very same place into the city's **garbage dump !!**

Here **garbage and dead flesh** (dogs, rats, even the bodies of crucified criminals) was thrown. In order to control the volume

of the garbage **A FIRE WAS LIT** from time to time and that would reduce all the garbage to ashes.

The dead flesh would **BRING FORTH WORMS** which in turn would consume the flesh.



**YES! THIS IS A PICTURE OF.....UTTER  
DESTRUCTION!**

**“where their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched”**

These are **SYMBOLS** of **utter** destruction as symbolized by



The “fire” consuming the **GARBAGE**



and the “worms” consuming the **DEAD FLESH.**

**So we see Our Lord Jesus speaking here of a HELL  
of UTTER DESTRUCTION.**

This “hell” is very different from the “hell” meanings in **HADES** and **SHEOL** which meant the “**STATE OF DEATH**” or the **GRAVE.**

Here the “hell” represents **TOTAL DESTRUCTION** and Jesus was speaking

**WHAT EXACTLY DID HE MEAN?**

We can understand by studying the meanings of the symbols He used.

Let us begin with -



**Vs - 43 - “And if thy hand offend thee , cut it off...”**

Here the reference is **NOT LITERAL** but the “hand” has a symbolic meaning.  
**What does “hand” represent ?**





Here "hand" symbolizes **FRIENDSHIP**.

It is a common saying used that says -

**"America extends its hand to Russia"**

which represents the **TIES OF FRIENDSHIP...**

Here the Lord warns against "friendship" ties that "offend thee" - that lead to sin and worldliness and become stumbling blocks to Christian development.

There are many friendships we would be having at the time of receiving the **TRUTH** which would if **CONTINUED IN** and **ENCOURAGED** would greatly hinder the **CHRIST - LIKE** development.

They are **worldly in nature and conversation** and these friendships may also include ties that stretch back to even early childhood !!

But continuing in such friendships would mean an **INCREASE** in **"the spirit of the world"** and a **DECREASE** in **"the Holy Spirit"**.

Yes ! The Lord says all such friendships must be..... **"cut off" !!!**

Then we read in -



**Vs - 45 - "And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off..."**

Here the "foot" is again a symbol!

What does it represent ?



Here "foot" symbolizes **PLACES**.

The Lord warns against the fact that -

**"if thy foot offend thee"** which represents **places** that are stumbling blocks to Christian development such as - cinema theaters, race courses, gambling places, bars, friends parties, discos etc.



Yes ! These places are all places of **RELAXATION** and **ENJOYMENT** for the worldly persons but would be places of **DISTURBANCE** and **DESTRUCTION** of the **"holy spirit"** of the Christian who seeks Christ - like development.

Yes ! The Lord warns to **"cut it off"** as representing the **STOPPAGE** or **"CUTTING OFF"** of going to such places which encourage worldliness and hinder the Christ like development.



Then we read in -



**Vs - 47** - *“and if thine eye offend thee , pluck it out...”*

Here too the “eye” is a symbol !

**What does it represent ?**

The “eye” represents **SIGHT** and here symbolizes **OBJECTS OF SIGHT !!**

Here the Lord warns against “objects of sight” that “**offend thee**” meaning those that disturb and hinder the Christlike development.

This **CHRISTLIKE** development is the goal of a Christian life - of which we will be studying greater details in **CLASSES # 17/18 and 19.**

These “objects of sight” would include magazines, books, movies and today most of all - **THE TELEVISION** with its many channels and serials !



All these not only **consume precious time** but.....introduces and **encourages the worldly spirit** of selfishness in the heart and character.

They must be "plucked out" or **STOPPED** as a habit !  
Yes ! Christians have been raised to life from death and sin  
as we read in -

## **Ephesians 2:1**

**"And YOU hath He QUICKENED who were dead in trespasses  
and sins;"**

Thus from this condition of **LIFE** the Christian must **NOT**  
once again go back to the ways of sin - or else **HE WOULD**  
**DIE AGAIN** - this time **THE SECOND DEATH !**

Yes ! Here the **HELL** or **GEHENNA** and the symbols of "fire"  
and "worms" are a picture of the **DESTRUCTION** of the  
**SECOND DEATH** which unlike the **FIRST DEATH**  
(I Corinthians 15:22) has **NO REDEMPTION**

The "second death" here is translated **HELL** or the  
state of death but the symbol is of



**UTTER and PERMANENT DESTRUCTION** whose  
symbols are "fire and worms".

This **HELL** or "**GEHENNA**" we read of again in-

## **Matthew 10:28**

**"And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the  
soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and  
body in hell."**

Yes ! Here clearly is the idea of "**destruction in Hell**"  
(Gehenna) and **NOT** preservation in torment!

The body and soul (the being or the life rights) are  
destroyed by "**Him**" (God) —the giver of life!



All the **WILL FULLY** wicked are to be **DESTROYED IN THIS WAY** as seen in -

**Revelation 21:8**

**“But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.”**

Yes ! This “second death” implies that such have **PREVIOUSLY DIED** the “first death” and had been restored to life again after having **DIED ONCE !**

But since they prove to be **WILFUL SINNERS** and **OPPOSERS OF GOD** and **RIGHTEOUSNESS** they will die again and that would be the - “second death”.

We read of this class in -

**Isaiah 26 : 10**

**“Let favour be shewed to the wicked , yet will he not learn righteousness; in the land of uprightness will he deal unjustly, and will not behold the majesty of the Lord.”**

**Thus GOD'S punishment for SIN is always.....DEATH (Romans 6:23)**



**THIS “DEATH” STATE IS.....THE BIBLE HELL —**

the first death has a resurrection but.....the second is  
**UTTER** destruction and **EXTINCTION OF LIFE**.



For those who still have **lingering doubts** on this subject and feel that God's punishment for the wicked is a **HELL OF ETERNAL TORMENT** let us read a few more verses of confirmation in -



**Psalms 37 : 9,10**

**“For evildoers shall be CUT OFF: .....for yet a little while, and the wicked shall NOT BE;  
Yea thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be.”**

And again we read the same in -



**Psalms 145 : 20**

**“The LORD preserveth all them that love Him; but all the wicked WILL HE DESTROY.”**

And yet again we read in another place in -



**Psalms 73 : 27**

**“For ,lo , they that are far from thee shall perish: thou has DESTROYED all them that go a whoring from thee.”**

Yes ! It is very clear that God's punishment for the wicked is **DESTRUCTION** and **NOT PRESERVATION** in **TORMENT** or **TORTURE !!**

But there are some others who insist that the Bible teaches **HELL** to be a place of torment.

They base their belief upon the scripture verse in -

**Revelation 20 : 10**

**“And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever. ”**

This is A **MISUNDERSTOOD VERSE** used to prove the  
"torment" theory, !!

But note here there is **ONLY ONE** beast....., **ONE** false prophet and.....**ONE** devil that is mentioned over here !



**THIS DOES NOT REFER TO MANKIND AT ALL !**

**WHAT AND WHO DOES THIS SCRIPTURE REFER TO ?**



We will study of the deeper meaning of this matter in the  
**future classes.**

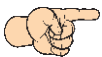
Before we conclude our study today we shall turn to a verse which occurs in many places in the New Testament and is many times **TAKEN TO BE REFERRING TO HELL.**

Let us read from -

**Matthew 13:42**

**"And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth."**

These words also appear in **MATTHEW 8:12/ 22:13/24:51/25:30** and in **LUKE 13:28.**



**What do these passages MEAN AND REFER to ?**

Firstly these do **NOT** refer to Hell but are.....**SYMBOLIC** and have symbolic meanings !!

Let us see the symbolic meaning of **MATTHEW 13:42**



**"Furnace of fire"**

A symbol for **JUDGEMENTS** as we read in  
**Isaiah 66:15,16**

**'For , behold , the LORD will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind , to render his anger with fury , and his rebuke with flames of fire. For by fire and by his sword will the LORD plead with all flesh: and the slain of the LORD shall be many.'**



Yes ! This “furnace of fire” is a symbolic reference to the **FINAL JUDGEMENTS** at the end of the Second World which will destroy all the evil systems and bring the world to an end as we read in -

**Malachi 4:1**

**“FOR, behold the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble:...”**

And again in -

**II Peter 3:10**

**“.....in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.”**

 **“Outer darkness”**

A symbol for the world outside, which is in a condition of **UNTRUTH** as we read very clearly in **ISAIAH 60:2**

“For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people.”



“Wailing and gnashing of teeth”

A symbol of **GREAT REGRET** as we read in  
**LUKE 13:28**

“There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth , when ye shall see  
**Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob,**  
**and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you [yourselves]**  
**thrust out”**

Yes ! This is a reference to **JUDGEMENTS AND THEIR EFFECT !!**



Here Jesus was telling the Jewish leaders that in the kingdom on earth they would see

**ABRAHAM, ISAAC AND JACOB** along with the prophets  
**IN PROMINENCE** but they themselves would be thrust out  
of their offices of leadership which **they then held**  
- which would lead to **GREAT REGRETS ON THEIR PART !!**

Finally, brethren having understood the **TRUTH** about  
**HELL**, isn't it  
a **FAIR** punishment from God ?



Ah ! Yes ! - “*The wages of sin is DEATH.*”

Indeed it is ! For what do we read about God and his attitude towards sinners ?

We read the matter very clearly in -

**Ezekiel 33:11; 18:32**

“.....As I live , saith the Lord GOD , I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked;.....”



“For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn yourselves ,and live ye.”

**Yes! God takes NO PLEASURE in the death of the wicked but hopes for their REPENTANCE and turning unto LIFE and RIGHTEOUSNESS.**

Thus today we have seen from the Bible the **TRUTH ABOUT HELL !**

In conclusion dear brethren we would like to tell you to be careful **NOT** to go and proclaim **THAT THERE IS NO HELL** but rather the truth that there is a **HELL** in the Bible but that

**THE BIBLE HELL GREATLY DIFFERS** from



.....the **HELL** taught among all religions

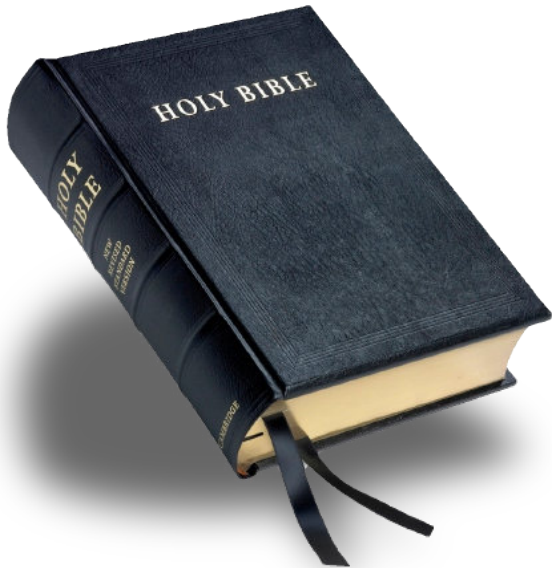


.....and also among **THE VAST MAJORITY OF CHRISTIANS THEMSELVES !!**

**YES ! TO GOD BE ALL THE GLORY FOR THE LIGHT OF TRUTH ON THIS SUBJECT!!**

—Amen—





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