



“The Eternal State”

Part 1

The Lake of Fire

Rev. 20:15

Sept. 8, 2019

Quiz

1. Name the top 6 deception events during the Tribulation.
 1. **Resurrection of the Beast (Antichrist).**
 2. **Signing of peace treaty.**
 3. **Image of the Beast talking.**
 4. **Signs performed by the False Prophet to the Kings of the East to draw them to Armageddon.**
 5. **1 world religion.**
 6. **Drawing all nations to Armageddon.**
2. 2 kinds of language used to express thought in the book of Revelation -
 - Denotative – literal meaning of a word.**
 - Connotative – literal meaning using figures of speech.**
3. Locate on the following map the island John was on when he wrote the book of Revelation.



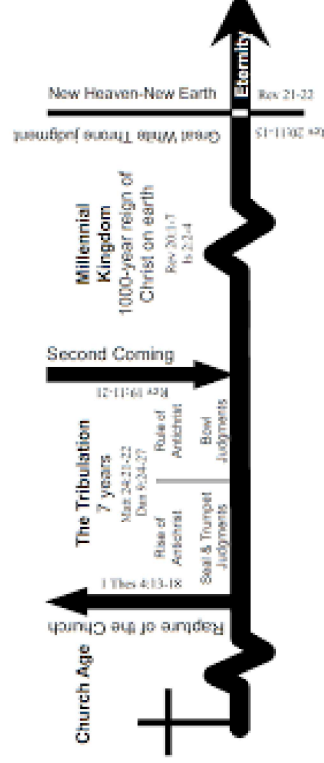
Quiz

4. T or F Revelation is the only prophetic book in the N.T.

T

5. Why is the book of revelation ignored?

1. Because it is too difficult to understand.
2. Because it is not taken literally.
3. Because pastors come from seminaries where they are taught to ignore it.
4. Because it takes time, study and hard work.
5. Because of sign-chasers and date setters/teasers.



Rev 20:11-15

11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them.

12 And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds.

13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds.

14 Then death and Hades were thrown into **the lake of fire**. This is the second death, **the lake of fire**.

15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into **the lake of fire**.

HELL

ABYSS BOTTOMLESS PIT TARTARUS

1. Place of the demon that empowers the Antichrist (Rev 11:7).
2. Place of the demons kept in bonds for cohabiting with "strange (other kind) flesh" (Gen. 6:1-4; 2 Pet. 2:4; Jude 6, Rev. 9:1-12).
3. Place where Satan is bound during the Millennium (Rev. 20:1-3)

PLACE OF TORMENT

Place where all unbelievers go and await final judgment (Luke 16:22-31).

1. **LAKE OF FIRE**
Final destination for all eternity of all the unsaved (Rev 20:15).
2. Final destination for all eternity for Satan, the Beast, and False Prophet (Rev. 20:10).
3. Final destination for all eternity for death and Hades (Rev. 20:14).

10 Truths about Hell (Lake of Fire)

1. *The Lord Jesus taught more about Hell than all of the other writers in the Bible combined.*
2. *Yet today, the subject of Hell is to be avoided. It is rare today to hear a message or sermon on the subject of Hell.*

Isa 30:9-11

9 For this is a rebellious people, false sons,

Sons who refuse to listen

To the instruction of the Lord;

10 Who say to the seers, "You must not see visions";

And to the prophets, "You must not prophesy to us what is right,

Speak to us pleasant words,

Prophecy illusions.

11 "Get out of the way, turn aside from the path,

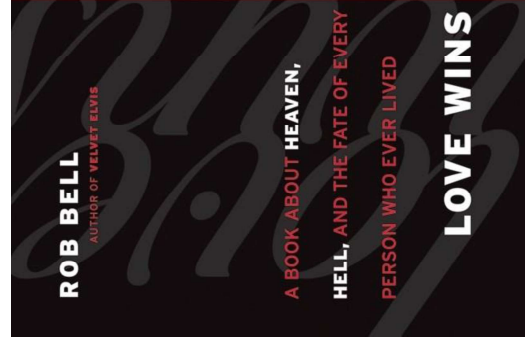
Let us hear no more about the Holy One of Israel."

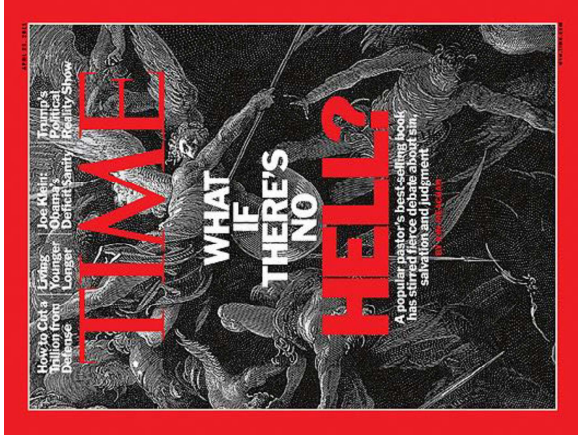
"Many churches today run like businesses, basing their definition of success on metrics. Instead of prioritizing faithfulness to Scripture and making disciples, they focus on weekly attendance, bigger and better programs, and the amount of money in the plate. When the goal is padding numbers for a human definition of success, though, it's not surprising some of the more "unsavory" doctrines—like hell—get left by the wayside."

- Kevin Halloran
Leadership Resources

3. *People want to live in a universe without the thought of Hell and will invent theories and twist Scripture to create a universe free from the reality of Hell. Such a universe simply does not exist.*

- **ANNIHILATIONISM** – sinners will be destroyed and go out of existence.
- **UNIVERSALISM** – everyone goes to heaven.
- **MODIFIED UNIVERSALISM** – some go to Hell for a short time and then are allowed into heaven.
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If you look at history man is always trying to get rid of the idea of Hell.

4. A belief in Hell infuses everything with a high degree of seriousness.

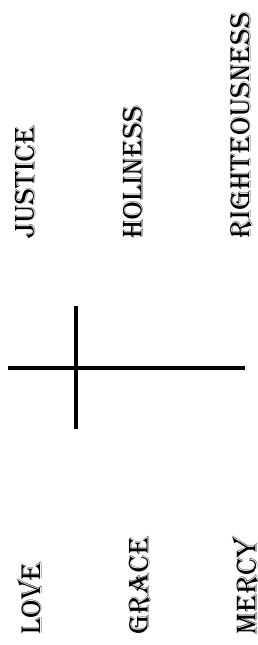
Matt 10:28

28 "Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

“A staggering number of people have been taught that a select few Christians will spend forever in a peaceful, joyous place called heaven, while the rest of humanity spends forever in torment and punishment in hell with no chance for anything better. It’s been clearly communicated to many that this belief is a central truth of the Christian faith and to reject it is, in essence, to reject Jesus. This is misguided and toxic and ultimately subverts the contagious spread of Jesus’ message of love, peace, forgiveness, and joy that our world desperately needs to hear.”

- Rob Bell

At the cross all of God’s attributes come together and they ALL WIN!



5. Everyone will want to escape from the suffering of Hell but no one will want to repent and believe.

Acts 5:30-31

30 "The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you had put to death by hanging Him on a cross.

31 "He is the one whom God exalted to His right hand as a Prince and a Savior, to grant repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.

2 Tim 2:25

25 with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth,

Eph 2:8,9

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and **that** not of yourselves, it is the gift of God;

9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

- Salvation is by grace.
- Salvation is through faith.
- Salvation is not of yourselves.
- Salvation is the gift of God.
- Salvation is not of works.

Luke 16:19-28

- 19 "Now there was a rich man, and he habitually dressed in purple and fine linen, joyously living in splendor every day.
- 20 "And a poor man named Lazarus was laid at his gate, covered with sores, 21 and longing to be fed with the crumbs which were falling from the rich man's table; besides, even the dogs were coming and licking his sores.
- 22 "Now the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to Abraham's bosom; and the rich man also died and was buried.
- 23 "In Hades he lifted up his eyes, being in torment, and saw Abraham far away and Lazarus in his bosom.
- 24 "And he cried out and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus so that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool off my tongue, for I am in agony in this flame.'
- 25 "But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your life you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus bad things; but now he is being comforted here, and you are in agony.'
- 26 'And besides all this, between us and you there is a great chasm fixed, so that those who wish to come over from here to you will not be able, and that none may cross over from there to us.'
- 27 "And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, that you send him to my father's house —
- 28 for I have five brothers — in order that he may warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.'

"I willingly believe that the damned are, in one sense, successful, rebels to the end; that the doors of hell are locked on the *inside* . . . they enjoy forever the horrible freedom they have demanded, and are therefore self-enslaved: just as the blessed, forever submitting to obedience, become through all eternity more and more free."

- C S Lewis

6. Hell in one sense is giving people what they want:

- They do not want the pain, the suffering, and the torment of Hell.
 - They also do not want to submit to the will of God. They have found something more valuable than God to submit to.
- Rom 1:22-23**
- 22 Professing to be wise, they became fools,
 - 23 and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.
 - What they do want is freedom from God and His authority.
 - Like a man on death row for crimes committed. Hates being in prison but also hates submitting to the law.
- Matt 7:21**
- 21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter.
- Rom 1:24,26,28**
- 24 Therefore **God gave them over** in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, 26 For this reason **God gave them over** to degrading passions; 28 And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, **God gave them over** to a depraved mind,
- Rebellious man keeps telling God, "Get out . . . Leave me alone" and God finally says "Okay".
- That is what Hell is – God leaving unwilling, unsubmitive, unrepentant, unbelieving man alone for all eternity.
- Very simple; either we choose God and give our lives to Him, or we choose a life apart from Him.

7. Hell is the justice sinners deserve because the ultimate offense will receive the ultimate punishment.

How can God exact infinite punishment for a finite sin?

- Because punishment is never based on the length of time to commit the offense but rather it is based on the severity of the crime against whom it was committed. Ex. Takes a second to pull the trigger of a gun and kill someone. Punishment: Life in prison or capital punishment or ????
- When you lessen the penalty for a wrong, you make the wrong less serious, and you make the person who was wronged less serious.
- The greater the penalty, the more serious was the wrong and the person who was wronged.
- So anything less than endless punishment lessens sin and the one that the sin was against.
- Therefore all sin that is committed against God is infinite in its offense.

8. Hell is Hell.

- Hell is separation from God.
 - No more common grace.
 - Eternally under His wrath.
 - T or F "Heaven is Heaven because God is there. Hell is Hell because God is not there."

Ps 139:8

8 If I ascend to heaven, You are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there.

John 3:36

36 "He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."

- Hell will be a place of great physical and mental pain and torment. (Luke 16:22-31)
 - Jesus often used the word "Gehenna" to describe Hell. Gehenna was the refuse dump outside Jerusalem that was always on fire. Jesus said hell was a place of worms, maggots, fire, and trouble. From that we get the image of a lake of fire and the concept of perpetual burning.
- Hell will be a place of darkness. (Matt. 8:12; Jude 13; Rev. 9:2)
 - **Matt 8:12**
12 but the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into the **outer** darkness;
 - It will not be some pocket within the new heavens and the new earth.
 - Hell will be bottomless. (Rev. 20:1,2)
 - Hell will be a place of no rest. (Rev. 14:11)
 - Hell will be weeping (Luke 13:28), wailing (Matt, 8:12;13:42), and gnashing of teeth (Luke 13:28)
 - Hell will be forever. (Rev. 14:11)
 - If Hell is not eternal, neither is the new heaven and earth.

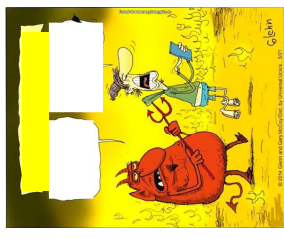
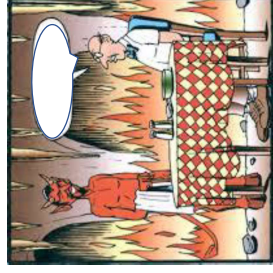
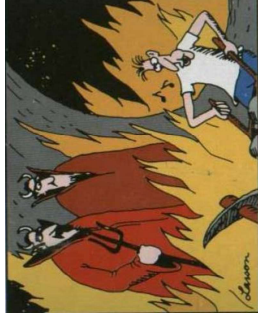
"Hell has two other aspects, rarely considered, which are both curious and frightening. On earth we take for granted two physical properties that help keep us physically, mentally, and emotionally stable. The first is light; the second is solid, fixed surfaces. Oddly, these two dependables will not accommodate those in hell. Hell is a place of darkness (Matt. 8:12). Imagine the person who has just entered hell - a neighbor, relative, co-worker, friend. After a roar of physical pain blasts him, he spends his first moments wailing and gnashing his teeth. But after a season, he grows accustomed to the pain, not that it has become tolerable, but that his capacity for it has enlarged to comprehend it, yet not be consumed by it. Though he hurts, he is now able to think, and he instinctively looks about him. But as he looks he sees only blackness. In his past life he learned that if he looked long enough, a glow of light somewhere would yield definition to his surroundings. So he blinks and strains to focus his eyes, but his efforts yield only blackness. He turns and strains his eyes in another direction. He waits. He sees nothing but unyielding black ink. It clings to him, smothering and oppressing him. Realizing that the darkness is not going to give way, he nervously begins to feel for something solid to get his bearings. He reaches for walls or rocks or trees or chairs; he stretches his legs to feel the ground and touches nothing. Hell is a bottomless pit (Rev. 20:1,2); however, the new occupant is slow to learn, in growing panic, he kicks his feet and waves his arms. He stretches and he lunges. But he finds nothing. After more feverish tries, he pauses from exhaustion, suspended in black. Suddenly, with a scream he kicks, twists, and lunges until he is again too exhausted to move. He hangs there, alone with his pain. Unable to touch a solid object or see a solitary thing, he begins to weep. His sobs choke through the darkness. They become weak, then lost in hell's roar. As time passes, he begins to do what the rich man did - he again starts to think. His first thoughts are of hope. You see, he still thinks as he did on earth, where he kept himself alive with hope. When things got bad, he always found a way out. If he felt pain, he took medicine. If he were hungry, he ate food. If he lost love, there was more love to be found. So he casts about in his mind for a plan to apply to the hope building in his chest.

9. Compared to hell, the horrors of this world are short and moderate.

- The world makes light of Hell by its cartoons and its light-hearted use of "Hell" in the language it uses.

He does next what anyone would do - assesses his situation and attempts to adapt. But then it hits him - this is forever. Forever, he thinks, and his mind labors through the blackness until he aches. . . . Forever! he whispers in wonder. The idea deepens, widens, and towers over him. The awful truth spreads before him like endless, overlapping slats: When I put in ten thousand centuries of time here, I will not have accomplished one thing. I will not have one second less to spend here. As the rich man pleaded for one drop of water, so, too, our new occupant entertains a similar ambition. In life he learned that even bad things could be tolerated if one could find temporary relief. Perhaps even hell, if one could rest from time to time, would be more tolerable. He learns, though, that "the smoke of (his) torment goes up forever and ever; and (he has) no rest day and night" (Rev. 14:11)."

- John Thomas
 "That Hideous Doctrine" - Article



- war is hell
- all hell broke loose
- gave me hell for coming in late
- the kids were full of hell
- to go for the hell of it
- hurts like hell
- funny as hell
- one hell of a good fight
- scared the hell out of him
- moved way the hell up north
- what in hell is wrong, now?
- vacation from hell
- traveling is hell on your digestive system
- come hell or high water
- if he's late there'll be hell to pay
- it might cost him half his estate ... but what the hell

Every time someone portrays Hell visually or uses the word "Hell" lightly, other than its true meaning, the more it desensitizes people to its horrific reality.

9. Compared to hell, the horrors of this world are short and moderate.

- The world makes light of Hell by its cartoons and its light-hearted use of "Hell" in the language it uses.
- Remember: For believers, this world is our Hell: for unbelievers, this world is their heaven.
- Therefore never be envious of the lives of unbelievers.

10. If you are *not in hell at this moment, you are experiencing massive mercy.*

- Mercy is not giving us something that we do deserve.
- The moment that Adam sinned, we were all deserving to immediately be cast into Hell and spend the rest of eternity there.

1 Peter 1:3

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

Rom 9:23

23 And He did so to make known the riches of His glory upon vessels of mercy, which He prepared beforehand for glory,

Where Would I Be?

Where would I be without your great, great mercy
Where would I be without your deep, deep love
Where would I go without your light to lead me
Oh my Lord, oh my Lord

My Lord and my God

What would I do without your great, great mercy
Where would I go without your deep, deep love
Where would I live outside your forgiveness
Without the risen Son

Where would I be?

Next week we will begin to look at the glories of Heaven.