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White

**THE ROCK OF AGES REVIVAL BIBLE SERIES**

# The Whole Truth About

HELL

A dramatic, dark painting of a hellish landscape. In the foreground, a dark, rocky terrain is illuminated by a bright, orange-red lava flow that winds through the center. In the background, a large, dark mountain range is visible under a dark, stormy sky with swirling clouds. The overall atmosphere is one of intense heat and darkness.



**MANY MINISTERS PREACH ABOUT THE FIERY TERRORS OF HELL. THEY EXUDE HATE AND FORCE WHEN THEY PROCLAIM WHAT THEY BELIEVE TO BE THE JUSTICE OF GOD. THEIR MESSAGE IS, YOU BETTER SERVE GOD “OR ELSE”. ONE PREACHER OF THE 19TH CENTURY WAS FOREFRONT IN HIS DESCRIPTIONS OF HELL. HE ONCE WROTE “THE SMOKE OF THEIR TORMENT SHALL ASCEND UP FOREVER IN THE SIGHT OF THE BLESSED . . . BEFORE THEIR EYES . . . THIS DISPLAY OF DIVINE CHARACTER AND GLORY WILL BE IN FAVOR OF THE REDEEMED, AND MOST ENTERTAINING, AND GIVE THE HIGHEST PLEASURE TO THOSE WHO LOVE GOD . . . . SHOULD THE ETERNAL TORMENT AND FIRES BE EXTINGUISHED, IT WOULD IN A GREAT MEASURE . . . PUT AN END TO THE HAPPINESS AND GLORY OF THE BLESSED.” WORKS OF SAMUEL HOPKINS, DD., 457, 458. IS THIS HOW GOD DEALS WITH THE LOST? DOES HE TAKE PLEASURE IN DESTRUCTION? LET US STUDY TO SEE WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS CONCERNING THE WHOLE TRUTH ABOUT HELL.**

## 1. What is God's purpose for you and me?

### ANSWER:

1 Timothy 2:3, 4

“For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”

John 3:16

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”



2. How many people is God willing to see lost in Hell-fire?



ANSWER:

2 Peter 3:9

“The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.”

3. When will the lost receive their reward?

ANSWER:

2 Peter 2:9

“... the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment”

Job 21:30

“For the wicked are reserved for the day of doom;  
They shall be brought out on the day of wrath.”



# 4. Do people go to heaven or hell when they die?



ANSWER:

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“... the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment”

Job 21:30

“For the wicked are reserved for the day of doom;  
They shall be brought out on the day of wrath.”

Note: Jesus said everyone who dies rests in the grave. Whether they are saved or lost, they await either the resurrection of life or the resurrection of death.

## 5. When people die where do they go?

ANSWER:

John 5:28-29

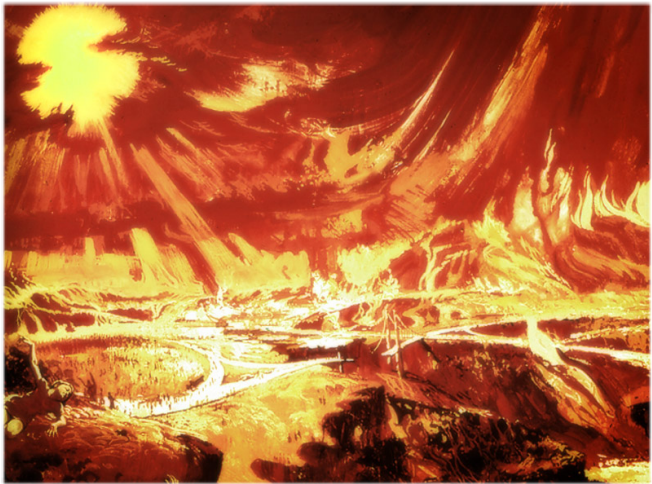
“Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.”



## 6. For whom was Hell-fire prepared?

ANSWER:

Matthew 25:41



“Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:”



## 7. What is the reason why people will be destroyed in hell?

### ANSWER:

John 3:17-20

For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed."

### ANSWER:

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.



Note: Just like a life threatening disease that has only one remedy, the disease of sin affects us all and the only cure is accepting Jesus Christ as our Saviour. If we refuse the cure, we must be destroyed with the disease otherwise additional people will be affected by the curse of sin. Just like cancer, sin is a threat against mankind. Like cancer, the pattern of sin in our lives must be checked and destroyed before it spreads. If this is not done it will be too late to reverse and cure the disease. A little bit of sin is like a little bit of cancer. It must be totally abolished. How? By allowing Doctor Jesus right now to perform in us a life of transformation.

8. Does “everlasting fire” or “everlasting punishment” mean people will be burning without end?



ANSWER:

Jude 1:7

“as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.”

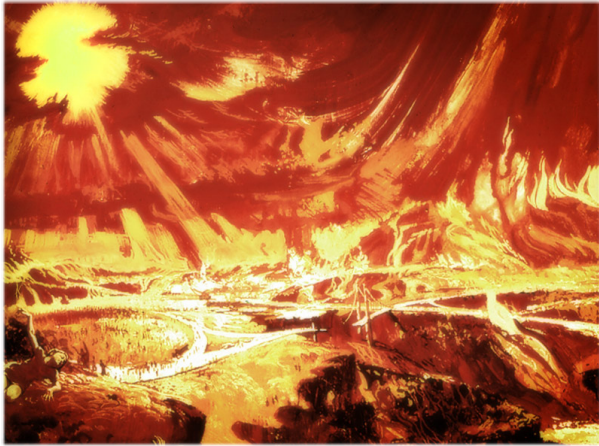
Note: It means the punishment is everlasting—not the punishing! God said that the wages of sin is death, not continual suffering. Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed by “eternal fire” which means that the result is final—everlasting. The state of those who perished in that fire is final; the punishment is eternal in its consequences. The people and cities of Sodom and Gomorrah are not burning now. (see 2 Peter 2:6)

## 9. Will there be a literal burning hell?

ANSWER:

Mark 9:43

“If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed, rather than having two hands, to go to hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched”



## 10. What did Jesus mean by “the fire never shall be quenched”?

ANSWER:

Jeremiah 17:27

“But if you will not heed Me to hallow the Sabbath day, such as not carrying a burden when entering the gates of Jerusalem on the Sabbath day, then I will kindle a fire in its gates, and it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem, and it shall not be quenched.” ’ ” ”



Note: It means no one can put it out.



# 11. Will the wicked lost in hell burn endlessly?

ANSWER:

Malachi 4:1, 3

“For behold, the day is coming,  
Burning like an oven,  
And all the proud, yes, all who do  
wickedly will be stubble.

And the day which is coming shall burn  
them up,”

Says the Lord of hosts,

“That will leave them neither root nor  
branch. You shall trample the wicked,  
For they shall be ashes under the soles  
of your feet

On the day that I do this,”

Says the Lord of hosts.”



Psalms 37:20

“But the wicked shall perish;  
And the enemies of the Lord,  
Like the splendor of the meadows, shall  
vanish.”

Into smoke they shall vanish away.

## 12. Will the fires of hell ever go out?

### ANSWER:

2 Peter 3:10-12

“But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?”



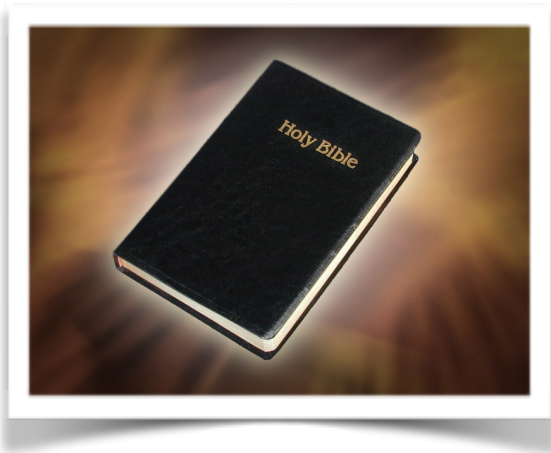
Note: Once sin and sinners are destroyed by hell fire the earth and the atmospheric heavens will be purified and God will recreate the heavens and the earth. The whole earth including the atmospheric and starry heavens will be purified by fire.

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Note: Once sin and sinners are destroyed by hell fire the earth and the atmospheric heavens will be purified and God will recreate the heavens and the earth. The whole earth including the atmospheric and starry heavens will be purified by fire. (Revelation 21:1)

13. When the wicked are resurrected from their graves what will they be able to see?

ANSWER:

Revelation 21:2

“Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.”



14. Will the lost try to overtake the City?



ANSWER:

Revelation 20:9

“They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city...”



15. What must happen before the wicked can be destroyed?

ANSWER:

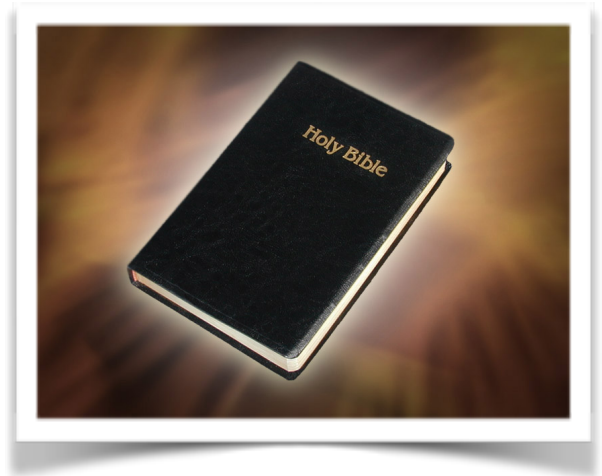
Philippians 2:11

“and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Romans 14:11

“For it is written:

“As I live, says the Lord,  
Every knee shall bow to Me,  
And every tongue shall confess to  
God.”



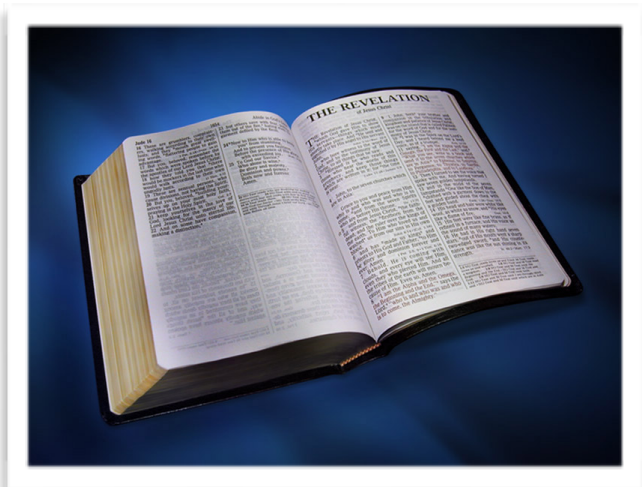
Note: The wicked will recognize the love of God and the effort of the devil. They will confess the truth of God's holiness and His effort to save them. Only in this way will God's name and character be fully vindicated.

16. What period of time in the future is this for the wicked?

ANSWER:

Revelation 20:12-15

“And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.”



## 17. Who and What will finally be destroyed in the lake of fire with sinners?

### ANSWER:

Revelation 20:10, 14, 15

“The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire...

Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.”



Note: Two terms need to be identified here. The first one is in verse 10 of Revelation chapter 20. It says that the wicked are tormented day and night forever and ever. The term “for ever” used in the Bible, simply means a period of time that is either limited or unlimited. In Jonah 2:6, “forever” refers to three days and nights (see Jonah 1:17). In Deuteronomy 23:3, it refers to “10 generations” In 1 Samuel 1:22, 28; Exodus 21:6; Psalms 48:14 it means as long as the person shall live or as long as they live until death. We emphasized earlier that the wicked will be burned up (Malachi 4:1; Isaiah 47:14) They will not be burning indefinitely. The wicked will be punished according to their deeds, some longer than others. (Matthew 16:27; Revelation 22:12; Luke 12:47, 48). Therefore, the wicked will burn as long as they live, and as long as the degree of each individual’s sin. Then the fire will go out.

The second term which is recorded in verse 14 as “Hades” in the King James Version is translated as “Hell” in the Greek. The Greek word is “hades,” which means the realm of the dead or simply the grave. The Bible indicates that death and the grave will be destroyed.

18. Will this event be remembered by the faithful?



ANSWER:

Revelation 21:4

“And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”

19. Will affliction or sin ever rise up again?

ANSWER:

Nahum 1:9

“Affliction will not rise up a second time.”



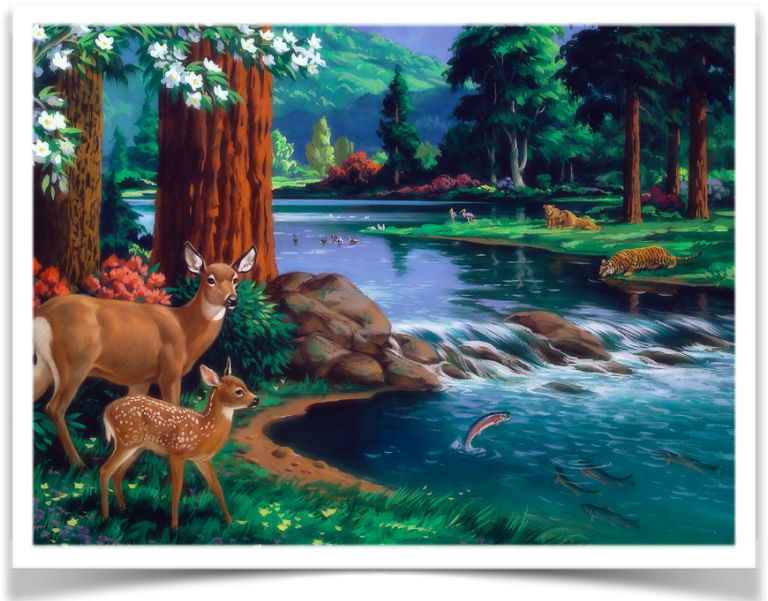


20. What does the Bible say we must look for that will take place after sin and sinners are destroyed?

ANSWER:

2 Peter 3:13

Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.”



21. Does God take pleasure in the death of the wicked?



ANSWER:

Ezekiel 18:32

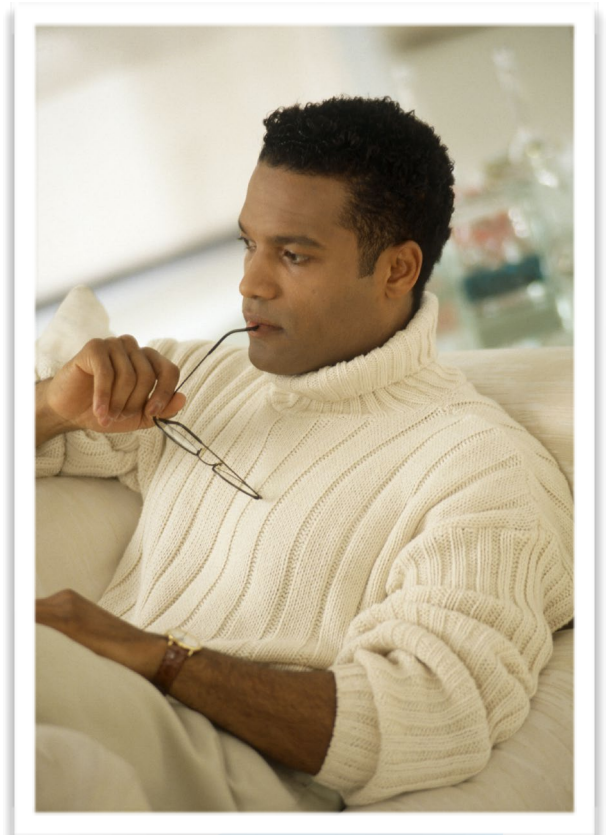
“For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies,” says the Lord God. “Therefore turn and live!””

22. How must we prepare to be citizens of the new heavens and the new earth?

ANSWER:

Acts 16:31

“...“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.””



Sin costs. It cost the life of Jesus Christ. The pain that God must endure will not be regulated to the cross. Even though the Bible says the former things will not be remembered by the faithful, God will forever have to suffer with the memory of those who will be lost in the fires of hell. He will never force any to serve Him we must serve Him of our own free will. If God forced all men everywhere to be saved then heaven would be hell for the wicked. Unchanged hearts and lives would not function in heaven because there will be no sinful indulgences for them to enjoy. Sin has to be destroyed in order to secure a safe and happy environment. Real peace can then and only then be realized. Will you allow God to change you in this life so that you will be ready to live in the next?

