

# **“Hell, ...The Fire That Shall Never Be Quenched”**

**Mark 9:43-48**

## **Introduction:**

- A. Three words translated “hell” in the King James Version.
  - 1. 10 times from “Hades” = “unseen, ... the place of departed souls (cf. Lk. 16:23; Acts 2:27. 31)
  - 2. Once from “Tartarus” = place of fallen angels awaiting final judgment (2 Pet. 2:4)
  - 3. 12 times from “Gehenna” = Final place of torment for wicked (text; Matt. 23:33)
- B. Two basic attitudes about hell in our world.
  - 1. Some say, “There is no hell.”
  - 2. Most of others act as if there is no hell.
- C. Three features of hell that should make it our business to escape it.

## **Discussion:**

### **I. The Reality of Hell**

- A. It is real because Jesus clearly says so (text; Mt. 5:29-30; 23:33)
- B. It is real in spite of efforts to explain it away.
  - 1. Must explain away plain Bible statements.
  - 2. Must show how their “hell” – the grave – is worse than death (Matt. 10:28; Heb. 10:29).

### **II. The Severity of Hell**

- A. The severity of the Biblical descriptions of it.
  - 1. “Lake that burns with fire and brimstone” (Rev. 21:8).
  - 2. Punishment worse than death (Heb. 10:28, 29)
  - 3. “Outer darkness... weeping and gnashing of teeth.” (Matt. 25:30).
  - 4. Separation from “God and the glory of His power” (2 Thess. 1:7-9).
  - 5. “Everlasting punishment” (Matt. 25:46)
- B. The severity of the duration of it.
  - 1. Its eternal nature is emphasized five times in our text alone.
  - 2. It is eternal even if we cannot fully grasp the concept of eternity (cf. feather and steel ball).
    - a. It is as long as heaven (Matt. 25:46).
    - b. It offers no rest forever and ever – day nor night (Rev. 14:11)
- C. The severity of its finality.
  - 1. Once there, there is no escape.
  - 2. Cannot escape into unconsciousness.
  - 3. Cannot put the fire out.

### **III. The Population of Hell**

- A. It will have the Devil and His angels – not there now, but will be (Matt. 25:41; Rev. 20:10)
  - 1. Busy now walking about seeking whom he may devour (1 Pet. 5:8).
  - 2. Busy now transforming himself into an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:14)
- B. It will have all kinds of immoral people (Rev. 21:8)
- C. It will have many religious and moral people (Matt. 7:21-24; 15:9, 13).
- D. It will have those that know not God and obey not the gospel (2 Thess. 1:7-9).
- E. It will have apostates from the truth (Heb. 10:26-29).

## **Conclusion:**

- A. God wants no one to go hell (2 Pet. 3:9) – that does not mean that no one will.
- B. God will save you from hell if you obey the gospel, walk in the light and seek his pardon.