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Nov. 30 & Dec. 1, 2019
Week 39 – What About Hell?

Three Historic Beliefs about Hell:

1. _____ – Everyone eventually goes to _____
 - Non-Christian Universalism – All roads lead to Heaven, Jesus is not the only way to Heaven.
 - Christian Universalism – Jesus is the only way, and eventually all will be saved through Him.

There is much Biblical evidence that universalism is NOT the case. For a great overview, **Google: “Andrew Farley – Is Everyone Ok?”**

2. _____ – Hell is eternal in duration, but not in _____
“The fire itself is termed ‘eternal’ and ‘unquenchable’ but it would be very odd if what is thrown into it proves indestructible. Our expectation would be the opposite: it would be consumed forever, not tormented forever. Hence it is the smoke (evidence that the fire has done its work) which ‘rises forever and ever’ (Rev. 14:11; cf. 19:3)” (p. 316, Evangelical Essentials, David Edwards quoting Dr. John Stott).

3. _____ – Hell is a place of everlasting conscious _____

Jesus described Hell as a place of...

- Fire (Matt. 13:49-50), Darkness (Matt. 22:13), Pain (Mark 9:43-48)

“Gehenna” = the garbage dump of ancient Jerusalem

Jesus Spoke Multiple Times about Hell...

Matthew 25:41, 46

Greek phrase for “eternal punishment is *aionios kolasis*”

“aionios” can mean “long period of time” OR “everlasting”

“kolasis” can mean “pruning, trimming” OR “punishment”

The meaning of all words is ultimately determined by _____

The context of Matthew 25:41 & 46 seems to favor “everlasting punishment”

John 3:36

QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION

Personal Life:

1. Hell is not a subject that many Christians enjoy talking about. The idea of a person being lost forever from God weighs heavy on the heart. What were some of the impressions or ideas about Hell that you were taught or assumed growing up? How have your views of Hell changed over time as you've grown to have a better grasp on the Scriptures? Discuss...

Pondering:

2. Philippians 2:9-11 says that "every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord." Read this passage as a group and discuss how universalist, annihilationist and eternal retribution views might use these words to support their perspective...
3. Jesus describes Hell as a place of fire (Matt. 13:49-50), darkness (Matt. 22:13) and pain (Mark 9:43-48). He used the term "Gehenna," which was the public garbage dump for Jerusalem, where every kind of waste, refuse and garbage was disposed of. Based on these descriptions...
 - What are your thoughts on why God would create such a dreadful place for the devil and his demons?
 - In your opinion, is "not going to Hell" a sufficient or legitimate reason to respond favorably to Jesus and His Gospel, or are there better reasons to believe in Christ? Discuss...
4. Based on what was discussed in the weekend message, along with your own Scriptural convictions, how would you respond to someone who asks, "How could a 'loving God' possibly send people to Hell for eternity?"

Promptings:

5. We live in a day of immense pressure to be tolerant. While true tolerance of differences is a Christ-like virtue, Jesus and the Apostles were never afraid to defend or declare truth. What have you learned personally about how to talk about difficult subjects with others, especially with those who do not yet have faith in Jesus?

Is there someone in your sphere of influence who you've been meaning to share Jesus with? Are you willing to do that this week as God leads?