

What does the Bible tell us about HELL?

1. The New Testament Background on hell

- When Jesus spoke of hell in the gospels, he often used the word “*Gehenna*,” which in Jesus’ day was like the _____. (in the verses below, where most Bibles say ‘hell’ the Greek word ‘*Gehenna*’ is used) [○ Matthew 5:29](#); [○ Matthew 10:28](#)
- *Gehenna* is known in the Old Testament as the *Valley of Hinnom* or *Ben Hinnom Valley*, and in Old Testament times became a place of _____.
[○ 2 Chronicles 28:3](#); [○ 2 Chronicles 33:6](#); [○ Jeremiah 32:35](#)

2. Hell is a *Real* Place of Judgment

- Jesus spoke often and clearly about hell, describing it as a real place of judgment for sin and rejection of God. [○ Matthew 10:28](#); [○ Luke 12:4–5](#)

3. It Is a Place of Separation from God

- Hell is ultimate separation from God’s presence, love, and blessing.
[○ 2 Thessalonians 1:5–10](#)

4. Hell Is Described Using Strong Imagery

- The Bible uses language of fire, agony, and torment to describe the seriousness of hell. [○ Mark 9:43–48](#); [○ Luke 16:23–24](#); [○ Revelation 14:10–11](#)
- Hell is described as “outer darkness” (separated from the light of God’s presence) and a place where there is “weeping and gnashing of teeth”.
[○ Matthew 8:12](#); [○ Matthew 13:49–50](#); [○ Matthew 25:30](#)

5. Hell Is Eternal and Final

- Hell is not temporary. Jesus referred to hell as *eternal* punishment in contrast to *eternal* life. ○ [Matthew 25:46](#)
- The Bible describes it as the lake of fire, the final destination after the last judgment for Satan, his followers, and those whose names are not in the Book of Life. ○ [Revelation 20:10–15](#); ○ [Daniel 12:2](#); ○ [John 5:27–29](#)

6. God *Does Not* Delight in Sending People There

- Scripture is clear that God takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked.
○ [Ezekiel 33:11](#)
- According to ○ [Matthew 25:41](#), hell was prepared NOT for humans, but for _____

7. Jesus Came to Save Us from Hell

- Hell exists because God is just, but He has provided a way of escape through Jesus Christ, who bore our punishment. ○ [John 3:16–18](#); ○ [Romans 6:23](#)
- The cross shows how seriously God takes sin—and how much He loves us. Jesus' death and resurrection make it possible for anyone to *avoid* hell and have eternal life with God. ○ [John 5:24](#); ○ [Romans 5:6–9](#)

8. Erasing Hell

- Hell is one of the most difficult and unpleasant topics to discuss. Even some Christians have a hard time coming to terms with a place like hell as the Bible describes it. This has brought about a rise in popularity of a belief called *Universalism*.
- *Christian Universalism* is _____
- Instead of turning to beliefs like *Universalism*, or trying to explain away hell as some do, the Bible instructs us to. ○ [Matthew 28:18–20](#); ○ [Romans 10:13–15](#)