

The Fires of Hell

Lesson 15

- A. Introduction: Rev. 20:9-10 (1823); 2 Tim. 2:15 (1748)**
- B. Words translated hell (in the KJV) and their true meaning.**
1. TARTAROO – (Greek verb) appears only once in the entire Bible so its exact meaning is hard for translators to pin down. It is found in **2 Pet. 2:4** (1787) and means “a place where divine punishment was meted out”
 2. HADES – (Greek) means grave
 3. SHEOL – (Hebrew) means grave
 4. GEHENNA – (Greek) means a place of punishment: **Mt. 5:22, 29, 30** (1403); **10:28** (1412); **18:9** (1427); **23:33** (1438); **Mk. 9:43, 45, 47** (1470)
- C. Texts that say the fire lasts forever**
1. **Mt. 18:8** (1427) EVERLASTING fire
 2. **Mt. 25:46** (1443) EVERLASTING punishment
 3. **2 Thess. 1:7-10** (1738) EVERLASTING destruction
 4. **Jude 7** (1798) ETERNAL fire
 5. **Rev. 20:10** (1823) For EVER and EVER
- D. Texts that say the fire is unquenchable. Isa. 66:24 (1105); Mt. 3:12 (1400); Mk. 9:43, 44 (1470)**
- E. Texts that say the fires of hell go out**
1. The wicked perish: **Psm. 37:20** (884)
 2. No fire left: **Isa. 47:14** (1082)
 3. The soul dies: **Eze. 18:4, 20** (1234-5)
 4. Wicked burned up: **Mal. 4:1, 3** (1394)
 5. Wicked turned into ashes: **2 Pet. 2:6** (1787)
 6. The earth and wicked burned up: **2 Pet. 3:7, 10** (1789)
 7. Fire devoured them: **Rev. 20:9** (1823)
- F. Three Keys to Understanding the Biblical concept of Hell**
1. Understanding the background and usage of the word “Gehenna”.
 2. Seeing the 2 different views expressed in the same text.
 3. Letting the Bible give us a correct understanding.
- G. Two views expressed in the same text**
1. **Mt. 3:12** (1400)
 2. **Mt. 25:46** (1443)
 3. **Th. 1:7-10** (1738)
 4. **Rev. 20:9-10** (1822); **Eze. 28:18** (1255)
- H. Understanding “Unquenchable” fire Isa. 66:24 (1105); Mt. 3:12 (1400); Mk. 9:43, 44 (1470)**
1. **Jer. 17:27** (1134) Prediction that Jerusalem would be destroyed by “unquenchable fire”.

2. **2 Chron. 36:19-21** (757) The fulfillment of Jeremiah's prophecy.
3. ASK YOURSELF: Is Jerusalem still burning today? Note **Mt. 3:12** (1400) says unquenchable fire will BURN UP the wicked. Also **Isa. 47:14** (1082) states this very understanding when it says, "...they shall not deliver themselves from the power of the flame..." but then says, "There shall not be a coal to warm at, nor fire to sit before it".
4. Unquenchable fire means **fire that cannot be put out.**

I. The meaning of "Everlasting fire"

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| 1. Mt. 18:8 (1427) | EVERLASTING fire |
| 2. Mt. 25:46 (1443) | EVERLASTING punishment |
| 3. 2 Thess. 1:7-10 (1738) | EVERLASTING destruction |
| 4. Jude 7 (1798) | ETERNAL fire |
| 5. Rev. 20:10 (1823) | For EVER and EVER |

Note: All capitalized words above come from the same Greek root word (aion).

Jude 7 (1798) says the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed with ETERNAL fire. **2 Peter 2:6** (1787) says that these cities were turned into ashes. Apparently in the Bible writers mind there is no contradiction in the two statements – "Destroyed with eternal fire" and "turned into ashes". Therefore there MUST be more than one way to understand the word "ETERNAL". Sodom and Gomorrah are NOT still burning today, but the results of their destruction was eternal. So it will be in the fires of HELL; the destruction of the wicked will NOT go on and on for ever in duration, but they will be totally eradicated, for ever and ever.

J. God does not delight in the death of the wicked

1. **Eze. 33:11** (1263)
2. **Nahum 1:9** (1361)
3. **Isa. 28:21** (1055)
4. **Hab. 3:3-4** (1367)
5. **2 Peter 3:9** (1789)
6. **Psm. 49:7-8** (893)
7. **Prov. 8:36** (976)

Review

1. There are 4 different words translated hell in the KJV of the Bible. T F
2. The Bible specifically states that Jerusalem would be destroyed with unquenchable fire and records the fulfillment of that fire. T F
3. Unquenchable fire according to the Bible means fire that cannot be _____
4. What book in the Bible says that Satan will be turned to ashes upon this earth? _____
5. In 4 or 5 words tell why sin will not rise up a second time. _____