

Practical Theology – Lesson 14 – “Heaven and Hell”

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Doctrinal Statement

Bodily Resurrection – Saved to eternal life, Lost to judgment and everlasting punishment

- Job 19:25-27
- John 5:25-29 (also Matthew 25:46, John 11:25-26)
- Revelation 20:4-6, 11-15

Souls of the Redeemed – Absent from the body, present with the Lord, awaiting resurrection

- Luke 23:43 – Thief on the cross
- II Corinthians 5:6-10 – absent from the body, present with the Lord (also Philippians 1:23, 3:21)
- I Thessalonians 5:16-17 (13-18) – The rapture

Souls of the Lost – Await judgment in torment, and face unending torment in the Lake of Fire

- Matthew 25:46 (31-46) – Sheep and Goats
- Mark 9:47-48 (42-50) – cast into Hell – “worm dieth not, fire is not quenched” (Isaiah 66:24)
- Luke 16:23-24 (19-31) – Rich man and Lazarus
- II Thessalonians 1:8-9 (6-10) – Eternal destruction to those who reject the gospel
- Jude 6-7 – Examples of Angels and cities of Sodom & Gomorrah

Terms Used in Scripture

Hell = OT **Sheol** (64 uses) = NT **Hades** (10 uses)

Hell – English translations of the Bible use **Hell** for OT **Sheol** and for NT **Hades**.

- Abode of the dead
- Separate areas for both righteous and unrighteous
- Multiple ‘levels’
 - 1 for believers, 1 for unbelievers, 1 for fallen angels
- A place of Consciousness

Paradise 3 NT Uses) or **Abraham’s Bosom** (2 NT uses)

- Used of the Believer’s compartment of Sheol
- Used of Heaven (see below)

Heaven (39 OT and NT uses, in spiritual context – i.e. not referring to clouds or space)

- The abode of God and righteous angels
- The abode of righteous dead after the resurrection of Christ

OT **Abbadon** (7 uses, 1 is NT) = **The Pit** (23 OT uses)

- The Unbeliever’s compartment of Sheol, i.e. Hell

NT **Abyss** (9 NT uses) = (or similar) **Tartarus** (1 NT use)

- The fallen angels' area of 'Hell
- Fruchtenbaum makes a distinction between Abyss and Tartarus

NT **Gehenna** (12 NT uses) = **The Lake of Fire** (4 NT uses)

- Gehenna is based on OT Valley of Hinnom (Hebrew "Gei Hinnom"), a place where OT kings of Israel practiced human sacrifice by fire.

Millennial Kingdom (OT & NT references)

- Literal 1,000 year period when Jesus Christ shall rule on the earth
- Occurs after the Tribulation period, before the Final Judgment

New Jerusalem (3 NT uses)

- Eternal abode of God, righteous angels, and believers

Handout: "How can a Loving God Send People to Hell?" by Bill Kynes, published online at C.S. Lewis Institute, http://www.cslewisinstitute.org/How_Can_a_Loving_God_Send_People_to_Hell_page1