

Introduction

1. Physical death is decided ([Heb. 9:27a](#))
 - a. We will labor on this Earth and eventually go back to the dust from which we came ([Gen. 3:19](#))
2. Evolution provides a meaningless existence for man
 - a. Illogical and impossible origin of existence
 - i. Something from nothing?
 - ii. The Universe “just happened”?
 - iii. Big bang?
 - b. No purpose for living
 - i. We are just a higher version of some lower life form
 - ii. No objective standard for living so every person for themselves (cf. [Judg. 21:25](#))
 - c. No afterlife
 - i. When we die that is it
 - ii. It is no wonder that this godless mindset breeds all manner of wickedness (cf. [Rm. 1:18-32](#))
3. The Bible is clear that there is an afterlife
 - a. Yes, we will die but after this the judgment ([Heb. 9:27](#))
 - i. This implies existence after death
 - b. Solomon says the physical body goes back to the dust, but the spirit returns to God ([Ecc. 12:7](#))
 - i. Man is a three part being ([1 Th. 5:23](#); cf. [Gen. 2:7](#))
 - ii. We are not an animal but made in the image of God with dominion over the animals ([Gen. 1:26-28](#))
 - iii. This means that once created, we will exist forever for God (who we are made in the image of) is eternal (cf. [Hab. 1:12](#); [Ps. 90:1-2](#))
4. The final question of life in our series is, “where are we going?”
 - a. The Bible makes it plain for us as it often does
 - b. In the Old Testament, God set before Israel a blessing and a curse ([Dt. 11:26](#))
 - i. Blessing for obedience to God’s commandments ([Dt. 11:27](#))
 - ii. A curse for disobedience to God’s commandments ([Dt. 11:28](#))
 - c. In the New Testament, there are still only two options ([Jn. 5:28-29](#))
 - i. Heaven (resurrection of life)
 - ii. Hell (resurrection of condemnation)
 - d. God wants us to go to Heaven (cf. [1 Tim. 2:3-4](#))
 - e. Satan wants us to go to hell (cf. [1 Pt. 5:8](#); [Rev. 12:9](#))

- f. The choice is ours and we make the choice with how we live our lives

Hell

1. There are four different words used in the Bible that are translated as “hell”
 - a. Hebrew: *sheol* H7585 ([Ps. 9:17](#))
 - i. “place of the dead”
 - ii. Also translated as “pit”, “grave” or “the grave”
 - iii. Corresponds to the Greek word *hades*
 - b. Greek: *hades* G86 ([Lk. 16:23](#))
 - i. “the unseen realm” or “all-receiving”
 - ii. Includes the righteous and unrighteous dead
 - iii. Not the final place of either the righteous or unrighteous ([Rev. 20:13-14](#))
 - c. Greek: *tartaroo* G5020 ([2 Pt. 2:4](#))
 - i. The location of the angels who sinned who await the day of judgment (cf. [Jude 6](#))
 - d. Greek: *gehenna* G1067 ([Mt. 5:22](#))
 - i. This term comes from the Hebrew phrase which means “valley of Hinnom” (cf. [2 Chr. 28:3](#); [Jer. 7:32](#); [2 Kgs. 23:10](#))
 - ii. This valley was a ravine running along the south side of Jerusalem and it is where they burned trash and the dead bodies of animals and unburied criminals constantly (the fire was kept burning)
 - iii. A place where children were sacrificed to the false god Molech in dark times of Israel’s history ([2 Kgs. 23:10](#))
 - iv. Final place of punishment for the wicked
2. More than any one person, Jesus spoke of *gehenna* (hell) not only as real but also provided warnings about going there and descriptions of what it is like
 - a. Prepared for the devil and his angels ([Mt. 25:41](#))
 - i. God did not intend for us to go there
 - ii. However, if we disobey Him (sin) and we do not make that sin right before we die or the Lord returns, He will send us there
3. Hell is a place of everlasting fire (direct pain)
 - a. Fire activates an abundance of pain receptors and triggers chemical reactions that cause intense pain and sensitivity to pain in our physical bodies
 - b. “hell fire” ([Mt. 5:22](#), [18:9](#))
 - c. “everlasting fire” ([Mt. 18:8](#))
 - d. “unquenchable fire” ([Mt. 3:12](#) - John the Immerser speaking)
 - e. “fire that never shall be quenched” ([Mk. 9:43-48](#))
 - f. “set on fire of hell” ([Jm. 3:6](#))

- g. “lake of fire (and brimstone)” ([Rev. 19:20](#), [20:10](#), [14-15](#))
- 4. Hell is a place of everlasting darkness (hopelessness)
 - a. Darkness is oftentimes associated with despair (cf. [Job 3:1-12](#))
 - b. “outer darkness” ([Mt. 8:12](#), [22:13](#), [25:30](#))
 - c. “mist of darkness” / “blackness of darkness” (ASV) ([2 Pt. 2:17](#))
 - d. “blackness of darkness for ever” ([Jude 13](#))
 - e. Why so dark?
 - i. God is light ([1 Jn. 1:5](#))
 - ii. The absence of light indicates the absence of God
 - iii. God will not be there (cf. [Hab. 1:13](#))
 - iv. Eternally separated from God i.e., eternal death ([Isa. 59:1-2](#); [Rm. 6:23](#))
- 5. Hell is a place of mental torment (mental pain)
 - a. Oftentimes the worst pain experienced is looking back and thinking “what could have been”
 - b. There will be an eternity to contemplate this in hell
 - c. “wailing and gnashing of teeth” ([Mt. 13:42](#), [50](#))
 - d. “weeping and gnashing of teeth” ([Mt. 8:12](#), [22:13](#), [24:51](#), [25:30](#), [Lk. 13:28](#))
 - e. The rich man had his identity and wanted Lazarus to warn his brothers ([Lk. 16:27-28](#))
 - f. Those in hell will have an eternity to think about all the wasted opportunities, all the wicked things done, and why they did not obey the Gospel

Heaven

- 1. Just as real as hell, is the place called Heaven and it is the final destination of the faithful servant of God
- 2. Heaven is a place of eternal life
 - a. “...there shall be no more death...” ([Rev. 21:4](#))
 - b. “...the fountain of the water of life...” ([Rev. 21:6](#))
 - c. “...a pure river of water of life...” ([Rev. 22:1](#); cf. [Jn. 4:10](#), [13-14](#))
 - d. “...the tree of life...” ([Rev. 22:2](#))
- 3. Heaven is pain and sorrow free ([Rev. 21:4](#))
- 4. Heaven is a place of unsurpassed beauty and preciousness
 - a. “...like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;” ([Rev. 21:11](#))
 - b. “...the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass.” ([Rev. 21:18](#))
 - c. “...the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones...” ([Rev. 21:19-20](#))
 - d. “And the twelve gates were twelve pearls...” ([Rev. 21:21](#))

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- e. "...the street of the city *was* pure gold, as it were transparent glass" ([Rev. 21:21](#))
 - f. "...the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb *is* the light thereof." ([Rev. 21:23](#))
 - g. "...a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb." ([Rev. 22:1](#))
5. Nothing wicked is in Heaven ([Rev. 21:8](#), [27](#), [22:14-15](#))
6. God is in Heaven
- a. "...the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, *and be* their God." ([Rev. 21:3](#))
 - b. "22 And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. 23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb *is* the light thereof." ([Rev. 21:22-23](#))
 - c. Those in Heaven will see God's face! ([Rev. 22:3-4](#))

Conclusion

1. Heaven is a place beyond our greatest imagination of bliss
2. Hell is a place beyond our worst nightmares
3. Hell is completely avoidable
 - a. "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:" ([Heb. 9:27](#))
 - b. "second death" = *gehenna* hell ([Rev. 20:14](#))
 - c. Faithful saints who die in Christ overcome the second death ([Rev. 20:4-6](#))
4. You must decide to go to Heaven
 - a. You will not just arrive there by chance or default
 - b. Not everyone is going to Heaven ([Mt. 7:14](#))
 - c. You have to go through Christ ([Jn. 14:6](#); cf. [Acts 4:10-12](#))
 - d. Hear Him ([Jn. 6:45](#))
 - e. Believe Him ([Jn. 8:24](#); [Mk. 16:16](#))
 - f. Repent of your sins ([Lk. 13:3](#), [5](#))
 - g. Confess Christ ([Mt. 10:32-33](#))
 - h. Be immersed for the forgiveness of your sins ([Mk. 16:16](#))
 - i. Be obedient for life ([Mt. 6:33](#); [Rev. 2:10](#))
5. God will give us exactly what we desire
 - a. A life lived without God now means the same in eternity
 - b. A life lived with God now means the same in eternity
6. If I died right now, where would I go?
 - a. Make the choice to be right with God right now