



A Place And A Destiny

The reality of hell is an essential doctrine of Christianity, but by grace, our destiny is another place altogether.

1. Hell is a place and the defining image is separation from God. (Mt. 25:31-46; see also Mt. 5:22b)
2. Hell is a place of anguish and the defining image is weeping. (Mt. 8:12; Mk. 9:43-48; Mt. 13:40-43; 49-50)
3. Hell is a place of punishment and the defining image is unquenchable thirst. (Lk. 16:19-31; Mt. 5:29-30; see Parables of Mt. 25 on punishment)
4. Hell is a place of destruction and the defining image is death. (Mt. 10:28)

A HEAVENLY CITY:

[21:3] "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. [4] He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." [5] And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." [6] And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. [7] The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son."

Revelation 21:3-7 (ESV)

Heaven/Hell Series

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1. Instead of God being separated from us, God is now dwelling with man. (v. 3; see also Mark 15:34 ESV)
2. Instead of anguish and weeping, God declares no crying or pain. (v. 4; see also Luke 22:44)
3. Instead of unquenchable thirst, God offers to drink for free from the spring of life. (v. 6; See also John 6:35; 19:28-29)
4. Instead of death, God offers to make everything new. (v.5; see also John 19:30; 11:25-26)

"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, [26] and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" John 11:25-26 (ESV)

Small Group Questions

Read through the outline & read all scriptures referenced.

- ◇ What surprises you?
- ◇ What do they teach about the character of God?
- ◇ What is most challenging to your faith?
- ◇ What is most encouraging?
- ◇ Take some time to pray to the Lord for a proper response.