

Heaven and Hell

The purpose of this study on heaven is to set our minds on the heavenly things above, which are waiting for us, so we do not become entangled in the worldly things of earthly concerns.

Since, therefore, you have been raised with Christ; seek the things above, where Christ is sitting at the right hand of God. 2. Set your minds on the things above, not on the things upon the earth. 3. for you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4. Whenever Christ, who is your life, shall be revealed, at that time you also will be revealed with him in glory. **Colossians 3:1-4**

According to the Jewish beliefs there are three heavens;

1. The firmament, as “fowls of the heaven” **Genesis 2:19; 7:3, 23; Ps. 8:8**, “the eagles of heaven” **Lamentations. 4:19**.
2. The starry heavens **Deuteronomy 17:3; Jeremiah 8:2; Matthew 24:29**.
3. “The heaven of heavens,” or “the third heaven” **Deuteronomy 10:14; 1 Kings 8:27; Psalms 115:16; Psalms 148:4; 2 Corinthians 12:2**.

The usual Hebrew word for “heavens” is shamayim, a plural form meaning “heights,” “elevations” **Genesis 1:1; Genesis 2:1**.

The Hebrew word marom is also used **Psalms 68:18; Psalms 93:4; Psalms 102:19** as equivalent to shamayim, “high places,” “heights.”

Hebrew: galgal, literally a “wheel,” is rendered “heaven” in **Psalms 77:18** (“whirlwind”)

Hebrew: shahak, rendered “sky” **Deuteronomy 33:26; Job 37:18; Psalms 18:11**, plural “clouds” **Job 35:5; 36:28; Psalms 68:34**, “heavens”, means probably the firmament.

Definition: Firmament from the Vulgate firmamentum, which is used as the translation

of the Hebrew raki'a, this word means simply “expansion.” It denotes the space or expanse like an arch appearing immediately above us. They who rendered raki'a by firmamentum regarded it as a solid body. The language of Scripture is not scientific but popular, and hence we read of the sun rising and setting, and also here the use of this particular word. It is plain that it was used to denote solidity as well as expansion. It formed a division between the waters above and the waters below **Genesis 1:7**.

The raki'a supported the upper reservoir **Psalms 148:4**. It was the support also of the heavenly bodies **Genesis 1:14**, and is spoken of as having “windows” and “doors” **Genesis 7:11; Isaiah 24:18; Malachi. 3:10** through which the rain and snow might descend. In spoken Hebrew the word rakia means sky.

Then the King (Jesus) will say to those on his right, “Come! You, who are the blessed ones of my Father, inherit the kingdom that was prepared for you from the beginning of the world. **Matthew 25:34**

Jesus responded, he again spoke to them in parables, saying, 2“**The kingdom of heaven is like a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. 3 And he sent out his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they were unwilling to come. 4 Again he sent out other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who had been invited, ‘Behold, I have prepared my dinner. My oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.’** 5 But having paid no attention, they went away, one to his own field, another to his business, 6 and the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them and killed them. 7 So the king became angry, and having sent his troops, he destroyed those murderers and set their city on fire. 8 Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding banquet is ready, but those who had been invited were not worthy. 9 Therefore go to the outlying thoroughfares, and as many as you should find, invite to the wedding banquet.’ 10 And so those slaves went out to the roadways. They gathered all those whom they found, both wicked and good. And the wedding banquet was filled with guests reclining at the tables. 11 But when the king went in to view the guests reclining at the tables, he saw there a man who was not dressed in wedding clothes. 12 And he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you come in here without having wedding clothes?’ And he was made speechless. 13 Then the king told the servants, ‘Bind his feet and hands. Cast him into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 14 for many are invited, but few are chosen. **Matthew 22:1-14**

And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully attired for her husband. **Revelation 21:2**

Let us be glad and rejoice! And let us give glory to him! For the wedding of the Lamb (Jesus) has come, and his wife (The True believers of Jesus) has made herself ready.” 8 And there was given to her fine linen, bright, clean, to put on. For the fine linen are the acquittals of the saints. **Revelation 19:7, 8**

But while they were going away to buy the oil, the bridegroom came, and the virgins who were ready (the Chosen ones that accept Jesus Christ and Have his Holy Spirit) went in with him to the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. **Matthew 25:10**

Only those who believe and ask Jesus Christ to be their Savior will have the privilege of enjoying heaven’s wonders and rewards. The confidence of all who believe in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is that we will be granted eternal life in heaven with him.

Heaven is where God lives. He is the light of Heaven, the joy of heaven and is our desired treasure in Heaven. Although the Bible discusses Heaven, it is not possible to understand the full splendor of Heaven from our limited human perspective. Since Heaven is where God lives, we cannot imagine, fully what it is like through mere words as there is no material concept of Heaven that will do it justice.

The Bible talks about streets of gold as clear as crystal and walls made out of precious stones to aid our understanding of what heaven is like and uses fantastic language and visionary pictures to communicate heaven’s beauty, grandeur, brilliance, serenity and wonder.

No eye has seen, no ear has heard, nor has it entered the mind of man, the things that God has prepared for those who love him.” **1 Corinthians 2:9**

On the basis of this verse we conclude that heaven’s glories and wonders are beyond our understanding and imagination.

As you mature in your understanding of the Bible, you realize whatever we consider to be a joy here on earth will be heightened millions of times beyond anything we can conceive when we get to heaven.

Being in God's presence will bring an intensity of delight that will far exceed anything we could know here on earth including no more death, sorrow, sickness, or poverty once

we are in heaven.

He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying; and there shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away. **Revelation 21:3-4.**

The Bible says that those humans who are fortunate enough to enter into heaven will actually judge angels. The fallen angels (demons) will come before us and we will decide their fates. Perhaps people will be assigned to watch over a planets or galaxies, to learn their secrets. We do not know for certain what tasks we will be performing in heaven, but there will obviously be an ongoing, functioning universe.

There are many things about heaven we do not really know. Will there be animals in heaven? The Bible says that Jesus will be riding on a white horse when He returns to reign on the earth **Revelation 19:11**, but we do not know if this is a literal horse. A white horse represents purity and power, so this may be symbolic. We cannot say for sure if there will be animals of any kind in heaven, but I believe there will be.

We do know that we will recognize our loved ones in heaven, and we will experience great joy over being reunited with them **Luke 23:42-43, Hebrews 12:22-23**. Your real self will live on in heaven, not some shadowy part of you. You will never feel as alive as when you enter into the heavenly city, the New Jerusalem God has prepared for the saints.

There is going to be an expansion of man's mind beyond anything we could begin to understand now. There will be a release of understanding of the secrets and mysteries of the universe. Furthermore, in heaven there will be no fear of any kind of evil, and God will provide for ever need of his people.

Heavens rewards

Rejoice and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you. **Matthew 5:12**

Rejoice ye in that day and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets. **Luke 6:23**

Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not yet been revealed what we will be. We know that whenever he shall appear, we will be like him, because we will see him just as he is. **1 John 3:2**

Heaven is place where God is Worshiped

And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come. And when those beasts give glory and honour and thanks to him that sat on the throne, who liveth for ever and ever, The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying, Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created. **Revelation 4:8-11**

Heaven is God's Home

Look down from thy holy habitation, from heaven, and bless thy people Israel, and the land which thou hast given us, as thou swarest unto our fathers, a land that floweth with milk and honey. **Deuteronomy 26:15**

For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.
Matthew 12:50

So He said to them, "When you pray, say:
Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. **Luke 11:2**

Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven. **Matthew 10:32, 33**

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. **Matthew 5:16**

Heaven is full of exceeding Joy

Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present [you] faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, **Jude 1:24**

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. **Matthew 13:44**

Treasures stored up in Heaven

Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal **Matthew 6:19**

Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, one thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me. **Mark 10:21**

Names of those saved are written in Heaven

For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body into conformity with his glorious body according to the power that enables him to even subject all things to himself. **Philippians 3:20, 21**

For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he wishes. **John 5:21**

For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body into conformity with his glorious body according to the power that enables him to even subject all things to himself. **Philippians 3:20, 21**

"Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven." **Luke 10:20**

The Bible gives several lists of people who will not be in heaven. A summary of the activities that keep people out of heaven is listed in the table below.

sexual immorality	idolatry	adultery	prostitution
homosexual offenses	theft	greed	drunkenness
slander	swindling	impurity	witchcraft
hatred	discord	jealousy	fits of rage
selfish ambition	dissensions	factions and envy	orgies
abomination	lying	cowardice	unbelief
murderer	sorcery		

The list is fairly extensive and includes some things that all of us have done. At the end of the first creation we will appear before the great white throne of God. God will go through the "books" to see if we have committed any of the deeds listed in the table above. In addition, the names will be checked to see if they are in the "book of life." Anyone whose name is not found in the "book of life" will be thrown into the lake of fire (Hell), based upon the deeds that they had done in their lives. God does not grade on the curve, so all people who have been guilty of any one of the violations above will be sent to the lake of fire, which is the second death.

What will people be like in heaven?

With physical laws being so different in heaven, it is apparent that our current bodies would not be acceptable in such a place. In heaven the believers will know one another, those they had known on earth, as well as those they had never known on earth. They will know one another, even those they had not met before, just as Peter knew who Moses and Elijah were, though he had never seen them before and though they had left life on this earth hundreds of years before Peter was born. Consider the following verses.

And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them while talking with him. 4 Then when Peter responded he said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will make three booths, one for you, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah. **Matthew 17:3, 4**

Some pose the question, "How are the dead raised? And with what kind of body do they have?"

Mortal Body (perishable)	Resurrected Body (imperishable)
perishable	imperishable
dishonorable	glorified
Weak & Sick	powerful
Physical	spiritual

26 The last enemy that will be abolished is death... 53 for this perishable must put on the imperishable and this mortal must put on immortality. ⁵⁴And when this perishable puts on the imperishable and this that was capable of dying puts on freedom from death, then shall be fulfilled the Scripture that says, Death is swallowed up (utterly vanquished forever) in and unto victory.⁵⁵O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting? ⁵⁶Now sin is the sting of death, and sin exercises its power [upon the soul] through [the abuse of] the Law. ⁵⁷But thanks be to God, Who gives us the victory [making us conquerors] through our Lord Jesus Christ. **1 Corinthians 15:26, 54-57**

There will be no marriage or sexual differences among those in heaven, since reproduction is unnecessary. This concept is supported by other biblical verses that indicate that males and females are spiritually equal. The same concept applies to the races. There will be no racial differences in heaven as we will all be spirit not flesh.

Jesus was asked a complicated question about heaven by the Sadducees (a religious sect that did not believe in the resurrection of the dead) which leads us to this conclusion. The Sadducees gave a scenario of a woman who married 7 men (sequentially, since they all died prematurely) in her lifetime. They asked whose wife she would be in heaven. Jesus answered:

You are mistaken, not understanding the Scriptures, or the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. **(Matthew 22:29-30)**

In heaven, we will be "married" to Jesus, who will be our spiritual "husband." If you are not currently a follower of Jesus Christ, you cannot understand what this will be like, and it will probably not have any appeal for you. However, if you have experienced the "highs" of following Jesus as He leads you, you will have a glimpse of how awesome

this experience will be. God would not take away something good if He did not replace it with something better.

No tears or suffering in Heaven

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. **Revelation 21:4**

. . . never will they hunger again, never will they thirst again, never will the sun strike down upon them, nor any burning heat, 17 For the Lamb at the center of the throne will shepherd them, and will lead them to streams of living water; And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes. **Revelation 7:16, 17**

He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces. And the reproach of his people he will remove from all the earth. For the Lord has spoken. **Isaiah 25:8**

They will not hunger nor thirst, nor will glowing heat or the sun smite them; for he who beholds them with tenderest affection will lead them, And he will guide them unto springs of water. **Isaiah 49:10**

For behold I will create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind. **Isaiah 65:17**

How do we get to Heaven?

Jesus said, "Unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Jesus went on to explain that the second birth is to be born spiritually. Those who are born just once will die physically then will die spiritually at the second death and will be separated from God and his Holy Spirit for eternity following the Great White Throne judgment and this is true hell. Those who are born twice (both physically and spiritually) will die physically, but will live spiritually forever.

How are people born again spiritually? Jesus said:

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. **John 3:16**

Belief in Jesus removes us from the White Throne Judgment, because Jesus took the penalty (death) for our sin at the cross. Those who accept Jesus as Lord and Savior are justified (declared righteous on the basis of faith) before God and can come before Him boldly through the grace that He has offered to all. By accepting Jesus as Lord and Savior, we give Him permission to change us into perfect beings as a new creation. Those who reject God's provision for sin will be judged on the basis of that sin and will be separated from God forever (the second death), since God cannot allow sin into the new creation.

How do we enter into a relationship with Jesus Christ? We do this through belief in Him:

1. Repent of your sin and selfishness. Repentance is agreeing with God that you have been wrong and being willing to turn from that old life to a new life in Christ. Receive Jesus Christ as your Lord (God and Master) and Savior (who takes away your sin).

Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord **Acts 3:19**

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel. **Mark 1:15**

But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice.' For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. **Matthew 9:13**

I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance. **Luke 15:7**

2. Receive the Holy Spirit (Baptism of the Holy Spirit) as the promise of what God will do in your life, to change you, lead you, and empower you to resist the

temptations of the enemy and to help you grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ. Those without the spirit of God are not His.

But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. ¹⁰ And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. ¹² Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." ¹⁶ The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together **Romans 8:9-17**

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? ²⁰ For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's. **1 Corinthians 6:19-20**

3. Give thanks to God for His grace and the gift that He has given.

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. **Psalms 100:4**

And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to that which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. **Colossians 3:15**

Once you receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, you should walk with Him every day. Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. **John 14:15**.

When we come before God's throne in our manifested bodies, it will be good to hear the words, well done, good and faithful servant. **Matthew 25:23**

Description of Heaven from the Word of God

¹ Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. ² Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴ And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." ⁵ Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." ⁶ and He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. ⁷ He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be my son. ⁸ But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

The New Jerusalem

⁹ Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife." ¹⁰ And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, ¹¹ having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal. ¹² Also she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: ¹³ three gates on the east, three gates on the north, three gates on the south, and three gates on the west. ¹⁴ Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. ¹⁵ And he who talked with me had a gold reed to measure the city, its gates, and its wall. ¹⁶ The city is laid out as a square; its length is as great as its breadth. And he measured the city with the reed: twelve thousand furlongs. Its length, breadth, and height are equal. ¹⁷ Then he measured its wall: one hundred and forty-four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of an angel. ¹⁸ The construction of its wall was of jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass. ¹⁹ The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with all kinds of precious stones: the first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald, ²⁰ the fifth sardonyx, the sixth sardius, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth

amethyst. ²¹ The twelve gates were twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

The Glory of the New Jerusalem

²² But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³ The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light. ²⁴ And the nations of those who are saved^[1] shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it. ²⁵ Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). ²⁶ And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it. ²⁷ But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life. **Revelation 21:1-27**

The River of Life

¹ And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. ² In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. ³ And there shall be no more curses, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him. ⁴ They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads. ⁵ There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.

The Time Is Near

⁶ Then he said to me, "These words are faithful and true." And the Lord God of the holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place. ⁷ "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book." ⁸ Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things. ⁹ Then he said to me, "See that you do not do that, for I am your fellow servant and of your brethren the prophets and of those who keep the words of this book and Worship God." ¹⁰ And he said to me, "Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand. ¹¹ He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still."

Jesus Testifies to the Churches

¹² “And behold, I am coming quickly, and my reward is with me, to give to every one according to his work. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last.” ¹⁴ Blessed are those who do His commandments that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. ¹⁵ But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie. ¹⁶ I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star. ¹⁷ And the Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, “Come!” And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires let him take the water of life freely.

A Warning

¹⁸ For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; ¹⁹ and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city and from the things which are written in this book.

Jesus is coming quickly

²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming quickly.” Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! ²¹ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen. **Revelation 22:1-21**

Hell

The Bible continually warns of a place called hell. There are over 162 references in the New Testament alone which warns of hell. And over 70 of these references were uttered by the Lord Jesus Christ!

According to the gospels, Jesus spoke more on Hell than on any other subject. Hell is a place designed by God to separate those who hate Him from those who love Him. If you don't think that you will like it in hell, try heaven instead. However, you are not going to get there on the basis of the "good" things you have done in your life, but through belief in Jesus Christ and by receiving the Holy Spirit.

What could possibly be worth eternity in hell? No wonder Jesus Christ warned so much about hell! No wonder Jesus said in **Mark 8:36**, "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

Jesus said: And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: 45 And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: 47 And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire: **Mark 9:43-47**

Jesus took hell so serious, He could say without the slightest hesitation, to remove your eye, cut off your hand or foot, if that would keep you out of hell!

Jesus gives a frightening picture of hell:

So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off and Lazarus in his bosom. ²⁴ "Then he cried and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.' ²⁵ But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented. ²⁶ And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.' ²⁷ "Then he said, 'I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father's house, ²⁸ for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment. **Luke 16:22-28**

What does Jesus say about Hell

"fire"	Matt 7:19, 13:40, 25:41
"everlasting fire"	Matt 18:8, 25:41
"eternal damnation"	Mark 3:29
"hell fire"	Matt 5:22, 18:9, Mark 9:47
"damnation"	Matt 23:14, Mark 12:40, Luke 20:47
"damnation of hell"	Matt 23:33
"resurrection of damnation"	John 5:29
"furnace of fire"	Matt 13:42, 50
"the fire that never shall be quenched"	Mark 9:43, 45
"the fire is not quenched"	Mark 9:44, 46, 48
"Where their worm dieth not"	Mark 9:44, 46, 48
"wailing and gnashing of teeth"	Matt 13:42, 50
"weeping and gnashing of teeth"	Matt 8:12, 22:13, 25:30
"torments"	Luke 16:23
"tormented in this flame"	Luke 16:24
"place of torment"	Luke 16:28
"outer darkness"	Matt 8:12, 22:13
"everlasting punishment"	Matt 25:46

Where is Hell located?

The writers of the Christian Scriptures are agreed that Hell is located underground, at some location inside the earth:

The traditional belief is that after Jesus' execution, many of the apostles prepared to follow the Great Commission by leaving Jerusalem and teach the gospel throughout the world. In order to make certain that each apostle taught the same message, they jointly composed the Apostles' Creed before their departure. The creed thus was created in the early 1st century CE. Tradition has its creation occurring at Pentecost, ten days after Jesus' ascension to heaven.

The Apostles' Creed describes belief in:

1. God, as originally described in the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament), the creator of the universe.
2. Jesus Christ God's only begotten son, who was born of a virgin, executed, descended into Hell, rose again and ascended into heaven.
3. The Holy Spirit, the method by which God communicates with mankind.
4. The communion of saints, forgiveness of sins, resurrection of the body after death, and eternal life after death.

The Bible states that after his death, Jesus descended into Hell. But his soul did not remain there, nor did his body decay. The implication is that Hell is located underground, deep under the surface of the earth.

When Jesus Christ died on the cross, He descended into hell. ³¹He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption **Acts 2:31**

For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth **Matthew 12:40**

"...let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried...Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption." **Acts 2:29-31**

"Say not in thine heart, who shall ascend into heaven? (That is, to bring Christ down from above :) Or, who shall descend into the deep? (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead.)" **Romans 10:6-7**

"But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore he saith, when he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the

lower parts of the earth?)" **Ephesians 4:7-9**

HELL is described as a place of Fire

Bible's Description of Hell		
fire and brimstone	burning wind	fiery oven
flames of fire	judgment by fire	unquenchable fire
furnace of fire	eternal fire	eternal punishment
fiery hell	pits of darkness	lake of fire

And will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.
Matthew 13:42

"Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels **Matthew 25:41**

And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched." The reference to fire is repeated three more times in the passage for emphasis. **Mark 9:43-48:**

"And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame." This is a plea described as coming from an inhabitant of Hell. **Luke 16:24**

"...hell delivered up the dead which were in them...And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." **Revelation 20:13-15**

"But the fearful and unbelieving ... shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone." Brimstone is sulphur. In order for sulphur to form a lake, it must be molten. Thus, its temperature must be at or below 444.6 °C or 832 °F. **Revelation 21:8**

Claims of HELL, separate from scripture:

Several years ago a book was published, entitled Beyond Death's Door by Dr. Maurice

Rawlings. Dr. Rawlings, a specialist in Internal Medicine and Cardiovascular Disease, resuscitated many people who had been clinically dead. Dr. Rawlings, a devout atheist, "considered all religion "hocus-pocus" and death nothing more than a painless extinction". But something happened in 1977 that brought a dramatic change in the life of Dr. Rawlings! He was resuscitating a man, terrified and screaming, descending down into the flames of hell: "Each time he regained heartbeat and respiration, the patient screamed, "I am in hell!" He was terrified and pleaded with me to help him. I was scared to death. . . Then I noticed a genuinely alarmed look on his face. He had a terrified look worse than the expression seen in death! This patient had a grotesque grimace expressing sheer horror! His pupils were dilated, and he was perspiring and trembling, he looked as if his hair was "on end."

Then still another strange thing happened. He said," Don't you understand? I am in hell. . . Don't let me go back to hell!" . . . the man was serious, and it finally occurred to me that he was indeed in trouble. He was in a panic like I had never seen before."
Maurice Rawlings, *Beyond Death's Door*,(Thomas Nelson Inc., 1979) p. 3.

Dr. Rawlings said, no one, who could have heard his screams and saw the look of terror on his face could doubt for a single minute that he was actually in a place called hell! Dr. Rawlings patients who described hell said, ". . . this place seems to be underground or within the Earth in some way."

Scientist and Bible teacher, Henry Morris also agrees the Bible plainly teaches that hell is in this earth: "So far as we can tell from Scripture, the present hell, is somewhere in the heart of the earth itself. It is also called 'the pit' **Isaiah 14:9, 15: Ezekiel 32:18-21** and 'the abyss' **Revelation 9:2**. . .The writers certainly themselves believed hell to be real and geographically 'beneath' the earth's surface. . .

To say this is not scientific is to assume science knows much more about the earth's interior than is actually the case. The great 'pit' [hell] would only need to be about 100 miles or less in diameter to contain, with much room to spare, all the forty billion or so people who have ever lived, assuming their 'spiritual' bodies are the same size as their physical bodies."

(Henry M. Morris, *The Bible Has the Answer*, p. 220)

The Birmingham News, April 10, 1987 had an article entitled "Earth's Center Hotter than Sun's Surface, Scientists Say". The article stated that scientists have recently discovered, "The Earth's inner core has a temperature of over 12,000 degrees

Fahrenheit!"

When Mount St. Helens erupted in May 18, 1980, it was described by reporters, "When HELL surfaced upon the earth." The book, *Volcanoes, Earth's Awakening* (p.91) describes an erupting volcano as "descent into HELL".

Revelation 14:10 says, ". . . and he shall be tormented with fire and Brimstone . . ." And Job 18 describes the ". . . place of him that knoweth not God" (vs 21), in verse 15 as, ". . . Brimstone shall be scattered upon his habitation."

Brimstone is sulfur and do you know where sulfur or brimstone is found? Inside this Earth! According to the book *Volcanoes* by Pierre Kohler (p. 43), when Mt. St Helens erupted in 1980 and 150,000 tons of sulfurous gas was ejected! Job is the oldest book in the Bible, written over 3,000 years ago, and yet Job knew what science wouldn't know for years, that the inside of earth is Brimstone! "Volcanoes may be more like hell than anyone realized

Caspar Peucer, a famous fourteenth century astronomer and physician, who also researched and documented the volcano eruptions at Heklafell wrote some very frightening information in his research findings. Peucer, claims (as others) that "fearful howling, weeping and gnashing of teeth" could be heard "for many miles. . ." as these volcanoes erupted:

"Out of the bottomless abyss of Heklafell, or rather out of Hell itself, rise melancholy cries and loud wailings, so that these can be heard for many miles around . . . there may be heard in the mountain fearful howling, weeping and gnashing of teeth."

(Haraldur Sigurdsson, *Melting the Earth, The History of Ideas on Volcanic Eruptions*, p. 73)

And Caspar Peucer is not alone. There are others who believe they have heard "cries and screaming" coming from volcanoes. Most have tried to ignore the obvious. Some simply explain the "sounds of hell" to some rational meaning. But they are there. . . "The fearsome noises that issued from some of their volcanoes were certainly thought to be the screams of tormented souls in the fires of hell below".

(Haraldur Sigurdsson, *Melting the Earth, The History of Ideas on Volcanic Eruptions*, p. 73)

Inside this earth, this very moment, there are millions of lost, tormented souls, burning, weeping, and wailing, without any hope whatsoever!

Jesus Christ says about hell: "Where their worm" dieth not, and the fire is not quenched." **Mark 9:46** Jesus said explicitly, their worm, not a worm, or the worm,

but their worm.

The earth's crust on land is normally 50 miles thick. You'd have to go down 50 miles before the edge of the fire. But in parts of the ocean floor, the earth's crust is less than a mile thick.

Scientists recently discovered cracks on the ocean floor where fire was leaking out. Do you know what they found around these fire-breathing vents in the crust? Eight-foot long worms, found no other place in the world! The book, *The Deep Sea*, by Joseph Wallace (p.39), reads, "Perhaps the strangest of ocean creatures recently discovered are Riftia, the giant tube worms. Measuring up to 8 feet in length, the worms are only found near deep sea vents."

For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the Lord, so shall your seed and your name remain. 23 And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the Lord. 24 And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcasses of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh. Isaiah 66:22-24

As you leave your body you realize something is happening. You hear a sound, getting louder and louder . . . screaming . . . weeping . . . wailing. Terror and fear beyond anything you could imagine overtakes you. "This can't be happening!" you scream. Your nostrils are filling with the awful stench of burning souls. Your face ignites from the heat. Flames are now blazing from your eyes, nostrils, ears, mouth, every opening in your body, flames are roaring out. Your body is sizzling and crackling from the flames. Your body is now madly thrashing and convulsing from the horrible pain. "Why don't I die?" you scream. You begin weeping and gnashing your teeth with the millions. "When will this pain stop?" But you know it will never stop. . .

The darkness is so terrifying, it begins engulfing you. You feel something moving in the darkness . . . something horrible is happening. "No! No! This can't be happening" you scream, as your worm is emerging.

You begin cursing the day you were born. You scream "Oh God, why didn't you warn me?" but you remember the preacher pleading with you to receive Jesus Christ. You remember reading that gospel tract. You cry "God don't you care?" But you remember **John 3:16** "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son. . ." "God is a God of love He won't allow this", you cry, but you remember **John 3:36**, ". . . he that

believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

Reality of Hell

Hell was not made for man. Hell was, prepared for the devil and his angels:" **Matthew 25:41**

Since God is absolutely holy, He cannot be in the direct presence of sinful creatures. Therefore, all who are sinful must be separated from God and cannot be allowed to enter into heaven. Hell is the place where these people must go, away from the presence of God.

But God is a God of Love. . . Why would a God of Love send me to hell? Yes, God is a God of Love, but God is also a Holy God. A Holy God demands payment for sin, which he gave through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Otherwise God would not and could not be Holy.

Because God is a God of Love, and he loves you so much, He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to this earth to die a cruel death on a cross to pay the price a Holy God demands for your sins.

"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." **Romans 5:8**

God does not send someone to hell. You choose hell when you reject Jesus Christ, when you refuse God's love gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ.

Hell is beyond anything humanly imaginable!

It is humanly impossible to comprehend the Bible description of hell. Nothing on earth can compare with it. No nightmare could produce a terror to match that of hell and its horror.

Punishment in Hell	
Burning Isa 33:14	flames Luke 16:24
weeping and gnashing of teeth Matt 8:12, Matt 13:50	tormented Luke 16:23

Eternal darkness Matt 25:30	Wailing Matt 13:42
their worm does not die Mark 9:46	smoke of their torment Revelation 14:11

Eternal punishment

"the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night." **Revelation 14:11**

" And these shall go away into everlasting punishment." **Matthew 25:46**

"...it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched" The unquenched fire is mentioned three times in this passage for emphasis. **Mark 9:43-48**

What will send you to Hell?

Those

who reject Jesus Christ cannot enter into the presence of God and so must be separated from Him. The Bible gives several lists of people who will not be in heaven.

sexual immorality	idolatry	adultery	prostitution
homosexual offenses	theft	greed	drunkenness
slander	swindling	impurity	witchcraft
hatred	discord	jealousy	fits of rage
selfish ambition	dissensions	factions and envy	orgies
abomination	lying	cowardice	unbelief
murderer	sorcery		

Idolatry: is the Greek word eidololatreia and refers literally to the worship of false gods. Figuratively, it means avarice or the immoderate desire for wealth. It refers to greed by the person. It is the person who strives after wealth more than he strives after the things of God. Anything that the person reverences more than God is idolatry. Any

person can do a self-test of what he worships by paying attention to his thought life and the things that occupy his thoughts.

Sexual Adultery: The Greek word for “adultery” is moicheia “Conjugal infidelity. An adulterer was a man who had sexual intercourse with a woman he was not married to. A woman who did the same thing was an adulteress. The Bible regards adultery as a great sin and a great social wrong. It has been inferred from **John 8:1-11** that this sin became very common during the age preceding the destruction of Jerusalem.”

Adultery without sexual intercourse—Jesus Christ warned, “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust after her has committed adultery already with her in his heart.” As with the breaking of any of the Ten Commandments, those who are not washed in the blood of Jesus Christ will have to pay the penalty. They will not enter the Kingdom of God. Punishment for transgression of this Commandment is the death penalty.

Spiritual Adultery—Idolatry, covetousness, and apostasy are spoken of as spiritual adultery (**Jerrmiah 3:6, 8, 9; Ezekiel 16:32; Hos. 1:2:3; Revelation 2:22**). An apostate church is an adulteress (**Isaiah 1:21; Ezekiel 23:4, 7, 37**), and the Jews are described “an adulterous generation” (**Matthew 12:39, Revelation 12.**)

Fornication -comes from the Greek word porneia (4202) and means 1) illicit sexual intercourse 1a) homosexuality, lesbianism, Bestiality - intercourse with animals, prostitution or sleeping with a prostitute, etc. 1b) Incest - sexual intercourse with close relatives; **Leviticus 18:1c**), the worship of idols 2a) of the defilement of idolatry, as incurred by eating the sacrifices offered to idols. There are 26 instances of the word porneia in **Matthew 5:32, 5:19, 19:9, Matthew 7:21, John 8:41, Acts 15:20, 15:29, 21:25, Romans 1:29, 1Corinthians 5:1, 6:13, 6:18, 7:2, 12:21, Galatians 5:19, Ephesians 5:3, Colossians 3:5, 1 Thessalonians 4:3, Revelation 2:21, 9:21, 14:8, 17:2, 17:4, 18:3, 19:2.**

Sexual immorality: is the Greek word porneia and refers to all types of sexual immorality such as fornication, bestiality, homosexuality, lesbianism, pornography, pedophilia and incest and sodomy.

What is sodomy?

Webster's Dictionary definition: anal or oral copulation with a member of the same or opposite sex; also: copulation with an animal

Biblical description: according to **Leviticus 18:22** says: to "lie with mankind, as with womankind." The Hebrew words Mishkevei ishshah means literally "after the manner of lying with a woman by the introduction of the male member." This means penetration. So the definition of sodomy is penetration of the anus cavity, including straight females as Paul points out in Romans has the ability to practice sodomy.

So, whether gay or straight, male or female, married or single sodomy is a sin, because God does not discriminate, this applies to homosexuals as well as heterosexuals.

Catholic Church's Definition: The definition of sodomy was expanded in the 14th century by the Catholic Church to include masturbation, oral sex, and any "sex between the legs and from behind" by same-sex male couples.

Oral Sex is not mentioned in the Bible, so is it a sin?

The bible has nothing to say about oral sex. But it is clear from the bible, that sex within marriage is holy and good. Indeed, it is commanded, even by Paul **1 Corinthians 7:3-5** who is the prime example of a single Christian man in the bible other than Jesus. Using the creation narrative as our guide and the principle is that the male genital is designed for the female genital, just as food is for the stomach **1 Corinthians 6:13**, we may question oral sex. Has God made the mouth for the male or female genital? The usual advice concerning oral sex within marriage is that it should not become a substitute for genital to genital sex. The rule of love should be used, such that if one spouse finds it offensive, then the other should not insist on it.

Oral sex has been portrayed in our culture as a "safe sex" alternative, and some people have reckoned it as a way to retain their virginity before marriage. But is oral sex different from sex? I believe that oral sex is sex for a number of reasons, which include:

- Oral sex fits one of the definitions for sexual intercourse: "intercourse involving genital contact between individuals other than penetration of the vagina by the penis" (Webster's Dictionary)

- Oral sex can be just as intimate and pleasurable as “traditional” intercourse.
- Oral sex creates physical, emotional and spiritual bonds just as traditional intercourse does **Genesis 2:24, Mark 10:6-9, Malachi 2:15**
- Oral sex involves exposing one’s “nakedness” to another, which is how the Old Testament sometimes describe sexual relations (ex. Leviticus 18:6,7,10)

Assuming that oral sex is sex, we can apply the Bible’s sexual guidelines to it. This basically means that it should only be practiced within a heterosexual marriage and that it should be characterized by love, so in this view Oral sex outside of Marriage would be considered sin (fornication).

It is believed that God created us to experience pleasure in sex. Biological evidence suggests this is in fact true. God created women to have two pleasurable spots. One pleasurable spot has absolutely nothing to do with penetration; and neither requires ovulation to occur before orgasm. This is highly suggestive that sex is not just for procreation.

History of oral sex being called a sin and connected with Sodomy

The proscription of sodomy in the English tradition began in 1533 when King Henry VIII adopted contemporary church doctrine into a system of laws at the time of the English withdrawal from the Catholic Church. Sodomy became both a sin and a crime, since ecclesiastical law recognizes no distinction between the concepts of "sin" and "crime." Sodomy included any form of non-procreative acts including masturbation, oral and anal sex.

Is Masturbation a sin?

There is no place in scripture where masturbation is forbidden or that it is sinful; however I believe the thoughts that accompany masturbation are sinful.

"You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.' But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away." **Matthew 5:27-30**

Notice what Jesus said about the parts of the body He mentions, your eye and your hand. If you are enjoying sexually explicit thoughts about a woman that is not your wife then it is sinful.

But what if no illicit fantasies or lustful thoughts are included in masturbation? Is the act then sinful? According to scripture, there is nothing to indicate that it is. But what if the act is done merely as a means of resisting temptation and performed as the body requires? This is hardly exciting, if used just as a means of keeping the body in submission, as the body is not that demanding if left alone without the perverted imagination. If we attempt to maintain a self-sex life, then we find that the body needs help from the mind through illicit fantasies and images, and then sin is clearly being committed and to live by the carnal and fleshly nature is sinful. Live by the Spirit, not by the desires of the flesh!

For this is the will of God, your sanctification; that is, that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God. **1 Thessalonians 4:3-5**

Impurity: is the Greek word akatharsia and refers to uncleanness in the physical or moral sense. Since it is not a sin to be physically dirty, we must take it in the moral sense. In the moral sense it refers to the impurity of lustful, luxurious or profligate living. It means wasteful expenditure or consumption. It is the person who is recklessly wasteful or wildly extravagant and overindulges himself in anything. It is dissolute indulgence in sensual pleasures that are intemperate, and this includes amusements and diversions. It is immoderation or excess in anything that satisfies the senses. This would include watching movies or football games, playing tennis, knitting and just about anything that provides pleasure to the individual.

Debauchery: is the Greek word aselgeia and refers to licentiousness, lasciviousness, wantonness, shamelessness, and insolence. It refers to the person who is cruel, merciless, undisciplined and spoiled. It is the person who ignores legal restraint, and has no regard for accepted rules and standards. It is the person who violates the laws of the land in which he lives. It is the person who disregards the rules of his employer. It is the person who disobeys those that God has placed in authority over him. This includes the wife who disobeys her husband, the child who disobeys the parent, and the driver who disobeys the traffic laws. It is the person who is presumptuous and insulting in manner or speech. It is the person who is audaciously rude or disrespectful. It is the person who is impertinent or goes beyond the limits of propriety or good manners. It is the person

who uses bad language in the presence of others, and especially in the presence of the opposite sex.

Witchcraft: is the Greek word pharmakeia and it refers to the taking or administering of drugs for pleasure. It includes the abuse of drugs, but would not include the taking of medication in moderation for the treatment of pain and disease. Witchcraft also includes sorcery, which is the use of supernatural power over others through the assistance of spirits. Several categories of witchcraft and sorcery are described in the Bible. In **Exodus 22:17** it is commanded, "You shall not let a witch live." Diviners and soothsayers are forbidden in **Leviticus 19:26 and Deuteronomy 18:10**; turning to ghosts and spirits in **Leviticus 9:31 and 20:27 and Deuteronomy 18:11**; being an augur or sorcerer in **Deuteronomy 18:10**. The Bible calls for the individual's wholehearted allegiance to God and therefore all contact with various forms of witchcraft and sorcery is prohibited (**Deuteronomy 18:13**). Furthermore, the crime of witchcraft is equated with the crime of human sacrifice (**Deuteronomy 18:10**) with the same punishment designated for both (**Leviticus. 20:27**). Despite the prohibitions, witchcraft was obviously resorted to, as shown most graphically by King [Saul](#)'s visit to the "witch of En-dor" to consult the spirit of the prophet [Samuel](#) (**I Samuel. 28**).

Hatred: is the Greek word echthra and refers to enmity or hostility on the part of a person. It includes rancor, which is bitter, long-lasting resentment or deep-seated ill will.

Discord: is the Greek word eris and refers to the person who is quarrelsome in a noisy, angry or bickering manner. The contentious person yields to this lust of the flesh. It is the person who habitually disagrees simply for the sake of disagreement, and it causes contention or strife in the Church body.

Jealousy: is the Greek word zelos and refers to the sin jealousy, which is the attitude that comes from being fearful of being supplanted or the apprehension of losing one's affection or position. It is the person who is jealous or envious of the success of others.

Fits of Rage: is the Greek word thumos and refers to violent, explosive or uncontrolled anger resulting from the lack of self-control.

Selfish Ambition: is the Greek word eritheia and refers to the putting of oneself in the forefront or the limelight. It is the person who has to be the center of attention. It is the

person who seeks political office for the purpose of power, recognition or satisfying the ego. It is the pastor who is more concerned with his position and status than he is with truth.

Dissensions: is the Greek word *dichostsis* and it refers to the refusal to conform to the authority or doctrine of the Bible. It is the person who rebels against the authorities that God has placed over him. It is a church member who rebels against the authority of the pastor. It is the child who rebels against the authority of the parent. It is the citizen who rebels against the governmental authorities. The person who rebels and leads others to rebel is yielding to this lust of the flesh.

Factions: is the Greek word *hairesis* and refers to the internal, contentious rivalries within a group of people. It refers to the conflicts that arise out of dissensions or differences of opinion in a body of people. It is okay for people to disagree on the meaning of a particular text of Scripture or doctrine, but the difference of opinion should not result in rivalries or conflicts. They should be able to discuss the issue and come to a resolution with unity of purpose. This lust of the flesh has resulted in all of the denominations that abound in the Church today.

Envy: is the Greek word *phthonos* and refers to the feeling of discontent and resentment aroused by the desire for the possessions or qualities of another. It is covetousness.

Drunkenness: is the Greek word *methe* and refers to intoxication through the drinking of alcoholic beverages.

Orgies: is the Greek word *komos* and refers to loud, noisy festivities that lack restraint or discipline. The Greek word was used with reference to the rites practiced in the worship of various deities, such as Orpheus and Dionysus. The word in Greek did not denote sexual activity, although this was a part of some rites. The rites of Dionysus, for example, included only music, dancing, drinking, and the eating of animal sacrifices. A revel involving unrestrained indulgence, especially sexual activity. Uncontrolled or immoderate indulgence in an activity: an orgy of spending. A secret rite in the cults of ancient Greek or Roman deities, typically involving frenzied singing, dancing, drinking, and sexual activity.

All creation will appear before the great white throne judgment of God and God will go through the "books" to see if we have committed any of the sins listed above and have

not been forgiven. In addition, the names will be checked to see if they are written in the Lambs book of life. Anyone whose name is not found in the Lambs book of life will be thrown into the lake of fire, based upon the evil of their hearts and the rejects of Jesus as their Lord and Savior. All people who have been guilty of any one of the violations above and whose names are not in the Lambs book of life, which is accomplished by truly accepting Jesus as Lord and Savior and being baptized with the Holy Spirit will be sent to the lake of fire, which is the second death.

If you have committed any of the violations of God's laws listed above, you should expect to go to the lake of fire unless you choose Jesus and repent. As with any transgression of law, we are convicted on the basis of our guilt with regard to the crime. The good things that we have done do not change or impact the charges for which we stand trial. Only those who have been made righteous and are forgiven will escape the great white throne judgment.

When you say "No" to Jesus Christ and His payment for your sin, you're telling God, I don't need Jesus Christ; I'll pay for my sins in hell!

Jesus Christ gave a solemn warning:

"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven. . . MANY will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." **Matthew 7:21-23**

Don't wait until you die to find out the truth about Hell! Tomorrow may be too late! Boast not thyself of tomorrow: for thou KNOWEST NOT what a day may bring forth." **Proverbs 27:1**

You may have made some terrible mistakes in your life. There may be some things in your life you would give anything to be able to change. Praise God we have the ability to be forgiven of any sin you have committed and this sin will be forgiven and will be thrown into the sea of forgetfulness, never to be remembered ever again.

Simply by faith receive Jesus Christ as your personal Savior.

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even

to them that believe on his name:" **John 1:12**

"...Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." **Acts 16:30, 1**

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." **John 3:16**

If God is speaking to your heart now, then now is your opportunity to believe. "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near" **Isaiah 55:6**

"Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." We accept Jesus by faith and he grants us access to Heaven.

"God saves you by his special favor when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it."

Accepting Jesus means believing that Jesus is the Son of God, invite him to guide and direct our lives.

Jesus said, "I came that you might have life, and have it more abundantly." "I'm standing at the door and I'm knocking. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in."

If Would you like to place your faith in Jesus for the forgiveness of your sins, thereby guaranteeing your eternal place in heaven beside Jesus, then pray the following prayer.

Keep in mind that it's not the prayer itself that saves you. It is the faith in Jesus and what he did for us that saves you. So, let the following prayer be a simple expression of the faith that is in your heart:

The precise words you use to commit yourself to God are not important. He knows the intentions of your heart. If you are unsure of what to pray, this might help you put it into words:

"Jesus, I want to know you. I want to have a relationship with you. Please come into my life and forgive my sins. I believe that you for died on the cross for my sins, so that I could be fully forgiven and accepted by you, providing a way to communicate with the father again. Only you can give me the power to change and become the person you created me to be. Thank you for forgiving me and giving me eternal life. I give my life to you. Please do with it as you wish. AMEN."

Holy Spirit please Baptize me and fill me with your presence and power and lead me in this life, so that I may live a life pleasing to the father, help me to do the will of the Father and to line up with my destiny in this life. I ask this in the name of Jesus, AMEN