Lake of Fire

Adam Willingham · Luke 13:24–30

INTRODUCTION

- I want to talk to you this morning about hell. And this is a very sobering topic.
- And one which is motivating in a negative way, but nonetheless motivating.
- The scriptural descriptions of hell are not given to make us feel good.

1 Strive to Enter the Narrow Door

Luke 13:24–30

- He said in verse 24, strive to enter through the narrow door. For many I tell you will seek to enter and will not be able.
- So in essence, he's saying, agonize to enter the narrow door. It is the idea of straining every nerve.
- There comes the day where the time of mercy is over, and the Lord has to shut off his grace and has to close that door.
- This is a specific weeping and gnashing that belongs only to those who are cast into the outer darkness.

2 Cast Into the Outer Darkness

Matthew 8:11–12; Isaiah 59:1–2; Ephesians 2:1

- One of the worst things about hell is that you won't get to be in heaven.
- Verse 12, but the sons of the kingdom will be cast into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
- This is being cast out of the feast. You're alone.
- That separation from God, if we are separated from Him, will be utter and complete. There will be no hand of grace, no hand of mercy.

3 The Furnace of Fire

Matthew 13:40–43

- The Son of Man will send forth his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness, and will throw them into the furnace of fire.
- Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun. Think of just what contrast that is in contrast to the outer darkness.
- Hell is called by the compassionate, loving, gentle Jesus a furnace of fire.
- Those descriptions are there to make us serious about this matter of serving God.

4 Hell Is Called the Lake of Fire

Revelation 20:14–15

- In Revelation 20 and verses 14 and 15. Hell is called the lake of fire. And in chapter 19, it's called the lake of fire and brimstone.
- Because it's not a lake of boiling water. What's it a lake of? It's a lake of fire.
- This is the image that the Bible gives us of hell. And I don't like it. But I didn't come up with it.

5 Gehenna, the Unquenchable Fire

Mark 9:42–48; Jeremiah 7:31–32

- It is better for you to enter life crippled than having two hands to go into gehenna or hell, into the unquenchable fire.
- Every time that Jesus uses the word hell, it is the word gehenna, which means valley of henem.
- So this is a place that represented the very depths of immorality.
- It is a figure of a continual dying, a continual rotting, in stark contrast to the joyous living of those who are in heaven.

6 It Is an Eternal Fire

Matthew 25:41

- Some teach that hell is an annihilation. That is not in Scripture. It is a continual burning, a continual dying.
- Notice it is not prepared for you and me and for sinners. It is prepared for the devil and his angels.
- Eternity is really something that's hard to grasp. We can't fathom it.
- We get stuck in the here and now, but we need to keep our eyes on the eternity.

> THE CHALLENGE
>
> **Let us never forget that hell is the place where the wicked will go for all eternity. And keep that as a sober reminder and think on it from time to time to be sure that we are not going there.**

MY NOTES