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**Hell — A Guided Tour Of Hell**

August 4, 2019

“The little child is in a red-hot oven. Hear how he screams to come out. See he turns and twists himself about in the fire. He beats his head against the roof of the oven and stamps his little feet upon the floor. God was very good to this little child…” — cited in Everyman, ‘A Brief History of Hell’, BBC TV,   
6 January 1991.

1. What is the environment of hell?
   1. Hell is a literal place, not a state of mind.
   2. Hell is a garbage dump.

If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell (Gehenna). Matthew 5:29 (ESV)

You serpents, you brood of vipers, how are you to escape being sentenced to hell (Gehenna)? Matthew 23:33 (ESV)

* 1. Hell is a pit.

But you, O God, will cast them down into the pit of destruction;…   
Psalm 55:23 (ESV)

Terror and the pit and the snare are upon you, O inhabitant of the earth! Isaiah 24:17 (ESV)

Behold, the wicked man conceives evil and is pregnant with mischief and gives birth to lies. He makes a pit, digging it out, and falls into the hole that he has made. Psalm 7:14–15 (ESV)

* 1. Hell is utter darkness.

These are waterless springs and mists driven by a storm. For them the gloom of utter darkness has been reserved. 2 Peter 2:17 (ESV)

…wild waves of the sea, casting up the foam of their own shame; wandering stars, for whom the gloom of utter darkness has been reserved forever.   
Jude 13 (ESV)

…while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Matthew 8:12 (ESV)

…God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. 1 John 1:5 (ESV)

* 1. Hell is fire.

For a burning place (Topheth) has long been prepared; indeed, for the king it is made ready, its pyre made deep and wide, with fire and wood in abundance; the breath of the Lord, like a stream of sulfur, kindles it.   
Isaiah 30:33 (ESV)

So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Matthew 13:49–50 (ESV)

…just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire. Jude 7 (ESV)

And if anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire. Revelation 20:15 (ESV)

* 1. Hell is a bad neighborhood.

Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. Matthew 25:41 (ESV)

But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death.   
Revelation 21:8 (ESV)

1. What is the experience of hell?
   1. Hell is to experience of the undying worm.

…than with two eyes to be thrown into hell, ‘where their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.’ Mark 9:47–48 (ESV)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me… Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice… Psalm 51:1–8 (ESV)

* 1. Hell is to experience never-ending shame and contempt.

And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.   
Daniel 12:2 (ESV)

* + Shame is not hating what you have done. It is hating who you have become.
  + Contempt is finding something revolting and disgusting.

For their worm shall not die, their fire shall not be quenched, and they shall be an abhorrence to all flesh. Isaiah 66:24 (ESV)

* 1. Hell is to experience solitary confinement.
  2. Hell is to experience total hopelessness.

Fret not yourself because of evildoers, and be not envious of the wicked, for the evil man has no future; the lamp of the wicked will be put out.   
Proverbs 24:19–20 (ESV)

* 1. Hell is to experience never-ending tears.

…while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Matthew 8:12 (ESV)

* 1. Hell is to experience unrestrained anger.

Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. Acts 7:54 (ESV)

* 1. Hell is to experience the fire of God.

Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! Psalm 139:7–8 (ESV)

For a burning place has long been prepared; indeed, for the king it is made ready, its pyre made deep and wide, with fire and wood in abundance; the breath of the Lord, like a stream of sulfur, kindles it. Isaiah 30:33 (ESV)

…for our God is a consuming fire. Hebrews 12:29 (ESV)

Circumcise yourselves to the Lord; remove the foreskin of your hearts, O men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem; lest my wrath go forth like fire, and burn with none to quench it, because of the evil of your deeds. Jeremiah 4:4 (ESV)

1. What about the new creation?
   1. What is the environment of the new creation?

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 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. 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. Revelation 21:3–4 (ESV)

…And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.   
Revelation 22:4–5 (ESV)

* 1. What is the experience of the new creation?

You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore. Psalm 16:11 (ESV)

Application

1. Now that we know what Jesus has saved use from, love him even more.
2. Now that we know where everyone apart from Jesus is headed, speak about Jesus with greater boldness.