

3. Hell is a place of physical anguish
the rich man is in terrible physical agony from the fire

hell is always described in terms of fire, flames, burning, etc.

whether or not it is literally true, the point is made--it's painful!
4. Hell is a place of relational anguish
the idea of good fellowship with friends is a complete fabrication

it's not a place where you can enjoy all the same bad things as here

it is a place of lonely, isolated suffering without end or companion

the rich man's fear is for his family, but he can't warn them about it
5. Hell is a place of spiritual anguish
God is conspicuous by his absence, which brings spiritual terror

he's light, it's darkness; he's life, it's death; he's order, it's chaos;
he's hope, it's terror; he's joy; it's sorrow; he's good, it's evil

it's an unending terror in total darkness with no hope of morning

What Can We Learn About Warning Others?

1. Those who are in hell would beg us to do just that!
Let him warn them so they will not come to this place of torment
Luke 16:28
2. The truth of scripture must be the basis for their decision
3. Don't expect a miracle to be what changes your loved one's mind
*If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets they will not be convinced
even if someone rises from the dead* - Luke 16:31
Jesus did rise from the dead, yet people reject him

it's not the lack of evidence, but a refusal of the will

CONCLUSION

If you are a believer, thank God for that from which you are being spared
If you are not a believer, ask God for his grace and salvation now!
As a church let's never forget that we are primarily God's rescue mission

WHAT JESUS BELIEVES ABOUT HELL

INTRODUCTION

Jesus did a lot of teaching through the use of stories that he told
lost sheep, Good Samaritan, prodigal son

We must be careful not to over-analyze every detail of the story

We must be open to broad truths that are confirmed elsewhere in scripture

LUKE 16:19-31

MATTHEW 13:36-43, 47-50

What Does Jesus Teach Us About Hell?

1. In the afterlife all are separated into one of two camps
the saved (only possible thru faith in Jesus) go to be with God

the unsaved are eternally separated from God into hell

Jesus used commercial fishing, and harvesting, to illustrate this

2. Hell is a place of emotional anguish

Throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth - Mt. 13:42,50

Hell is like *gehenna*, the smoldering garbage dump outside Jerusalem
people will be conscious that they have thrown themselves away

residents will have an eternally depressed, horrible self-image

Hell is like saying, "Arrgh!" over a preventable stupid mistake
Kurt Warner's last pass of the 1st half in the Super Bowl

the drunk driver who lives with the horror of having killed a child

"I had the opportunity to accept Jesus, but I kept putting it off"

Hell is a place void of any love or hope or peace or joy or kindness
it is completely filled with me-centered people

it is marked by the total absence of anything reflecting God