



"One Minute After You Die". What happens one minute after you die? I'm curious. How many of you would say I don't really like thinking a lot or talking a lot about death? A lot of you say that? I know KATIE doesn't like to talk about what would happen to me when I always tell her, here's what I want you to do, she says, I don't wanna talk about it. The truth is you don't really die.

- That's right.

- Your physical bodies will cease to exist but you never cease to exist.

The reason we're talking about hell is what you believe about eternity determines how you live today. If you believe that you are an accident, that you're going nowhere, then why not just live for now and live for yourself? If you believe you were created by a good God for his glory and you will live somewhere forever, it will change the way you live today.

Within the Christian faith, there is a significant amount of confusion regarding what happens after death. Some hold that after death, everyone "sleeps" until the final judgment, after which everyone will be sent to heaven or hell. Others believe that at the moment of death, people are instantly judged and sent to their eternal destinations. Still others claim that when people die, their souls/spirits are sent to a "temporary" heaven or hell, to await the final resurrection, the final judgment, and then the finality of their eternal destination. So, what exactly does the Bible say happens after death?

First, for the believer in Jesus Christ, the Bible tells us that after death believers' souls/spirits are taken to heaven, because their sins are forgiven by having received Christ as Savior ([John 3:16, 18, 36](#)). For believers, death is to be "away from the body and at home with the Lord" ([2 Corinthians 5:6-8](#); [Philippians 1:23](#)). However, passages such as [1 Corinthians 15:50-54](#) and [1 Thessalonians 4:13-17](#) describe believers being resurrected and given glorified bodies. If believers go to be with Christ immediately after death, what is the purpose of this resurrection? It seems that while the souls/spirits of believers go to be with Christ immediately after death, the physical body remains in the grave "sleeping." At the resurrection of believers, the physical body is resurrected, glorified, and then reunited with the soul/spirit. This reunited and glorified body-soul-spirit will be the possession of believers for eternity in the new heavens and new earth ([Revelation 21-22](#)).

Second, for those who do not receive Jesus Christ as Savior, death means everlasting punishment. However, similar to the destiny of believers, unbelievers also seem to be sent immediately to a temporary holding place, to await their final resurrection, judgment, and eternal destiny. [Luke 16:22-23](#) describes a rich man being tormented

immediately after death. [Revelation 20:11-15](#) describes all the unbelieving dead being resurrected, judged at the great white throne, and then being cast into the lake of fire. Unbelievers, then, are not sent to hell (the lake of fire) immediately after death, but rather are in a temporary realm of judgment and condemnation. However, even though unbelievers are not instantly sent to the lake of fire, their immediate fate after death is not a pleasant one. The rich man cried out, “I am in agony in this fire” ([Luke 16:24](#)).

Therefore, after death, a person resides in either a place of comfort or in a place of torment. These realms act as a temporary “heaven” and a temporary “hell” until the resurrection. At that point, the soul is reunited with the body, but no one’s eternal destiny will change. The first resurrection is for the “blessed and holy” ([Revelation 20:6](#))—everyone who is in Christ—and those who are part of the first resurrection will enter the millennial kingdom and, ultimately, the new heavens and new earth ([Revelation 21:1](#)). The other resurrection happens after Christ’s millennial kingdom, and it involves the wicked and unbelieving being “judged according to what they had done” ([Revelation 20:13](#)). These, whose names are not in the book of life, will be sent to the lake of fire to experience the “second death” ([Revelation 20:14–15](#)). The new earth and the lake of fire—these two destinations are final and eternal. People go to one or the other, based entirely on whether they have trusted Jesus Christ for salvation ([Matthew 25:46](#); [John 3:36](#)).

What you believe about eternity will determine how you live today.

• **WHAT YOU BELIEVE ABOUT ETERNITY DETERMINES HOW YOU LIVE TODAY.**

74% of Americans—Believe in Heaven

Only 4 in 10—Believe those reject X—Spend eternity hell.

½ of 1% people—Believe they (personally) going to hell—Murderer.

¹³ *“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. ¹⁴ But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.*

Matt 7:13-14

I've got some statistics for you about what people believe about heaven and hell. 74% of Americans believe in heaven, 74%. But only four in 10 believe that those who do not know Christ will spend eternity in a place called hell. Who's going to hell? If you ask the general public, only one half of 1% would say that they are likely going to hell. In other words, most people, if they do believe in hell, believe it's for the really, really, really, really bad people, like the murderers, and the rapists, and the terrorists, and such, but probably not me, 'cause God would never do that to me. Certainly, I'm not going to hell. That would be for just a very few, and most of us are probably gonna be okay. Jesus said something that might imply otherwise. In **Matthew's Gospel, Jesus said this, Chapter 7, Verse 13. He told us to Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it.**

. In other words, there's a lot of people that are probably on the wrong path. Then he said, Verse 14 "**Because ^[m] narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.**" "find it." I thought about this. If I were the devil, what would my strategy be? I think, if I were the devil, I would try to convince you that there is **no hell**, and, if there is, let's not take it seriously, and let's believe that most people would not be going there. If I were the devil, and I could convince you of that, then you would probably **live however you want, you would justify**

your sin, you would reject Christ, you would live with no real fear of God. If you are a follower of Christ, and I could convince you that hell isn't real or not that important anyway, you would live ridiculously self-centered lives. You would very likely idolize comfort and fall in love with this world. You would reject sacrifice. You would avoid persecution. You would love now, and you would not likely share your faith with very many people and have no real sense of spiritual urgency much the way so many of us live today. If I were the devil, I would probably try to convince you there is no hell, and if there is, let's not take it very seriously. This kind of raises an obvious question, which, if God is so good and God is loving, why does hell exist? Very fair question, one that deserves an answer. I could give you more reasons, but what I wanna do is keep it simple. Let me give you two reasons that Scripture teaches hell exists. Number one, hell exists for God to deal righteously with Satan. Hell exists for God to deal righteously with the devil. Many of us, when we think of Satan or we think of the devil, we tend to think of some harmless dude in a red suit with a pitchfork and horns and such. We need to understand that the devil is the embodiment of all evil. Behind every addiction is our spiritual enemy. Behind all abuse, every bit of fear, all pain, all shame, it comes from the prince of darkness. The devil is called in Scripture, the destroyer, the deceiver, the dragon, the dark angel. He's called your adversary, the tempter, your enemy, the wicked one, the thief. He is the father of lies. He is the prince of darkness. He is the angel of the abyss. He is the thief that comes to steal your joy, to kill your faith, to destroy your health, to ruin you financially, to obliterate your marriage, to destroy and hurt your children. Hell exists for God to deal righteously with the devil. John said this in **Revelation 20, Verse 10. He said, and the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur where the beast and the false prophets had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.** Why does hell exist? Hell exists for God to deal righteously with Satan. Hell also exists for God to deal righteously with unbelievers. This is where things get complicated. Many people would say this, well, that just doesn't seem fair. I mean, my neighbor's not a Christian, but my neighbor's a good person, God could never send them to hell. My neighbor makes me brownies, and they're really good brownies. You can't send a person that makes good brownies to hell.

My neighbor watches out for my dog even when I'm gone. That God could never send this good person to hell, we'll come back to that thought. What's so interesting to me is this. That almost everybody would argue against that idea is equally indignant any time there's any injustice on earth. In other words, if there's some type of injustice, most people would say, somebody should pay. If you hurt somebody, then someone should pay for that injustice, and yet, the very same people who are defenders of justice on earth often argue for a God of love, of mercy and grace without any justice. Think about this. People today, I would argue, want to remake God in their own image to justify their own lifestyles. God is love, right? So he's just gonna kind of give a little wink towards sin. I mean, he understands. I mean, he's holy and righteous and everything, but if you live the way you wanna live, I mean, yeah it's okay. Hey, it's cool and everything, I mean you know, I had standards, but for you, it doesn't really matter. It ain't no thang. You can do whatever you want. I'll just kind of look the other way. Here's what we have to understand. It is impossible for God to be holy without him being just. It's impossible for him to be holy without being just. Hell exists for God to deal righteously for those who are dead in their sin and don't know Christ. **Scripture says this in Second Thessalonians 1:8-9. He, God, will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will be punished with an everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord.**

in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,

This is no fun to talk about. I'm sure it's no fun to hear about, but if we don't accept the reality of hell, we'll never appreciate the glory of the gospel and the goodness of Jesus. Let me try to give you a brief glimpse of hell.

It is interesting that a much higher percentage of people believe in the existence of heaven than believe in the existence of hell. According to the Bible, though, hell is just as real as heaven. The Bible clearly and explicitly teaches that hell is a real place to which

the wicked/unbelieving are sent after death. We have all sinned against God ([Romans 3:23](#))**for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.** The just punishment for that sin is death ([Romans 6:23](#))**For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.** Since all of our sin is ultimately against God, and since God is an infinite and eternal Being, the punishment for sin, death, must also be infinite and eternal. Hell is this infinite and eternal death which we have earned because of our sin.

[Hell](#) has become a controversial subject in recent years, even among Christians. However, the controversy is entirely man-made. The rejection of the reality of hell stems from a human inability to reconcile the love of God with eternal punishment or from an outright rejection of God's Word. Even some professing Christians have come to unbiblical conclusions. Some have tried to redefine hell, create an intermediate state not found in Scripture, or deny hell altogether. In doing so, they are ignoring Jesus' warning in [Revelation 22:19](#), **"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."**

What does hell look like?

We cannot know exactly what hell looks like or how hot it will be. But Scripture does use some descriptive language of hell, and that gives us an idea of what hell will be like. It is sure to be a place of torment, which the Bible often pictures as fiery.

This week , "A Tough Message". Because I'm going to talk to you about Hell and it's a tough message for me to talk about. I believe it was also a tough message for Jesus. But Jesus did preach about Hell. Jesus actually preached about Hell 33 times. He talked more about Hell then He did about Heaven. That's pretty amazing. And I believe He did because He didn't want anyone to go.

So, think about this, He had a three-year ministry and He preached on Hell 33 times. So, almost once a month He would bring a message on Hell. You might not have wanted to attend His church because you have heard so much. But why he do that? He had to just been filled with compassion to keep people from going to this difficult place. The Bible talks about Hell 167 times, 167 times. Yet, many Theologians, many Pastors, many denominations are distancing themselves from Hell today and even denying the existence of it. And in a recent survey many people said they do not believe in a literal Hell. As a matter of fact, in a survey I read 35% of Baptist, 54% of Presbyterians, 58% of Methodist, and 60% of Episcopalians do not believe in a literal Hell. But the Bible talks about it 167 times and Jesus preached 33 messages on Hell that we know of. That we have recorded in scripture, maybe more.

In my opinion, to deny the existence of Hell is to deny Jesus Christ and to deny the Bible because Jesus told us about this. There are four groups — just to give you a little — before we go to Luke 16. Four groups of people if you deny the existence of Hell you fall into one of

these four groups. **The first group are Atheist.** Atheist do not believe in Hell because they do not believe in God. They believe that we evolve from nothing and that once we die we cease to exist.

Now I want to make a statement here this might shock you. Atheist don't believe in God. I don't believe in Atheist. I actually believe that it's scientifically impossible to be an Atheist. Atheist make the statement, "There is no God". And the reason it's scientifically impossible to be an Atheist is because in order to make the statement, "There is no God," you would have to possess all knowledge. You have to know everything to be able to say emphatically, "There is no God". And scientist tell us the smartest human being probably possesses 2% of all knowledge. So, you really can't be an Atheist, but you can be an Agnostic. So that an Atheist and Agnostics don't believe in Hell.

Here's the second group, **Annihilationist, don't believe in Hell.** Now here's what they believe. They believe that believers go to Heaven, but unbelievers are annihilated. And some even believe that they are annihilated in Hell. They use **Matthew 10:28 which says, "Fear him who can destroy both body and soul in Hell"**. Destroy they use the word, "Destroy," for their annihilationist theory. Now let me tell you why that's wrong. You can't take your interpretation of one verse and build a doctrine on it. You have to take the whole scripture and the whole

scripture teaches us of Hell. So, annihilationist would not be a scriptural viewpoint either.

The third group are ultimate reconciliationist. Ultimate reconciliationist believe that ultimately everyone will be reconciled to God. That people do go to Hell, but they only go to Hell dependent upon how bad they were on Earth. In other words, if you were very bad you would spend more time. That Hell is a purifying place that purifies us in to be able to go to Heaven. They actually believe that Satan would ultimately be reconciled to God.

And then the fourth group are Universalists. They're actually many popular preachers today that are becoming Universalists because they misunderstand, and they've taken that twisted question that I answered first, "How could a loving God send someone to Hell"? And I've already answered that question. But they take that and say, "Because of that when Jesus died on the cross He paid the price for everyone's sin," — which He did, "but you still have a choice". They take free will completely out of the equation and everyone is going to go to Heaven. Adolf Hitler will go to Heaven. The terrorists will go to Heaven. As a matter of fact, if you take Universalism to its 'nth degree here's an analogy about that. The terrorist of 9/11 when they hit those buildings the believers on the plane and terrorists were immediately in the presence of God. That's what Universalism say. And, you know, I think that's foolishness.

So, Luke 16 Jesus tells us about Hell. I need to tell you something about this passage before we read it. And that is many people don't understand this, this is a true story. This is true what Jesus tell us. Here are some reasons why. It doesn't say — and He spoke this parable to them. And Luke 16 talks about different parables and even has a parable at the beginning of the chapter. But by the time you get here it's not a parable 'cause it does not — that he spoke this parable. Also, it's not a simile that Jesus isn't saying, "It is like, it is like, it is like". He is telling us a true story and we know it's true because of a couple of things.

And first of all, he says, "There was a certain rich man". This word "Certain" means individual or specific. There was an individual, specific, rich man I'm telling you about right now. And then He says, "There was a certain beggar," — now listen to what He says, "Named Lazarus". Okay, Jesus wouldn't have made up a name. Now let me explain one other thing two because I got some questions last night afterwards. This is not the same Lazarus that he raised from the dead. Okay? It's a common name, like, John, but it's not the same person. Okay? So, this is another person.

All right let's read the story. **Luke 16:19: "There was certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. But there was a certain beggar named**

Lazarus full of sores who was laid at his gate. Desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, the dogs came and licked his sores. And so, it was that the beggar died and was carried by the angels," now watch this carefully. This is Jesus talking, "to Abraham's bosom". Okay let's talk just for a moment. Was Abraham a real person? Okay, he's talking about real people. "The rich man also died and was buried and being in torment," **I want you to remember the word, "Torment"** because a variation of that word is in this passage four times. This is the first reference, okay.

"Being in torment in Hades," and Hades is the Greek word for Hell. Okay, so this is Hell. They just used the Greek word there. "He lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham," a real person, afar off, "and Lazarus," a real person, "in his bosom. Then he cried and said, 'Father Abraham have mercy on me and send Lazarus that he may get the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue for I am tormented.'" There's the second time we see a variation of that word, "in this flame".

remember the word "Flame" this is Jesus talking now. He describes Hell as a place of torment and flame. "But Abraham said, 'Son remember that in your lifetime you received good things and likewise Lazarus evil things, but now he is comforted, and you are tormented,'" third time we see the variation of that word. And besides all this between us and you there's a great gulf fixed so that those who would

want to pass from here to you cannot. Nor, can those from there pass to us.

Then he said, "I beg you therefore father that you would send him to my father's house for I have five brothers that he may testify to them less they also come to this place of torment". Fourth time. "Abraham said to him, 'They have Moses and Prophets let them hear them. And he said, 'No, father Abraham, but if one goes to them from the dead they will repent". But he said to him: "If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets neither will they be persuaded the one rise from the dead".

Yeah, a few things I want to tell you about this. **Jesus is talking**. And the first thing I want you to know is this ends all debate on the existence of Hell. Because Jesus is referring to a specific man and He says in **Verse 23: "In Hell"**. He's referring to a person. And Jesus says, **"He's in Hell"**. This also ends all debate on whether it's a place of fire. Because Jesus says, "In this flame". Now listen to me carefully. 32 times the New Testament refers to Hell as fire, a place of fire. Unquenchable, everlasting, eternal fire. Lake of, flame of, furnace of, okay. And 19 times Jesus himself refers to Hell as fire. And this also ends all debate on whether it's a place of torment or not because we have the word or variation of the word, "Torment" four times.

The Greek word here for torment has three meanings. It would be like when you look up a word in Webster's dictionary and it has two or three different meanings. That's what the Greek word here — it has three meanings. **The first is acute pain from debilitating disease.** Acute pain from debilitating disease. **The second is actually the name of a rack of torture that they invented, and they gave it this name — the name that is translated torment here.** That's what they called it. It was a rack that had sharp objects that they would stretch a body on and continue to stretch it around it. Until eventually the sharp objects would pierce the body and the person would die from the piercings. **And the third, is describing fire that is hot enough to melt metals.** So, I want you to understand these three definitions of this word torture are **acute pain, a rack of torture, and intense fire.** **That's the word Jesus used.**

So, according to this that Jesus tells us we can discern a few things about what happens to a person when he goes to Hell. So, I want to give you three things that happens to a person when he goes to Hell. **Here's number one, he desires comfort.** He desires comfort. Send Lazarus said, "He may dip the tip of his finger in water. That I may cool my tongue for I am tormented in this flame". I want you to notice that he didn't say, "Could I have a bucket of water? Or could I have a cup of water"? And he didn't even say that he might dip his finger. He said, "That he might dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue".

I'm going to actually show you the scripture, "Hell was not created for you". The scripture of Isaiah 5 that shows us that because man decided to follow Satan, Hell had to be enlarged. It was enlarged by necessity. Not by design. But notice, here's the scripture that shows you Hell was not prepared for you. **Matthew 25:41: "Then you will also say to those on the left-hand depart from me you cursed into the everlasting,"** notice again it's not — this blows away Annihilationist theory that it's only a brief time, "fire" fire, it is fire, "Watched prepared for the Devil and his angels". And that's Jesus talking.

Okay, "Hell was not prepared for you". Now I want to make a statement. I want you to remember this. Jesus did not prepare Hell for you, but He did prepare Heaven for you. **John 14, he said, "I'm going to prepare a place for you"**. Isn't that a great statement? He did not prepare Hell for you. He prepared Heaven for you.

So, number one a man desires comfort. Number two, he expresses concern. He immediately says, "Please send him to my brothers. My father's house. I have five brothers". Okay, every person will have this thought at some point. I hope my kids don't come here. I hope my spouse doesn't come here. And they might even have a thought like this. Maybe, maybe — and they might bring — they'll not remember that you go to church. Or that you're a believer. And so, they might think, "Well maybe at Christmas I know Bill is a believer. I know Mary

is a believer. I know Sue is a believer. I know Jim is a believer. Maybe at Christmas Sue will tell my children about this place". And then I wonder, I wonder if he will have this thought, "She probably won't tell my children because she didn't tell me".

I remember arguments about who I voted for, but I don't remember her ever telling me that this was where I would go and that it was easy to avoid this place. That if I would simply give control of my life to Jesus Christ I could have avoided this place. So, every person desires comfort, expresses concern, and here's number three, he seeks consolation. Here's what he said — he tries to tell himself if someone would go from the dead. If someone would rise from the dead and tell them maybe they would believe. I'm sure they would believe. Abraham says this, "Listen they have Moses and the Prophets".

Now you need to understand what Moses and the Prophets means in the Bible. Moses wrote the first five books of the Old Testament. The Prophets wrote the other books. We call them the major and minor Prophets. It's the way we would divide the Old Testament theologically. And understand at this point there's no New Testament. So, when they say — when he says, "If they don't believe Moses on the Prophets," he's referring to the Bible. He's saying, "If they won't believe the Bible," and listen to what he says, "If they won't believe the Bible they won't believe even if one were to rise from the grave". Listen carefully, Jesus did rise from the grave. That's a direct

reference. He did rise from the grave. So, if they don't believe the Bible they wouldn't believe even if one were to rise from the grave. And He did.

Now this story is describing Hell before the resurrection of Christ. You need to understand that every person that died before the resurrection of Christ went to a place of "Waiting". There were two compartments with a chasm between. One was Hell where people were tormented. The other though, was Abraham's bosom is what it was called. It was a place of waiting for Old Testament Saints. And the Bible says that before Jesus ascended into Heaven, he descended into the lower parts and led all of those Old Testament Saints to Paradise.

Remember He said, "Even to the thief today you will be with me in Paradise". Okay, so He leads them out of there. So, this is talking about it before the resurrection of Christ. There is also a future Hell after the second coming. And the Bible tell us some things about future Hell that you need to understand.

I'm going to tell you some things that will help you to understand what eternal Hell will be like. And I'll give you the scripture to prove it to you, okay. First of all, there are two physical properties on Earth that keep us mentally stable. All right. Two physical properties that keep us mentally stable. This a scientific fact. Light and solid. Light and solid. Light helps us to gain our bearings. If we can just see where we're going, what we're doing. Even blind people many times can see light

and dark because when the light turns on in the room many times and keeps them stable. Please understand that light is not in Hell. The Bible describes Hell as a place of utter darkness or outer darkness. Matthew 8 describes Hell: "Complete total darkness". As a matter of fact, the Greek word means blackness. Total darkness.

Please understand you will never... listen Satan has so lied that Hell is going to be some big party. You'll never see anyone. You will never see another person. And you'll never talk to them. The reason he did in this story — remember this is before the resurrection. This is not eternal Hell. You will never see or talk to any other person. So, there's no light in Hell. The reason there's light in Heaven — Revelation 21 tell us: "That there's no sun in Heaven", Did you know? There's no sun because the lamb is the light. The reason there's no light in Hell is because God takes His presence from Hell. So, there's no light.

Here's the second thing, solid, in other words being able to hold something. Grab something. Keeps us mentally stable on this Earth. Being able to sit down, or walk, or touch something. Hell is described Revelation 9,11,17 and 20. Okay, Revelation 9,11,17 and 20 tell us that: "Hell is a bottomless pit. You will never touch anything. You will never sit down. You will never stand. No matter how hard you lunge, you will never be able to touch anything else". Those two physical properties are not in Hell. They keep us mentally stable.

There are two emotional properties that keep us emotionally stable on this Earth. Rest and hope. And I know many of you think rest is a physical property, which it is, but it's also an emotional property because rest keeps us emotionally stable. Think about how grumpy you get when you get tired. We have a little saying in my house. My wife will say to me, "You need a nap". And she says that to her grandkids as well. And the grandkids and I have to go take a nap. So, when we get tired we begin to lose it emotionally. And think about if you've lost a person close to you. How tired you are and people around you will say to you, "You need to get some rest". And we know on this Earth if we can just rest for sometimes just a few moments, then we can handle what we're going through emotionally. **Revelations 14:11 says, "And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever and they have no rest. Day or night"**. No rest.

So, there's no rest. And the second emotionally property that is not in Hell is hope. There's no hope. On this Earth we always have hope that it can get better. Do you realize that a person who commits suicide is a person whom Satan has convinced that something is true on Earth that is actually true in Hell? He's convinced that person that you have no hope. And on Earth you always have hope because you're alive and you can turn to God. But in Hell there's no hope. Every person who goes to Hell will at some point have a thought something like this: "When I have been here 10,000 centuries I will not have one less second to be in this place because Hell is forever".

And there's one thing I want to tell you about Hell that comes directly from Jesus the way He described it. Jesus used a word to describe Hell that no person had ever used. And the Jewish people understood what he was talking about. He used the "Gehenna". Gehenna means the valley of Henna. It is a valley that is south of the old city Jerusalem. If you are in the King David citadel you can see the old city and the North, you see two valleys. The North valley and the South that actually come together, up at Western side of the city right in front of the Western wall. That valley on the Southside of Jerusalem is called Gehenna. That valley there was always a continual fire in that valley. They would burn the refuse from the city. But when they went a drought season when poor people would die and did not have enough money to be buried they began burning the bodies of poor people in that valley. So, you could smell flesh burning.

But there's something else that happened. When they were taken out of the land — the captivity they learned of Babylonian and Chaldean practice and that was offering their children to the god of Molech. And we know, the Bible tells us specifically two kings did this. Manasseh and Ahab offered their children, burned their children in the valley of Henna. And I told you it's a tough message. What I'm about to tell you is very difficult. They made their children walk into the fire alive. And they burned them alive. Sometimes they even used whips to drive them into the fire. And Jesus used a phrase that every Jewish person

understood describing Hell. He said, "It is like Gehenna. Where there is," — and you've heard this phrase, which you might not know where it came from, "Where there is weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth". These young boys and girls would be so afraid and in so much pain they would weep and wail and gnash their teeth together while they were burned alive. And Jesus said, "I'm trying to tell you the best I can about this place, so you don't go there."

Now I want to give you a ludicrous illustration. It's ludicrous. If you were to drive home today and your neighbor's house was on fire, what would you do? We'd all do the same thing. We would immediately call 911. And if it were safe to do so we would enter the house to try to see if anyone was still in the house. The reason I said this is ludicrous is that none of you would see your neighbor's house on fire and pull into your garage and have the thought, "Someone else will tell them". Someone will tell them". And even this thought maybe. And I don't mean this in a joking way, but listen we wouldn't have the thought, "Oh, I'll just pray for them". And I believe in prayer. I believe in prayer. That's the first step when it comes to witnessing is praying. But the second step is that you got to tell them. You know, Romans 10 says, "Whoever calls on the name of the Lord will be saved". But how can they call on Him whom they've not heard? And how can they hear unless someone tells them? We have to tell them. So, hear me. Your neighbor's house is not on fire, but your neighbor is. If he doesn't know

the Lord according to the Bible, he will go to a place of fire and a place of torment for all eternity.

[VIDEO 30 Seconds to 11 Min 30 Seconds \(30-11:30\)](#)

I know that this is a very difficult subject to talk about, but I want to remind you that God did not create Hell for human beings. He created Hell for angels that rebelled against Him. And yet because of the choices that we've made we could be on our way to Hell. But here's the good news because of a choice that we can make we can be on our way to Heaven. You do not have to go to Hell. You can go to Heaven by simply accepting Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. Jesus died on the cross to pay for our sins. We could never pay for our own sins and yet he did that. And it is a free gift. Salvation is a free gift from God. And you could receive Jesus Christ right now. Just tell him right now while I'm talking. Tell him, "Jesus I receive you as my Lord and my Savior". And if you did that we would love to hear from you. And we would love to send you some material that will help you in your new life with Jesus Christ as your Lord and your Savior.

Bible Plan

<https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/13062-one-minute-after-you-die>

