



Would a Good God Send Good People to Hell?

Outline

I. Biblical Presuppositions about Life.

1. Everyone has a soul.
2. Everyone lives forever.

Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. Daniel 12:2

"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. Matthew 25:34

"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. Matthew 25:41

3. You decide your final destination!
4. Heaven and hell are real.

II. The Biblical Images of Hell.

Ge Hinnom (Hebrew) Gehenna (Greek)

"He burned sacrifices in the Valley of Ben Hinnom and sacrificed his children in the fire, engaging in the detestable practices of the nations the LORD had driven out before the Israelites." 2 Chronicles 28:3

"He desecrated Topheth, which was in the Valley of Ben Hinnom, so no one could use it to sacrifice their son or daughter in the fire to Molek." 2 Kings 23:10

OUTER DARKNESS

And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." Matthew 25:30

"Let there be light!" (1:3)

"In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome" John 1:4-5

"the Light of the world." John 8:12

"This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed." John 3:19-20

"Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden." Genesis 3:8

WEEPING AND GNASHING OF TEETH

"...where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." Matthew 25:30

"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." 1 Peter 3:9

"Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done. They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, slanderers, God-haters." Romans 1:28-29

III. Who Decides Who Goes to Hell?

"The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books." Revelation 20:11

"People loved darkness instead of the light" John 3:19

"God gave them up" which was response to people wanting God to leave them alone Romans 1:28

God does not decide who goes to heaven and who goes to hell. We decide that! Hell is the result of a human decision.

"Well is God happy about people getting their own way? Why doesn't he stop them? Why doesn't he do something about it?"

"Like water spilled on the ground, which cannot be recovered, so we must die. But that is not what God desires; rather, he devises ways so that a banished person does not remain banished from him." 2

Samuel 14:14-15

What God Devised to Save Us from Hell