

Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.
(Jesus - Matthew 7:13-14)

The Great Hope

How does God deal with our mess & offer us the hope of new life?

⇒ His Name is _____: Hebrews 9:24-28

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
(Paul - Romans 6:23)

For those who believe in Jesus, the Cross moves their Judgment Day from the future to the past. How? Jesus already died the death that they deserved to die. Jesus already experienced the rejection, abandonment, suffering, and sorrow due to them because of their sin debt. Jesus has already been led into the dark abyss of hell so that believers, resting in his finished work alone, may now ascend to the joys of heaven. In Jesus our worst crimes of thought, word, and deed have already been punished.
(Scott Sauls, *Jesus Outside the Lines*)

All passages, unless otherwise noted, are from the New International Version of the Bible.
Download the free YouVersion Bible app that includes the NIV translation at your favorite app store.

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Worldview

The Next Life

A worldview is our big picture of reality. It is based on our deepest assumptions about the most important question of life.

The Big Question ...

If you read history, you will find that the Christians who did most for the present world were just those who thought most of the next ... precisely because their minds were occupied with heaven. It is since Christians have largely ceased to think of the other world that they have become so ineffective in this. Aim at heaven and you will get earth thrown in; aim at earth and you will get neither.
(C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*)



What Happens After ... ?

⇒ Naturalism: There Is _____

⇒ Spiritualism: _____ To The _____

_____ In The

⇒ Christianity: _____ Is Not The _____ Of

The _____

John 3:1-21; 1 Corinthians 15:54-56

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?" (Jesus - John 11:25-26)

>We Will All Be Raised Up To Eternal Life ...

_____ God Or

_____ God

When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

(Jesus - Matthew 25:31-33)

Jesus And The Reality Of Hell

According To Jesus, Hell Is ...

⇒ A _____ To _____

His _____

⇒ From _____ With A _____

>A Place: Jerusalem's Garbage Dump

Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. (Jesus - Matthew 10:28) *See Jeremiah 7:30-32

>Of Protection: Satan's Prison

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." (Jesus - Matthew 25:41)

>From A Posture: A Defiant Spirit Of Rebellion

And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. (Jesus - Matthew 25:30) *See Luke 16:19-31

Most folks I know want sex trafficking and genocide eradicated forever. Many give their lives working toward this end. This demonstrates that we are not so far from the Christian doctrine of hell as we might think; there are things we want gone, damaging forces we long to be banished so that our world can flourish. An atheist lawyer may protest vociferously on the injustice of hell and simultaneously fight to keep thugs and rapists off the streets. His actions ironically demonstrate the biblical story's logic of hell: that for our world to flourish, there are some harmful powers that must be kept at bay. And there is good news for our world: God is going to kick sex trafficking and genocide out of it. But there is a rub: he is more serious about it than we are. The spark that sets the wildfire lives in us; the root of the wicked tree is in our hearts; the poisoned spring from which the deadly waters flow is not just "out there," it is "in here." The problem is us. (Joshua Ryan Butler, *The Skeletons In God's Closet*)