

# Heaven and hell



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Heaven and Hell Order No. 313946 No. of pages: 2 - 6530 One often wonders what would be like in places such as ' Heaven' or ' Hell' and each have come out with different answers, making this topic a highly debated one.

When trying to recall what Heaven would be like, the pictures that conjured up in my mind are that of a very beautiful place, way up in the clouds, that is so serene and peaceful and where angels and the people in Heaven are in constant praise of the Lord Almighty who is seated on a golden throne, with a scepter in his hand and a crown on his head. On the other hand, thinking of what ' Hell' would you like, conjures up pictures of ugly faces with hands stretch the words in a deep pit of burning fire and who's cries of torture are heard for miles around.

Rick Rood in his article ' The Truth about Heaven' provides us with quotes from the Bible to enlighten us on some of the fundamental truths about what Heaven and Hell means to different people and how these teachings have impacted our lives. In the Hebrews it is said that ' Heaven is the spiritual realm in which the glory of Gods presence is manifest, and in which dwell the angels of God, and all believers who have departed this world (Heb. 12: 22-24). According to Isaiah, ' Heaven given in Scripture reveal a pervading sense of the holiness of God (Isa. 6; Rev. 4-5) Ezekiel too tells us that human words are not adequate enough to describe the beauty and glory of heaven. The apostle Paul's description of heaven in (1 Cor. 2: 9) compares heaven to " things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and which have not entered into the heart of man" (1 Cor. 2: 9) Jesus refers to heaven as ' Paradise' when he addresses the thief who is about to die. " Today you shall be with me in Paradise" (Luke 23: 43).

Some of the most significant characteristics we may experience if we go to heaven are that we would be washed clean of all sin and undergo a great change in our spiritual nature, which in turn will help us to better our relationships with one another by removing the sins of jealousy, pride, envy, fear and shame. After God's plan for us on this Earth ends, we would be endowed with the virtue of hope for much better things in the future. Hell, on the other hand, is for people who lead very evil lives and do not deserve God's mercy and blessings and are faced with damnation. Dr. Towns, refers to the present day society with all its evils and temptations and says that the problem of sin cannot be tackled in the same way that was used in the ancient days. The present generation and the generations to come has to be dealt with in a different manner. He states that teachers have to be well trained in the Bible in order to be good communicators of the Church. Dr. Towns also found that ' Personal friendship' formed the basis for bringing many people to Christ. This day was set aside to celebrate the virtue of friendship. This attitude by the Church served to bring scores of people who were lost back to the Church.

Therefore, Hell is considered a place of no return. It is a place where the soul is lost forever, never to return. Dr. Towns made use of the Friend's Day to spread love and peace to hundreds of Churches around the world and helped to bring back thousands of lost sheep back into the fold of Christ.

References.

Towns Elmer L. Theology For Today.

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