

Scripture References

Luke 16:19-31 19 “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. 20 At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores 21 and longing to eat what fell from the rich man’s table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores. 22 “The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried. 23 In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. 24 So he called to him, ‘Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.’ 25 “But Abraham replied, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. 26 And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.’ 27 “He answered, ‘Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, 28 for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’ 29 “Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.’ 30 “‘No, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ 31 “He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

John 5:24 Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life.

James 1:17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father.

Reasons to Believe – Fred Hennes

Jan 26, 2020

#659, “How Could a Loving God Send People to Hell?” (Luke 16)

A misunderstanding is because someone simply did not _____ the right thing they are sent to hell.

A misunderstanding is that a loving God can’t be a _____ God, filled with wrath and anger.

All loving persons are sometimes filled with _____, because of their love.

Jesus tells us Hell is _____, it is _____, it is _____, it is _____, and it is _____.

Hell is being _____ from God’s love forever.

All have inherited a _____ human nature as a result of not trusting God.

Even though we all deserve punishment, even though we deserve separation; God has provided a way of _____ for us.

God is truly loving; He loves the world enough to _____ wrongdoing, and He loves people enough to take the _____ himself.

Hell is the greatest monument to human _____. As Romans 1: 24 says, God “gave them up to... their desires.”

If Jesus is the Bread of Life, loss of Jesus means _____.

If Jesus is the Light of the World, loss of Jesus means _____.

If Jesus is the Good Shepherd, loss of Jesus means wandering _____ and lost.

If Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life, loss of Jesus is eternal _____.

If Jesus is the Lamb of God, sacrificed for our sins, loss of Jesus means _____ that price for ourselves.

If we are removed from God, we are then _____ from every good thing.

Not everyone sees that God as someone on whom they want to _____ their affection.

All God does in the end with people is give them what they most _____, including freedom from himself.

Life Group Ice Breaker

1. Are you planning on attending the Couple's Dinner Date Night at GateWay on February 8? Why or why not?

Discussion Questions

2. Regarding this sermon, is there any truth that stands out as being particularly helpful, insightful or difficult to grasp?
3. In your opinion, what is the hardest truth to accept regarding the reality of Hell and people ending up there? Why?
4. Since the Bible is unclear on this topic, in your opinion, what becomes of the eternal state of one who has never heard of the Bible, Jesus or the Salvation He offers?

5. Again, in your opinion, is it possible that God offers His creation a second chance after they die to then accept Jesus? Is this what purgatory is all about?

Application Questions & Prayer

6. What is the hardest part of sharing your answer to today's question with people who hold an alternative view?
7. If the unlimited expression of hate is indifference, what does this reveal about a person who never shares the gospel with others?
8. Pray for one another so that you may be strong in your faith, yet compassionate in your approach as you defend and share your faith.