

God's Vengeance on the Unbeliever is everlasting

All Scripture is KJV: 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9

INTRODUCTION: WHAT DOES THE BIBLE HAVE TO SAY

Question:

1. Will the unbeliever be punished forever and ever?
 2. Or will the unbeliever just be judged by God and cast out from His presence.
 3. Will the unbeliever suffer an eternal punishment?
 4. Will the unbeliever suffer an eternal punishment in hell?
- ✓ There are many people, and many ecumenical religions that teach that the unrepentant sinner is simply judged by God when he dies and is removed from the presence of God?

✚ But what does the bible say about the unbeliever.

1. Well it all depends on what bible version you believe because not all bibles say the same things.
2. Therefore it is necessary to define the terms when speaking to someone about this topic.

✚ Salvation is the ultimate key which unlocks the door to heaven, and without salvation the door to heaven will remain locked.

- ✓ People in general have become complacent with the response to turn to God because the punishment that they see coming does not warrant them to obey God.
- ✓ Instead they will see the punishment from God, as simply dying and removed from Gods presence.
- ✓ They say things like "I don't care because when you die you dead" and that's the end of it.

- They do not believe that there is going to be an "eternal punishment".
- They do not believe that there is "a god" who will do in their mind "such a wicked thing" as to let a person suffer in hell for an eternity, or to suffer in hell even for a short time.
- Consequently without a "judgment" in their eyes, it seems unnecessary for them to call upon the name of the "Lord".

❖ Well besides the book of 2 Thessalonians speaking about the coming of the Lord for all His Saints; the book of 2 Thessalonians also tells us about a judgment that is coming.

✚ The question that people often refute is that "Hell is not real".

✚ They argue that Hell is not a real place.

- ✚ Well of course they will argue that. Because they don't trust in what the literal scriptures are saying, and have twisted the scriptures to their own destruction.

2 Peter 3:16

As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, **which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.**

1. So what Peter is saying is that it is not just one particular scripture that these people twist, but that it is many scriptures that get twisted by them, to their own destruction.
2. And destruction here does not simply mean bad for them. But it means destruction in "Hell".
3. Because they are unlearned.

✚ Let's face it?

✚ If hell is not a real place, then why would someone want to turn to God?

✚ After all there would be no judgment?

- ❖ This kind of thinking is wrong, and it from the Devil.
- ❖ They think that God is simply a God of love.

But what does the Bible say:

- ✓ Well first you need to get yourself a true bible.
- ✓ In the simple and easy to understand passages of the bible it is clearly laid out about what happens to those who believe and what happens to those that don't believe.

2 Thessalonians 1:8-9

⁸ **In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:** ⁹ **Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction** from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; (*meaning their punishment is emanating from the Lord*). Because none can ever be out of the presence of the Lord.

- They will be punished whilst being in the presence of the Lord.

Psalm 139: ⁷ **Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?** ⁸ **If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there.**

1. God does not mince His Words. His Word is true, and God is NO respecter of persons.
- In the scripture above of 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9 God has laid out what will happen to those who don't know God.

1. God will take “vengeance” on them who know not God.
2. Meaning “the vengeance” of His wrath will come upon them that do not believe.
3. To know God is to believe on Him. And to know not God is NOT to believe on Him.
4. Therefore His vengeance is upon all those who do not believe.
5. That vengeance comes in the form of “everlasting destruction”

So What does Destruction mean?

1. Destruction used by the bible in this context is referring to “Hell”?
 2. There are many scriptures to prove this is the case.
- ✓ First of all what is Hell?
 - ✓ Is hell a real place?

The bible says this about hell.

Deuteronomy 32:22 King James Version (KJV)

²²For **a fire is kindled in mine anger**, and shall **burn unto the lowest hell**, and shall consume the earth with her increase, and set on fire the foundations of the mountains.

- ✓ **Why is there a “lowest hell”**
- ✓ **God’s anger is kindling the fires of hell.**

Job 11:8

It is as high as heaven; what canst thou do? **deeper than hell**; what canst thou know?

- ✓ **How deep is hell?**
- ✓ **How deep is the “grave”**
- ✓ **Makes no sense if it’s the same place?**

Job 26:6

Hell is naked before him, and **destruction hath no covering.**

- ✓ **Hell is interchanged with the word destruction.**

Psalm 9:17

The **wicked shall be turned into hell**, and all the nations that forget God.

- ✓ **If Hell was just the grave, then why are only the wicked cast there?**
- ✓ **Then why is it that only the nations that forget God are cast there?**

Psalm 16:10

For thou wilt not leave my soul in **hell**; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see **corruption.**

Psalm 86:13

For great is thy mercy toward me: and thou hast **delivered my soul from the lowest hell.**

- ✓ **Question: does a soul when it dies go to the grave.....**
 - ✓ **Or does it go to heaven or hell?**
 - ✓ **In other words when you die as a believer or unbeliever where does your soul go?**
 - ✓ **It makes no sense that a unbelievers souls goes to the grave?**
- ✚ **This kind of thinking is why people don't want to believe in God.**

Proverbs 15:11

Hell and destruction are before the LORD: how much more then the hearts of the children of men?

- ✓ **You see here hell and destruction being used inter changeably in the same sentence, because it is the same place.**

Proverbs 23:14

Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell.

- ✓ **If your soul was going to the grave as a final resting place without judgment, then why would it be necessary to deliver a child's soul from hell?**

Proverbs 27:20

Hell and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied.

- ✓ **You see here hell and destruction being used inter changeably in the same sentence, because it is the same place.**
- ✓ **Hell nor destruction are ever full.**

Isaiah 14:15

Yet thou shalt be brought down to **hell**, to the sides of the pit.

Ezekiel 31:16

I made the nations to shake at the sound of his fall, when I cast him down to **hell** with them that descend into the pit: and all the trees of Eden, the choice and best of Lebanon, all that drink water, **shall be comforted in the nether parts of the earth.**

Jonah 2:2

And said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the LORD, and he heard me; **out of the belly of hell** cried I, and thou heardest my voice.

NT Passages of Hell.

Matthew 5:22

But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

Matthew 5:29

And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

Matthew 5:30

And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

Matthew 10:28

And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: **but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.**

- ✓ **If hell was the grave how would that destroy the soul?**

Matthew 16:18

And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

- ✓ **The gates of the grave would make no sense?**
- ✓ **If Jesus is the rock, it would make no sense if he was building the church against himself, and the grave was not going to prevail against it?**

Matthew 18:9

And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire.

Matthew 23:15

Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves.

Matthew 23:33

Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?

- ✓ **The grave would not be a damnation, but hell would be.**

Acts 2:27

Because thou wilt not leave my soul in **hell**, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

Acts 2:31

He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in **hell**, neither his flesh did see corruption.

James 3:6

And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of **hell**.

2 Peter 2:4

For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to **hell**, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;

- ✓ **Are the angels in hell or the grave?**
- ✓ **If they in the grave then why did God make hell for the fallen angels.**

Jude 1:6

And the angels which kept not their **first estate**, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.

2 Peter 2:4

For if God spared not the angels that sinned, **but cast them down to hell**, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;

Matthew 25:41 King James Version (KJV)

⁴¹ Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into **everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:**

Matthew 25:46 King James Version (KJV)

⁴⁶ **And these shall go away into everlasting punishment:** but the righteous into life eternal.

Revelation 6:8

And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him **was Death, and Hell followed with him.** And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.

Revelation 20:13

And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and **death and hell** delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

Revelation 20:14

And **death and hell were cast into the lake of fire**. This is the second death.

✓ **If death was the same as hell, then why are they two separate things that are cast into the lake of fire?**

- A. Those who do not believe are those that do not believe the Gospel.
- B. The Gospel is the death burial and resurrection of Jesus.
- C. They are the ones that 2 Thessalonians 2:9 says will be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;
- D. Being punished from with **everlasting destruction** from the presence of the Lord does not mean God is not there.
- E. What it means is that when “their” punishment is being executed it is coming from the presence of God.

John 5: 23-27 ²³ That **all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father.** He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.

²⁴ **Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.**

²⁵ Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live.

²⁶ For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; ²⁷ **And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man.**

John 3:36 He **that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life;** and he **that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.**

Hebrews 10:30 For we know him that hath said, **Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense,** saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people.

⁷ And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels.

1. So when we look at this verse again we are reminded of several facts as mentioned previously elsewhere in the messages.

✓ It is a promises of Jesus “**shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels**”

⁸ In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

1. God is going to pour out his wrath but only after the church has been raptured.

2. And he will come in flaming fire, and he will come with vengeance upon those that have not the gospel of Jesus.
3. To obey the gospel is to believe the gospel. The belief of the death burial and resurrection of Jesus.

⁹ Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

1. What people often say is that when the wicked are judged they will be cast out away from God. That they will be separated from God.
2. The truth is that when people go to hell they are not separated from God. Contrary to the popular belief by the atheist.
3. What the scripture here in verse 2 is talking about is not the physical casting away of those who will be punished. No. It is speaking that the punishment is coming or emanating from the fact that they are in the presence of the Lord and the punishment is being carried out or coming **from the presence of the Lord.**

- ✚ Let me explain from scripture why that is so.
- ✚ Why it means that the destruction is coming from the Lord, and that it does not mean that the wicked are being cast away from the Lord.

Acts 3:19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, **when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.**

Again I can prove it from Revelation 15: ⁸ And the temple was filled with smoke **from the glory of God, and from his power;** and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.

✚ That means that in Revelation 15:8 the smoke is coming from the glory of God, and from his power. **Its speaking about the source from which it comes.**

- ✓ But, people will try and use this scripture in 2 Thessalonians 1:9 to teach that when the wicked are simply separated from the presence of God.
- ✓ That is why the NIV gets it wrong.
- ✓ This is an act of Satan tampering with the word of God to down play the horrors of hell and destruction.

✚ They will say that God will cast them away into the hell and the lake of fire and God will not see them again. He will shut them out of his presence.

✚ **That's the perfect message for the atheist to hear and the Satan worshipper.** **But that not the truth.**

So it is false my friend.

4. If you have a NIV which is the non inspired version then you will be misled. Because the NIV says that...2 Thessalonians 1:⁹ They will be punished with everlasting destruction and **shut out from the presence of the Lord** and **from the glory of his might**

5. So the NIV is teaching that when the wicked are judged they will be shut out from the presence of God and his power. If that were the case it would give Satan free range in Hell. But it's false my friend.

- ✓ Well that's the reason why you need a KJV bible.
- ✓ Here is a sobering thought. Concerning the wicked in Hell.

Revelation 14:9-11⁹ And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, ¹⁰ **The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:** ¹¹ **And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever:** and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.

6. So the King James Bible rightfully teaches that the wicked will always be in the presence of God being tormented. Not shut out as the NIV teaches.
7. Jesus has the keys to hell and to death. (Rev 20)
8. Isaiah 30:33 tells us that hell is prepared by God. It is not a place for Satan to rule and reign and play there. (the breath of the LORD, like a stream of brimstone, doth kindle it.)

¹⁰ When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.

1. This is in fact just a continuation of what has just been alluded to in verse 9, that when Jesus comes he will all wickedness under his feet.
2. So these are the people who obeyed not the gospel.
3. But.... Those that obeyed the gospel....those who believed the gospel.....which is the death burial and resurrection of Jesus, will be glorified by them.
4. Because as Paul said..... **because our testimony among you was believed.**
5. And the time period of that glorification is described again as **"in that day".**
6. **Admired in "all them" that believed.**

¹¹ Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power:

¹² That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

1. The calling is in response to the good works that we should do for God.
2. That God would work in you.
3. By the work of Faith.
4. That the name of Jesus would be glorified.
5. We need to bring God glory now that we are saved was Paul's prayer for them.

CLOSE IN PRAYER.....

Job 21:30

That the wicked is reserved to the day of **destruction**? they shall be brought forth to the day of wrath.

Job 26:6

Hell is naked before him, and **destruction** hath no covering.

Job 31:12

For it is a fire that consumeth to **destruction**, and would root out all mine increase.