

# SYNOPSIS OF HELL FIRE AND THE STATE OF THE DEAD

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**INTRO:** This will be a brief synopsis of Hellfire and the State of the Dead. We will examine this doctrine from Genesis to Revelation and then return to answer objections.

## 1. Genesis 2:7: Man us a soul, he does not have a soul

- Dust of the ground + Breath of Life = LIVING SOUL (KJV)
- Light Bulb + Power = Light
- The Light goes nowhere when turned off, the soul goes nowhere at death.
- **Job 27:3 (KJV):** Breath of Life = Spirit.
- **Gen. 12:5, 13, 17:14, 3 John 1:2 (KJV):** A “soul” is a person.
- It is everything that comprises a person, along with emotions and desires.

## 2. Genesis 3:22-23: The soul was banned from the possibility of living eternally without God:

- Without the **Tree of Life**, the soul cannot continue to live.
- **Eccl. 12:7:** Upon death, the Breath of Life returns to God, and the Dust to the ground.
- **Psa. 146:4:** Upon death the very thoughts (*plans, purposes, thoughts*) perish (*die, vanish, be exterminated*) (KJV)
- Eccl. 9:5: Upon death, the dead “know nothing.” No thoughts of neither LOVE now HATRED (verse 6).
- **THE WICKED RESERVED:** Job 21:30-32, 2 Pet. 3, 7, Jude 1:13 / **FALLEN ANGELS RESERVED:** 2 Pet. 2:4, Jude 1:6.

## 3. This state of the dead is called SLEEP

- **Psalm 13:3:** “lest I sleep the sleep of death.”
- **1 Thess. 4:13-18:** At the second coming, the dead are “asleep.”
- **John 11:12-14:** “Lazarus is dead” <--- READ THIS.

## 4. Hell Fire - IN THE OLD TESTAMENT:

- There *WILL BE* a Hell! - For example: Psalm 9:17, 55:15.
- Two reasons why HELL is the GRAVE:

1. Hebrew word for hell is “sheol” meaning “the grave.”
2. Verses such as Amos 9:2 (dig into hell), Psa. 139:8 (God is there).
3. Verses: Gen. 37:35, 42:38, 44:29.
4. Is Jacob saying he will end up in a place of fiery torment where his Son is?

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### 5. Hell Fire - IN THE NEW TESTAMENT:

- **Matthew 25:41:** This text is future. The devil is not in hellfire yet.
- See verse 46: "And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."
- **Matthew 8:29:** Devils ADMIT they are not being tormented yet!
- **LOGIC:** If people are burning today, that means their punishment is greater than Satan who is not burning yet.
- Greek word for HELL is:
  1. **Hades** - or Pluto, god of the underworld, used also for the GRAVE (Jesus went there -Acts 2:31). Paul also used Greek things to prove points - quoted a Greek poet's line that was for Zeus (Acts 17:28)
  2. **Gehenna** - Valley of Hinnom outside Jerusalem where filth and dead bodies of animals were burned.
  3. **NOTE:** The fire did not quench, yet those things would eventually burn up; they wouldn't burn forever.
  4. **Tarteros** (pagan equivalent to Gehenna) as used in 2 Peter 2:4.

### 6. Annihilation

- **Rev. 20:9:** Fire DEVOURS the wicked / **2 Peter 3:10:** Everything will melt away.
- **John 3:16:** Unbelievers shall perish / **Psalms 37:20:** The wicked shall consume away into smoke.
- **Ezekiel 28:13-18:** Satan put to ASHES / **Malachi 4:3:** The wicked put to ASHES.
- **THE RIGHTEOUS WILL ONCE AGAIN EAT OF THE TREE OF LIFE (Rev. 22:2) AND LIVE FOREVER!**

Now let's look at some of the most common objections to this view along with both **how** to respond and **what** to respond:

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### CLASSWORK QUIZ:

1. Why is the Rich Man and Lazarus story a fictional parable?

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2. Who is it actually that will dwell in everlasting burnings?

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3. What's inside New Jerusalem and why do the wicked want access to it?

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