

Thoughts on hell:

1. There has not been much teaching on hell. Hell is primarily taught on in the New Testament. Jesus taught on and warned about hell. It is part of the whole counsel of God and does not contradict teaching on God's grace – it only confirms it.
2. There is a false teaching out there that hell is not real and it is not forever. There is popular sentiment that everyone is going to heaven when they die.
3. There are three things that I know of that will keep someone from experiencing heaven:



- a. Not receiving Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior

Revelation 20:15 And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

- b. Choosing not to forgive someone

Mark 11:26 But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses."

Matthew 18:34-35 And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. ³⁵ "So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses."

- c. Claiming to be a Christian but living like the devil.

Matthew 7:15-23 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶ You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Therefore by their fruits you will know them. ²¹ "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. ²² Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' ²³ And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

Galatians 5:19-21 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, ²¹ envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told *you* in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

4. Benefit of teaching on hell is It teaches the fear of the Lord and changes the behavior of His people.

Proverbs 16:6 In mercy and truth atonement is provided for iniquity; And by the fear of the LORD *one* departs from evil.

One person said, "It is wrong for you Christians to teach on hell. It causes people to come to Christ out of a wrong motivation of fear."

The persons response was, "I would rather have someone fear hell and not go there, then not fear it, and spend eternity there.

5. We share the good news of the gospel and God's grace toward them primarily. If they reject that message we have a responsibility to warn them about hell.

Acts 20:25-31 "And indeed, now I know that you all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, will see my face no more. ²⁶ Therefore I testify to you this day that I *am* innocent of the blood of all *men*. ²⁷ For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God. ²⁸ Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. ²⁹ For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. ³⁰ Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. ³¹ Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears.

Ezekiel 3:20-21 "Again, when a righteous *man* turns from his righteousness and commits iniquity, and I lay a stumbling block before him, he shall die; because you did not give him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he has done shall not be remembered; but his blood I will require at your hand. ²¹ Nevertheless if you warn the righteous *man* that the righteous should not sin, and he does not sin, he shall surely live because he took warning; also you will have delivered your soul."