

HADES: MORE THAN FIRE!

Matthew 22:11-13

There is a real Hades that is a place of fiery torment ... And more!

I. THE TERROR OF HADES - Job 18:11-21

- A. FEAR (11)
 - Terrors frighten him (see Psalm 116:3)
- B. INTIMIDATION (14)
 - Marched before the king of terrors
- C. DISORIENTATION (18)
 - 1. Chased from the inhabited world into darkness
 - 2. See Matthew 7:21-23
- D. CONDEMNATION (21)
 - The place of him who does not know God

II. SOME DESCRIPTIONS OF HADES - Mark 9:44

- A. UNSYMPATHETIC EXCITEMENT - Isaiah 14:9-11
 - The glee of the ghoulish greeters of Hell
- B. OUTER DARKNESS - Matthew 8:12 also 22:13 and 25:30
 - 1. Carried away from the feast and celebration to a place of lonely, groping hopelessness
 - 2. "Absolute chaos, hopelessness and futility." [Wendell Kempton, Sermon: "The 'H' Word", 1994]
- C. WEEPING - Matthew 8:12 also 13:42, 50; 22:13, 24:51, 25:30 and Luke 13:28
 - 1. Useless regrets, remorse and despair
 - 2. "Unrelieved agony" [John MacArthur, Matthew -Vol. IV, p. 108]
 - 3. An "inconsolable, never-ending wretchedness" [William Hendriksen, Matthew, p. 398]
- D. GNASHING OF TEETH - Matthew 8:12 also 13:42, 50; 22:13, 24:51, 25:30 and Luke 13:28
 - 1. Grinding your teeth in pain
 - 2. "Excruciating pain and frenzied anger" [William Hendriksen, Matthew, p. 398]
- E. BOUND HAND AND FOOT - Matthew 22:13
 - 1. Under constant constraint whereby you are unable to resist or escape
 - 2. Never able to rub your eyes or scratch an itch.

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F. EVERLASTING PUNISHMENT - Matthew 25:46

- There is no relief, no acquittal, no dismissing, no parole!

G. UNDYING WORM - Mark 9:44 see also Isaiah 66:24

1. The pussy, putrid and painful pupae pushing into and out of your flesh
2. See Isaiah 14:11

H. UNQUENCHED FIRE - Mark 9:44

1. Hell is more than fire, but it is fire
2. Matthew 13:50 speaks of a furnace of fire and Matthew 25:41 refers to eternal fire

I. BOTTOMLESS PIT - Revelation 9:2 (20:1-3)

- Bottomless so that there is never any rest but an uneasiness of always falling

J. FIRE AND BRIMESTONE - Revelation 14:10

- The heat and the smell of sulfur

K. ETERNAL SMOKE - Revelation 14:11

1. Making each breath difficult
2. A constant irritant to eyes and nose

L. NO REST - Revelation 14:11

- You can never fall asleep but will be always tired, groggy and grumpy!

III. **THE SENSATIONS OF HADES** - Matthew 8:12 > Dark, weeping, gnashing

A. IT LOOKS LIKE ...

1. A prisoner marching before the king of terrors
2. An unquenched fire or furnace that burns out of control
3. Unending darkness

B. IT SOUNDS LIKE

1. Celebration from the unsympathetic excitement and glee of those already dead.
2. Weeping ... shrieking!

C. IT SMELLS LIKE

1. Smoke
2. Burning flesh
3. Sulfur
4. A putrid infection

D. IT FEELS LIKE

1. Stifling heat!
2. Unrelieved and unbearable pain
3. You're always falling > No rest and no foundation
4. Maggots covering you
5. Handcuffs binding you
6. Suffocation choking you > Never being able to get your breath!

IV. THE ESCAPE FROM HADES - Luke 13:22-28

A. QUESTION: How can you escape the damnation of Hell?

B. ANSWER: Walk the narrow way (v. 24)
- Accept Jesus as the way - John 14:6

CONCLUSION:

There is a real Hades that is gripping, gruesome and grieving

AND GOD DOES NOT WANT YOU THERE

"Say to them, 'As I live!' declares the Lord GOD, 'I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn back, turn back from your evil ways! Why then will you die, O house of Israel?' - Ezekiel 33:11