

# "TERMINATION: JUDGMENT DAY?"

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## ALL OF HUMANITY WILL FACE JUDGMENT.

**Heb. 9:27** *And just as each person is destined to die once and after that comes judgment.* (NLT)

## THE FIRST JUDGMENT IS BASED ON FAITH (CONVICTION PHASE).

### 1. Believers are not condemned because of their faith in Jesus.

**John 3:18-19** *Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God.* (NRSV)

**John 5:24** *"I tell you the truth, those who listen to my message and believe in God who sent me have eternal life. They will never be condemned for their sins, but they have already passed from death into life."* (NLT)

### 2. Unbelievers are condemned because of their rejection of Jesus.

**Mark 16:16** *Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who refuses to believe will be condemned.* (NLT)

## THE FINAL JUDGMENT IS BASED ON WORKS (REWARD/PENALTY PHASE).

**2 Cor. 5:10** *For we must all stand before Christ to be judged. We will each receive whatever we deserve for the good or evil we have done in this earthly body.* (NLT)

### 1. Jesus Christ will be the Judge.

**2 Tim. 4:1** *I solemnly urge you in the presence of God and Christ Jesus, who will someday judge the living and the dead when he appears to set up his Kingdom.* (NLT)

### 2. Believers are rewarded for their good works.

**1 Cor. 3:13-14** *But on the judgment day, fire will reveal what kind of work each builder has done. The fire will show if a person's work has any value. If the work survives, that builder will receive a reward.* (NLT)

### 3. Unbelievers are sent to suffer in hell for their evil deeds.

**Rev. 20:11-15** *And I saw a great white throne and the one sitting on it . . . I saw the dead, both great and small, standing before God's throne . . . And all were judged according to their deeds . . . And anyone whose name was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire.* (NLT)

### 4. Angels will be judged.

**2 Peter 2:4** *For God did not spare even the angels who sinned. He threw them into hell, in gloomy pits of darkness, where they are being held until the day of judgment.* (NLT)

## WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT HELL

### 1. Hell is a place of eternal conscious punishment.

**Matt. 25:46** *"And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous will go into eternal life."* (NLT)

**Mark 9:43,47-48** *" . . . to be cast into hell fire – where 'Their worm does not die And the fire is not quenched.'"* (NLT)

**Rev. 14:9-11** *" . . . they will be tormented with fire and burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and the Lamb. The smoke of their torment will rise forever and ever, and they*

*will have no relief day or night."* (NLT)

## Alternatives to Eternal Punishment

**Annihilationism** - God will annihilate the wicked after they have suffered the penalty of God's wrath for a certain time and they will cease to exist.

**Conditional Immortality** - Humans do not have an immortal soul and can only have immortality if they accept Christ as Savior. They will simply cease to exist after they are burned up in Hell.

## Arguments for Annihilationism

### a. The Bible speaks about the destruction of the wicked.

[Phil. 3:19; 2 Thess. 1:9; 1 Thess. 5:3; 2 Peter 3:7]

**Criticism:** "Destruction" does not necessarily mean cessation of existence.

### b. Eternal conscious punishment is inconsistent with God's love.

**Criticism:** If eternal punishment is inconsistent with God's character of love, why would it be consistent with any punishment at all?

### c. Eternal punishment is disproportionate to the sins of people who committed them for a short time.

**Criticism:** At what point is the punishment enough? If there is such a point, shouldn't the wicked be allowed to go to heaven? Besides, rebellion that's not repented of goes on forever.

### d. God's perfect universe will be marred by the continuing presence of evil creatures in hell.

**Criticism:** The existence of eternal hell will forever remind the inhabitants of the universe, especially the saved, that:

- (1) Sin is truly evil and God hates it totally for all time.
- (2) God punishes evil and triumphs over it.
- (3) God's grace is so vast that through Jesus Christ He is able to save sinners who deserve the same punishment.

### 2. Hell was intended for Satan and evil angels.

**Matt. 25:41** *"Then He will also say to those on His left, 'Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels.'"* (NASB)

### 3. Hell happens after the second resurrection and final judgment.

**Rev. 20:4-6** *And they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection.* (NASB)

## HELL IS BASED ON BOTH THE LOVE AND JUSTICE OF GOD.

### 1. God's love will honor the choices that we make in this life.

**2 Peter 3:9** *The Lord is . . . longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.* (NKJV)

**Ezek. 33:11** *I take no pleasure in the death of wicked people. I only want them to turn from their wicked ways so they can live.* (NLT)

### 2. God's justice will not allow any wrong to go unpunished.

**Rev. 19:1-3** *After these things I heard something like a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God; because His judgments are true and righteous . . . He has avenged the blood of His bond-servants on her."* (NASB)

**Psalms 85:10** *Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each*

*other.* (KJV)