

'Playing with Fire'

The Big, Fat, Gigantic, Colossal, Epic End of the World Series-Part 5

Luke 16:19-31

May 2, 2010

❖ IF HELL ISN'T REAL . . .

1. Scripture is false.

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

Psalm 9:17 (NKJV)

"Many of those whose bodies lie dead and buried will rise up, some to everlasting life and some to shame and everlasting disgrace."

Daniel 12:2 (NLT)

"And anyone whose name was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire."

Revelation 20:15 (NLT)

2. Jesus is a liar.

'You have heard that our ancestors were told, "You must not murder. If you commit murder, you are subject to judgment." But I say, if you are even angry with someone, you are subject to judgment! If you call someone an idiot, you are in danger of being brought before the court. And if you curse someone, you are in danger of the fires of hell.'

Mathew 5:21-22 (NLT)

'You have heard the commandment that says, "You must not commit adultery." But I say, anyone who even looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. So if your eye—even your good eye—causes you to lust, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your hand—even your stronger hand—causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.'

Mathew 5:27-30 (NLT)

3. People are without free will.

'As surely as I live, says the Sovereign Lord, I take no pleasure in the death of wicked people. I only want them to turn from their wicked ways so they can live. . .' Ezekiel 33:11 (NLT)

"The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent." 2 Peter 3:9 (NLT)

❖ HELL IS A PLACE WHERE . . .

1. Heaven can be seen.

". . . There, in torment, he saw Abraham in the far distance with Lazarus at his side." Luke 16:23 (NLT)

2. Agony will be permanent.

'The rich man shouted, "Father Abraham, have some pity! Send Lazarus over here to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue. I am in anguish in these flames."' Luke 16:24 (NLT)

3. Memories can be recalled.

'But Abraham said to him, "Son, remember that during your lifetime you had everything you wanted, and Lazarus had nothing. So now he is here being comforted, and you are in anguish."' Luke 16:25 (NLT)

4. Concern will be real.

'Then the rich man said, "Please, Father Abraham, at least send him to my father's home. For I have five brothers, and I want him to warn them so they don't end up in this place of torment.'" Luke 16:27-28 (NLT)

"My heart is filled with bitter sorrow and unending grief for my people, my Jewish brothers and sisters. I would be willing to be forever cursed—cut off from Christ!—if that would save them." Romans 9:2-3 (NLT)

"Dear brothers and sisters, the longing of my heart and my prayer to God is for the people of Israel to be saved." Romans 10:1 (NLT)

5. Decision-Making will be over.

'And besides, there is a great chasm separating us. No one can cross over to you from here, and no one can cross over to us from there.' Luke 16:26 (NLT)

"When a wicked man dies, his hope perishes. . ." Proverbs 11:7a (NIV)