

# INVESTIGATION:

A man in a dark blue suit, white shirt, and brown tie is holding a white rectangular sign with both hands. His index fingers are pointing towards the text on the sign. The background is plain white.

Is  
there  
a hell?  
(Part 2)

Are you brave enough to  
question established  
theology?

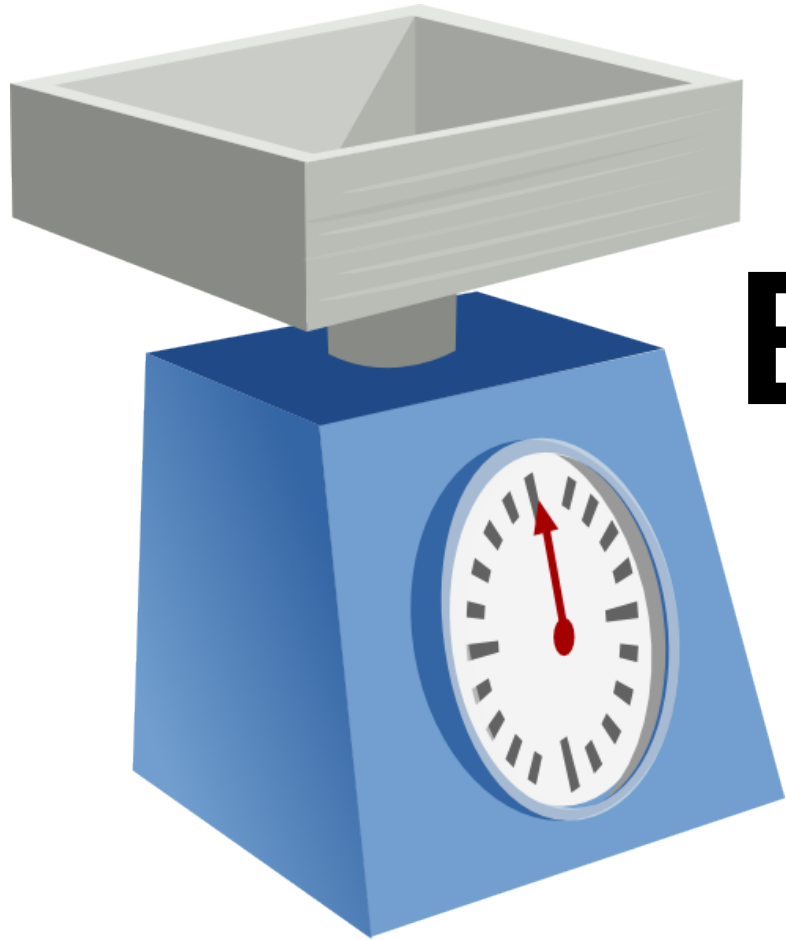
We must be sure our  
foundational theology (our  
understanding of God and the  
spirit realm) aligns with  
Heaven's reality.

# Summary so Far

- 1) The OT makes no Reference to 'hell'
- 2) The OT mentions Sheol, the 'grave'
- 3) The OT makes no reference to eternal punishment
- 4) The NT makes no reference to 'hell'
- 5) The NT Greek uses 'hades', 'Tartarus', & 'Gehenna', which are not equivalent to hell for humans



**Don't Jump  
to any  
conclusions  
yet**



We must  
weigh up  
**EVERYTHING**

## Part 2

# Eternal Punishment

## “Weeping & Gnashing of Teeth”

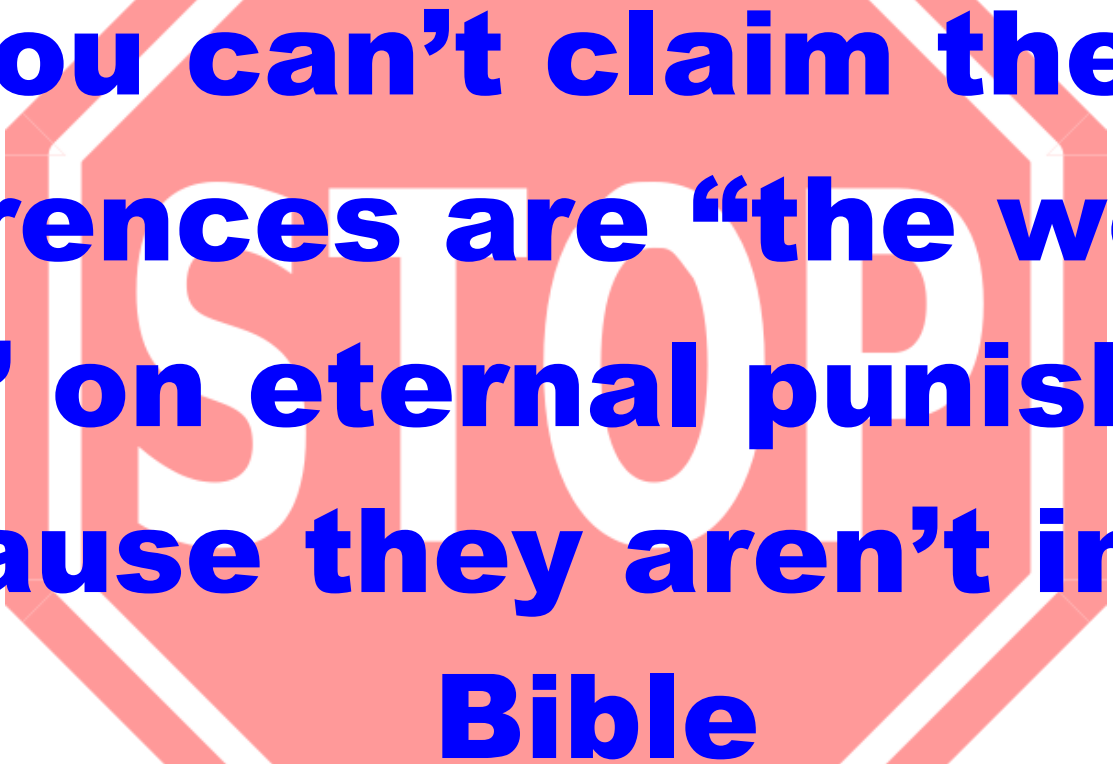
# ***Introduction***



# Interesting Information

The concept of eternal punishment for the wicked was developed during the inter-testamental period.

(see 1 Enoch 90:24-6; 91:9; 103:8; 4 Maccabees 12:12; 2 Esdras 7:38)



**You can't claim these  
references are “the word of  
God” on eternal punishment  
because they aren't in your  
Bible**

# Who Uses the Apocrypha

- Roman Catholics
- Eastern Orthodox
- Oriental Orthodox
- The Anglican Communion
- The first Methodists
- The Revised American Prayer Book Lectionary



# What Bibles have the Apocrypha

- The original KJV
- The Latin Vulgate Bible
- The Septuagint
- The RSV
- Common English Bible
- Good News Translation
- Third Millennium Bible



# The Books of the 7<sup>th</sup> Century Bible

- Adam
- Enoch
- Lamech
- Twelve Patriarchs
- Prayer of Joseph
- Eldad and Modad
- Testament of Moses
- Assumption of Moses
- Psalms of Solomon

- Apocalypse of Elijah
- Ascension of Isaiah
- Apocalypse of Zephaniah
- Apocalypse of Zechariah
- Apocalyptic Ezra
- History of James
- Apocalypse of Peter
- Epistle of Barnabas
- Acts of Paul

- Apocalypse of Paul
- Didascalia of Clement
- Didascalia of Ignatius
- Didascalia of Polycarp
- Gospel According to Barnabas
- Gospel According to Matthew
- Itinerary and Teaching of the Apostles



# ***“Weeping & Gnashing of Teeth”***

Most Christians would say:

“Weeping and gnashing of teeth in outer darkness! That is obviously a reference to suffering eternal physical torture in hell.”

**Is that so?**

# Get this

Weeping and gnashing of teeth was an expression not of tormented pain and anguish.

It was an ancient euphemism for **rage**.



# Stephen's Martyrdom

When they heard these things they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed at him with their teeth.

Acts 7:54 (NKJV)

*'cut to the heart' = furious*

# Jesus used this expression

Matthew 8:12; 13:42; 13:50; 22:13; 24:51; 25:30

Luke 13:28

# Matthew 8:12

*(Jesus Heals a Centurion's Servant)*

...while the sons and heirs of the kingdom [the descendants of Abraham who will not recognize Me as Messiah] will be thrown out into the outer darkness; in that place [which is farthest removed from the kingdom] there will be weeping [in sorrow and pain] and grinding of teeth [in distress and anger].

(AMP)



This is about the removal of the OC from the  
Jews.

It has nothing to do with eternal punishment.

# Matthew 13:40-43

*(The Parable of the Wheat & the Tares)*

So just as the weeds are gathered up and burned in the fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend [those things by which people are led into sin], and all who practice evil [leading others into sin], and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be...



## Matthew 13:40-43

...weeping [over sorrow and pain] and grinding of teeth [over distress and anger]. Then the righteous [those who seek the will of God] will shine forth [radiating the new life] like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.

(AMP)

“The end of the age” (aeon) is the end of the  
OC age.

This is about the removal of the OC from the  
Jews and the introduction of the NC.

**It has nothing to do with eternal punishment.**

# Matthew 13:49-50

*(The Parable of the Dragnet)*

So it will be at the end of the age; the angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw the wicked into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping [over sorrow and pain] and grinding of teeth [over distress and anger].

(AMP)





Again, “the end of the age” (aeon) is the end of the OC age.

This is about the removal of the OC from the Jews and the introduction of the NC.

**It has nothing to do with eternal punishment.**

# Matthew 22:13-14

*(The Parable of the Wedding Feast)*

Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Tie him hand and foot, and throw him into the darkness outside; in that place there will be weeping [over sorrow and pain] and grinding of teeth [over distress and anger].’ For many are called (invited, summoned), but few are chosen.” (AMP)



Many were called into the Kingdom of God in the OC, but few were acceptable.

The end of the OC saw the chosen ones come in through the NC.

**It has nothing to do with eternal punishment.**

# Matthew 24:50-51

*(The Parable of the Fig Tree)*

The master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour of which he is not aware, and will cut him in two and put him with the hypocrites; in that place there will be weeping [over sorrow and pain] and grinding of teeth [over distress and anger].

(AMP)



This is just another of the many parables Jesus spoke to the Israelis about his unanticipated return to bring judgement.

So, the end of the OC saw the destruction of many Jews in the Roman siege.

**It has nothing to do with eternal punishment.**

**So, the understanding  
of “weeping and  
gnashing of teeth”  
depends on whether  
you look through  
Futurist glasses or  
not**



**To be continued**

# **Resources on the Topic of 'Hell'**

The following publications and websites raise issues that God is drawing our attention to today.

*DISCLAIMER: The fact that they are listed here should not be taken to imply that I agree with all the doctrinal positions, conclusions or opinions of the authors.*



- “Her Gates Will Never Be Shut: Hope, Hell, and the New Jerusalem” – Bradley Jersak  
<https://www.amazon.com.au/Her-Gates-Will-Never-Shut-ebook/dp/B00IGGZRJY>
- “An Exegesis of 1 Thessalonians 3: 7b-10” – Matthew DiStefano (‘All Set Free’ blog)  
<http://www.allsetfree.com/exegesis-2-thessalonians-17b-10>
- “Hell in a hand basket” – Brazen Church <http://brazenchurch.com/hell-in-the-bible>
- “Why The Lake of Fire, Tormented Lazarus & Gnashing Teeth Can’t Conjure Up Eternal Torture” – Brad Jersak  
<https://medium.com/@BrazenChurch/why-the-lake-of-fire-tormented-lazarus-gnashing-teeth-can-t-conjure-up-eternal-torture-648a7c86aca>
- “Raising Hell” – Julie Ferwerda (PDF) <http://www.raisinghellbook.com/files/2014/04/Raising-Hell-Complimentary.pdf>  
<http://www.raisinghellbook.com/files/2016/06/Raising-Hell-ShortAndSweet-Complimentary.pdf> (*Abridged version*)
- “A New Day Dawning” blog – Chuck Crisco  
<https://www.anewdaydawning.com/blog-1/2015/7/13/the-sheep-and-goats-judgment>
- Tentmaker website: <http://www.tentmaker.org/articles/ifthellisreal.htm> <http://www.tentmaker.org/ScholarsCorner.html>
- “Lazarus and The Rich Man” – David Johnson:  
<http://rejoicinglifeministries.com/Lazarus%20and%20The%20Rich%20Man.htm>
- “The Rich Man, Lazarus, & the Afterlife” – Samuel G. Dawson:  
<https://www.truthaccordingtoscripture.com/documents/death/the-rich-man-and-lazarus-dawson.php#.WpfdNei5vcs>
- ‘The Biblical Doctrine of Hell’ in “The Origin and History of the Doctrine of Endless Punishment” – Thomas B. Thayer (1855): <http://www.auburn.edu/~allenkc/tbhell.html>
- “Hell, Hades and the Afterlife” – Dirk Waren: <http://www.hellhadesafterlife.com>

COPYRIGHT

*All quotes are copyrighted to the authors credited.*

*This document is free to copy, republish and distribute, but only 'as is'.*

*All Canberra Forerunner documents are licensed under*

Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 Unported License