

***Got Questions? Sermon Series Answering Faith's Great Questions***  
***"How Can a Loving God Send People to Hell?"***

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John 3:16-21

1.27.13

***Introduction:***

- A. The biggest problem that many people have with the Christian faith is the thought that a \_\_\_\_\_ God will send people to \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. Christian thinker and writer, C.S. Lewis wrote that the teaching about hell is so firmly planted in \_\_\_\_\_ and in the words of \_\_\_\_\_ it cannot be removed.
- C. Lewis continued, "Besides," he argued, "the idea of hell \_\_\_\_\_: if human beings are \_\_\_\_\_, they must have the freedom even to walk away from \_\_\_\_\_."

***I. What is Hell \_\_\_\_\_?***

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ discussed hell more than anyone else in the Bible.
- B. Jesus used "Gehenna" the \_\_\_\_\_ outside of Jerusalem to describe hell.
- C. Paul described hell as "everlasting \_\_\_\_\_" and being \_\_\_\_\_ from the presence of God." (2 Thess. 1:9)
- D. Ultimately, hell is far \_\_\_\_\_ than anything we can \_\_\_\_\_.

***II. How does God \_\_\_\_\_ about people ending up in hell?***

- A. God finds no \_\_\_\_\_ in sending people to that awful place. (Ezek. 33:11)
- B. The Bible is largely a file of case studies on how God has tried to \_\_\_\_\_ people headed in the wrong direction.
- C. God wants people to go to \_\_\_\_\_, and not to go to \_\_\_\_\_. (2 Pt. 3:9)

***III. Hell is a Human \_\_\_\_\_.***

- A. In C. S. Lewis' book *The Great Divorce*, he tells the story of a \_\_\_\_\_ of condemned spirits who make an investigative trip to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 1. The parable reveals that the people on the bus from hell would rather have their "\_\_\_\_\_" than the \_\_\_\_\_ that God offers.
- B. God provides hell because there have to be \_\_\_\_\_ for evil choices.
- C. Does the punishment fit the crime?
  - 1. Any sin against an infinite \_\_\_\_\_ is of infinite \_\_\_\_\_ and begets infinite \_\_\_\_\_.

***Conclusion:***

- A. One thing we cannot conclude is that God does not \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. Lewis concludes: "There are only two kinds of people: those who say to God, '\_\_\_\_\_ will be done,' and those to whom God says, '\_\_\_\_\_ will be done.'"

Answer Key: A. loving, hell. B. Scripture, Jesus. C. makes, sense, free, God. I. Like. I.A. Jesus. I.B. garbage, dump. I.C. destruction, shut, out. I.D. worse, imagine. II. Feel. II.A. joy. II.B. rescue. II.C. heaven, hell. III. Choice. III.A. busload, heaven. III.A.1. freedom, salvation. III.B. consequences. III.C.1. Being, seriousness, retribution. Concl. A. care. B. Thy, thy.