

My Beliefs Regarding Eternal Torment in Hell

I grew up in a Baptist church and I have believed my whole life that we either die and spend eternity in bliss with God (Yahuah) and Jesus (Yahusha) or in eternal torment with satan and his/her demons. However, I had never really investigated the topic for myself thru extensive biblical research until 2023.

Based on my research, there appears to be three prevalent doctrines regarding Hell:

1. Traditionalism (ongoing conscious torment)
2. Universalism (all will be saved in the end)
3. Conditional Immortality (if follow Christ eternal life, if not **perish (annihilated)** in Hell fire)

Of course, each doctrine has proponents who say their view is the biblically correct one and every pastor I have ever had preaches eternal conscious torment by hell fire as if it is a fact with irrefutable evidence. However, no one on this side of the veil knows for certain and I find it concerning that pastors preach their belief with conviction without at least sharing other viewpoints and urging their flock to investigate and discern for themselves. This applies to most doctrines the church teaches. Thus, the deceived become deceivers which is by satan's design.

Personally, after extensive Bible study and what I believe has been continuous guidance from the Holy Spirit, I have come to **passionately believe** the Conditional Immortality (Annihilationism) viewpoint with an extremely high percentage of confidence based on the following scriptures:

Verse	Text	Notes
2 Peter 3:7	7 By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire,(A) being kept for the day of judgment(B) and destruction of the ungodly.	Destruction, not torment
Genesis 2:17	17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die .	Wages of sin is death
Jude 7	7 Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire .	Proof that eternal does not literally mean forever and ever because Sodom and Gomorrah are no longer still burning and never rebuilt.
Malachi 4:1	4 For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble : and the day that cometh shall burn them up , saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.	They will burn up (destroyed), not be tormented eternally
Ezekial 18:4	4 Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die .	Supports sinners die (annihilated/destroyed), not tortured
Job 24:19	19 Drought and heat consume the snow waters: so doth the grave those which have sinned.	Supports sinners die (annihilated/destroyed), not tortured. Implies the grave (death) consumes those who have sinned.
Job 7:9	9 As the cloud is consumed and vanisheth away : so he that goeth down to the grave shall come up no more.	Supports sinners die (annihilated/destroyed), not tortured. Implies the grave (death) consumes those who have sinned.
Psalms 37	For those who are evil will be destroyed .(S) but those who hope(T) in the Lord will inherit the land.(U) 10 A little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look for them, they will not be found. But the meek will inherit the land(W) and enjoy peace and prosperity.(X)	Supports sinners die (annihilated/destroyed), not tortured
Malachi 4:3	And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the Lord of hosts.	Supports sinners die (annihilated/destroyed), not tortured. Ashes imply burnt up altogether (not eternal)
Matthew 10:28	28 Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One(A) who can destroy both soul and body in hell.	2nd death = death of the soul; not eternal torment
John 3:16	16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish , but have everlasting life.	Contrast of death (perish) and eternal life
Romans 6:23	23 For the wages of sin is death ; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.	Contrast of death and eternal life. It is about the reward, not the punishment which is the second death (death of the spirit not eternal torment). There are no second chances so the second death is also eternal in the sense the soul will no longer exist.
Revelation 20: 11-15	Then I saw a great white throne(DC) and him who was seated on it. The earth and the heavens fled from his presence,(DD) and there was no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, great and small,(DE) standing before the throne, and books were opened.(DF) Another book was opened, which is the book of life.(DG) The dead were judged(DH) according to what they had done(DI) as recorded in the books. 13 The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades(DJ) gave up the dead(DK) that were in them, and each person was judged according to what they had done.(DL) 14 Then death(DM) and Hades(DN) were thrown into the lake of fire.(DO) The lake of fire is the second death.(DP) 15 Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life(DQ) was thrown into the lake of fire.	Proof sinners are not cast immediately into Hell. Also contrast to verse 10 where it is clarified Satan, the Beast and the False Prophet will be tormented forever and ever. Not so for simply the non believers/sinners (their fate is specifically set apart from satan's which is eternal torment).
Revelations 21:8	8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death .	2nd death = death of the soul; note does not state forever and ever like it does for Satan, anti-Christ, and false prophet in Rev 20: 7-10

Why it Matters

- The teaching of eternal torment paints Yahuah as a narcissistic creator who we either bow down and worship or He will consciously punish us for eternity. This serves satan by turning seekers away from Yahuah to atheism and “religions” that promote false truths because they do not believe a loving God would torment someone for eternity for not believing in Him.
 - **Sidebar:** Luciferians justify satan’s fall and paint him as a hero for rebelling against Yahuah for this reason. satan has his minions convinced that he stood up to Father for us.
- [John 4:24](#) clarifies that Yahuah is a Spirit that must be worshipped in spirit and in truth. I do not believe we can have an authentic relationship with the Father if we do not truly know Him and worship Him as He has commanded.
- Eternal torment results in focusing on the punishment instead of the reward (eternal life in the presence of Yahuah). Once we acknowledge that Yahuah gave us life and is simply offering us eternal life with Him if we accept His grace through Yahusha, His true character of love, holiness, righteousness, and justice cannot be debated.
 - **Sidebar:** When you look at [John 4:24](#) along with [Hosea 4:6](#) and [Matthew 7:13-14](#) when Jesus says narrow is the way and **few** shall find it, I strongly believe he means a FEW. Not just less than half. Because Yahuah is only offering us a gift (eternal life) and not a punishment (He gave us life and a chance at eternal life and thru free will we determine if we will accept it or not), He can be as selective as He chooses with His love and righteousness without question.

So, I believe a few are Noah few, Lot’s family few, Job few, etc. and not 20%, 30%, 40%, etc. I am sincerely grateful He has given me a chance at eternal life with Him and a fervent desire for Truth. Regardless of my future, I want to find and share the Truth with anyone who is seeking Him and is for Team Carpenter and against Team Masons/Synagogue of satan.

Knowing that I am not going to be consciously tormented in the lake of fire (when taught we burn in Hell, they did not even get that right), I hunger for the truth in the hopes of sharing it and building Yah’s kingdom even if I do not make it.

Note: I am not addressing Universalism (all will be saved in the end) because it is fantasy (unbiblical).

[Luke 16: 19-31 \(The Rich Man and Lazarus\)](#)

Many point to the parable found in Luke 16: 19-31 for proof of conscious eternal torment even though the questions/scenario Yahusha was addressing was not regarding what happens when we die.

Please refer to this [article](#) that thoroughly and biblically debunks this position in my opinion. It is important to note that I produced the same perspective for the same reasons as the author of this article before I ever came across it. The first time I read this article was as I was writing this. I searched out an article based on my truth for the sake of time. My position regarding eternal conscious torment and the lack thereof was not motivated/influenced by it.

Weeping and the Gnashing of Teeth

I do believe in Hell (the grave), and I do believe in the lake of fire (the crematory). And I do believe there will be weeping as lost souls wait their turn to be cast into the lake of fire. I am also convinced there will be pain and anger (gnashing of teeth) as souls are annihilated and realize the eternal mistake (nothing is more eternal than no longer existing) they have made.

I do not believe souls have physical teeth to grind and I do not believe Yah would consciously torment the average sinner/non-believer.

Final Notes/Observations

- Hell is not absence from God ([Psalm 139:8](#))
- Hell is not the home of satan, satan does not rule Hell and satan does not have authority to distribute punishment.
 - [Job 1:6](#); [Job 1:7](#); [Ephesians 6:12](#) Satan is not currently in Hell
 - [2 Peter 2:4](#); [Matthew 25:41](#); [Revelation 20:10](#) Hell was created as punishment for satan and his demons!
 - [Isaiah 13:11](#) says God is the one who punishes the wicked.
- Eternal means forever/final...e.g., Sodom and Gomorrah.... They are not still burning....so our eternal punishment is to no longer live in body or spirit...the second death.
 - Eternal/everlasting punishment is death.
 - The unquenchable fire goes out.
 - The effects of the fire are everlasting but not the fire itself.
 - The fire is eternal because there is no coming back from it. The second death is permanent.
- The word hell is used inconsistently to refer to different things in the Bible. Hell does not even come from the Bible...comes from Norse mythology and refers to the place of the dead. According to mythology Hel was ruled by Loki's daughter who also happened to be named Hel. Christians later adopted hell to refer to Shaol, Hades, Gehenna, and Tartaroo. Sheol is the Hebrew word for grave or underworld and refers to the location of everyone who dies (both the wicked and the righteous).
 - Hades= death, grave, or underworld...also name of pagan god. Hades cannot be synonymous with lake of fire because the Bible says Hades will be cast into the lake of fire. Revelation 20:14.
 - Sheol and Hades...Greek and Hebrew equivalents...the place of the dead, the grave, the pit under the earth
 - 2 Peter 2:4 references Tartaroo which is another word for Hell and used only once in the Bible. Means abyss/bottomless pit. Refers exclusively to a prison for fallen angels. Note: Not sure which Bible version Tartaroo is referenced.
 - Gehenna...sacrificed children to Molech there.
- Be still and know that he is your Elohim and open your heart to Him. Do you really believe he would give us free will and then torture his creations that do not do His will? The same Elohim that sent His son to bear our shame and take on all of mankind's sin (past, present, and future) so we could be with Him and He could be with us? I am not buying it anymore and the scriptures back me up.

This is how I interpret John 3:16: He created us to be with Him from nothing and has provided us a way through Yahusha, His Son, to abide with him forever if we show that we love Him and His Son by obeying His commandments. If we do not want to obey and worship Him, He simply puts us back as he found us (nothing). Please refer to the Complete Jewish Bible for what I believe is a more accurate translation of [John 3:16](#). [Hebrews 11](#) defines the type of trust referenced in [John 3:16](#).

Final Sidebar: Compare the KJV of John 3:16 and Hebrews 11 to the CJB. It sure looks like it was made more confusing than it needed to be to me. Replacing the word believes with trusts totally mitigates the "as long as I believe he is the Son of God and died for my sins, I am good" debate. I am confident these types of ideologies (once saved always saved, under grace so don't have to follow the law, sinner's prayer with no consistent fruits, etc.) fall under [1 Timothy 4: 1 KJV](#).