

Hell: Topical Explanation

When a person dies their soul and body are separated. The body goes into the grave and the soul lives on forever in one of two places. An unbeliever goes to a place called Hell which the Bible describes as outer darkness where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth (Matt. 22:13). In the New Testament, the believer at death is absent from the body and present with the Lord (2 Cori. 5:5-8).

Sheol: In the Old Testament the Bible describes Sheol as a place in the underworld where the soul of the righteous and unrighteous go at death (Psalm 16:10).

Hades: Greek word for Sheol used in the New Testament.

Six compartments of the underworld.

1. Sheol: place of the departed souls of the righteous and unrighteous (Luke 16:19-31, The Rich Man and Lazarus).
2. Abaddon (the Pit): place of torment for the unrighteous (Ezekiel 26:20). Place of destruction associated with the realm of the dead (Job 26:6; 28:22, 12; Psalms 88:11; Proverbs 15:11).
3. Abraham's Bosom: place of the righteous souls prior to our Lord's resurrection (Luke 16:19-31; Eph.4:8-9). Old Testament believers were taken by Jesus out of Abraham's Bosom and ascended into Heaven and are there until this day.
4. Abyss (Bottomless Pit): unsealed chamber that demons are able to move in and out of, they seem to not want to go there, they begged Jesus not to go there (Matt. 8:29; Mark 5:1-20; Luke 8:29-31; 11:24-26; Rev. 9:1-12; 20:1-3).
5. Tartarus: Angels that sinned and have been cast into pits reserved for judgment (Genesis 6; 1 Peter 3:18-20; 2 Peter 2:4; Jude 6-7).
6. Lake of Fire (Gehenna); place where the entire underworld will be placed and judged (Rev. 20:7-15; 1 Cori. 6:2-3).

The Earth

1. Sheol: Underworld

2. Abaddon (Pit), Torments

3. Abrahams Bosom, Paradise

Great
Gulf

Humans

Fixed

Demons

4. Abyss (Bottomless Pit, Unsealed)

5. Tartarus (Angels that sinned, Gen.6)

6. Lake of Fire