

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## UNDERSTANDING HELL

*“And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.” (Matthew 10:28)*

### Objectives

Knowledge of God’s Will	God rewards those who do good and punishes those who do evil. God wants to save us from eternal punishment.
Knowledge of God	God is just. God is love.
Good Works	Follow God’s will to the end. Break away from sin, and learn to fear God.

### A. The Existence of Hell

1. *A place to punish the devil (Mt 25:41)*
2. *A prison for sinful angels (Jude 6; 2 Pet 2:4)*
3. *A place of eternal punishment for the condemned (Mt 25:6; Rev 20:10)*

### B. The Characteristics of Hell

Like heaven, hell is beyond the realm of the physical. It cannot be truly described in human terms. However, the Bible does offer some insight into what it is like.

1. *A lake of fire (Rev 19:20; Mk 9:48)*
2. *Darkness (Jude 11, 13; Mt 8:12)*
3. *A bottomless pit, separated from heaven (Rev 20:1; Lk 8:31; 16:26)*
4. *Eternal torment (Rev 14:11; 20:10)*

### C. How to Avoid the Punishment of Hell

1. *Believe in Jesus:* To avoid condemnation, we need to accept His salvation (Mk 16:15–16).
2. *Keep His word to the end:* Only those who do the will of God can enter the heavenly kingdom (Mt 7:21; Jas 1:21–22). We need to keep ourselves in the love of God by following His word.
3. *Break away from sin:* Sin gives birth to death (Jas 1:15), and the Bible repeatedly warns us that we must break away from sin so that we do not lose the hope of the gospel (1 Cor 9:27).
4. *Fear God and love men:* When we respect God’s almighty power and revere His sovereign nature, we will be more willing to follow His will and thus avoid punishment. The Bible also teaches us that we must love our brethren to receive eternal life (Mt 22:36–40; 1 Jn 3:14–15).

### Life Application

#### 1. Follow God’s Will to the End

We need to make the choice to walk in the path of the Lord (Deut 5:33; Josh 24:15). It may be difficult to do, but when we learn to rely on the Lord, He will give us strength.

#### 2. Break Away from Sin

To break away from sin, it is necessary to rely on the Spirit, and also on those around us, such as our spiritual friends, parents, or R.E. teachers.

#### 3. Learn to Fear God

The more we study God’s word, the deeper our fear of God will become. We will learn to respect His will, and as a result, prioritize His word in our lives. When we do so, God has promised that we will not be condemned to death, but instead will receive eternal life.

