

## Heaven and Hell, Present and Future: Destinations beyond the Grave

### Sermon 1: “Heaven and Hell: Beginning with the Bad News”

Note: Much of the structure and content for the first point of this sermon is derived from Chapters 6 and 7 of *Hell on Trial: The Case for Eternal Punishment* by Robert A. Peterson.

- I. The Conviction and Concept of Hell through Church History
  - a. Hell in the Early Church
    - i. Some church thinkers went outside the orthodox idea of hell for philosophical reasons.
    - ii. The orthodox position of the early church maintained the doctrine of eternal hell.
  - b. Hell in the Middle Ages
    - i. The official church largely maintained the idea of eternal hell during the Middle Ages.
    - ii. Thomas Aquinas is representative of the Medieval Western church on this subject.
  - c. Hell in the Reformation Era
    - i. The Protestant Reformers also saw irrefutable evidence in the Bible for eternal hell.
    - ii. Martin Luther saw in hell both the absence of God’s grace and the presence of God’s holy wrath.
    - iii. John Calvin affirmed God’s almighty wrath in hell.
  - d. Hell after the Enlightenment
- II. The Justice and Certainty of Hell in Holy Scripture

Isaiah 66:22–24; Daniel 12:2–3; Mark 9:42–48; John 5:25–29; Romans 2:1–11; 2 Thessalonians 1:5–10; Revelation 14:9–11; 20:10–15; 21:7–8