

# Apologetics

## A Loving God Wouldn't Send People to Hell

### ➤ Overview of Hell

- Common Myths:
  - It's down
  - Torture by fire
  - Ruled by a devil in a red outfit with a pitchfork
- Truths:
  - The location of death is reached only by death
  - The conditions of hell are eternal suffering
  - The occupants of hell are there due to sin
- Story of two Christian young men serving in the military
  - Hell is real...and at its core, the worst possible place in existence!

### ➤ The Ultimate Reconciliation

- **1 John 4:8** – God is love
- **Deut 3:24** – God is just
  - Love: **1 Corinthians 13**
    - *Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant<sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful;<sup>6</sup> it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.<sup>7</sup> Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.<sup>8</sup> Love never ends.*
      - Love is about truth
      - Love is about goodness
      - Love is about protection
      - Love is about justice
  - Justice
    - God, by His very nature, cannot tolerate sin – for He is holy. Sin is the very thing that separates us from Him.
    - We all have sinned and that means it is completely fair for the consequence to follow. The *unfair* thing is that God has provided a way out for us through Christ!
  - God is a good judge
    - Example from court of law. A good judge cannot summarily dismiss a case and let the guilty walk apart from consequences.
- Preference
  - God allows us to choose and validates that choice. This is called LOVE.
  - Blaine Pascal

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- “All who seek God will find Him. Not all find God. Therefore (despite appearances), not all really sought God.”
  - C.S. Lewis
  - “Some will not be redeemed. There is no doctrine which I would more willingly remove from Christianity than this, if it lay in my power. But it has the full support of Scripture, and specially, of our Lord’s own words; it has always been held by Christendom; and it has the support of reason. If a game is played, it must be possible to lose it.”
- What about...?
- The people who have never heard...?
    - Anyone who seeks God will find Him.
      - **Jeremiah 29:13-14**
        - *“And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. I will be found by you”*
    - Consider Pascal’s syllogism above...
    - Romans 1:20
- Reasons Summary
- We accept the reality of hell because of:
    - Testimony of the Bible
    - Warnings of Jesus
    - Recognition by the Church
    - Morally appropriate
    - Logically necessary
    - Unchanged by our biases