

## REFUTING THE DOCTRINES OF FREE WILL AND HELL

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### **DOCTRINE OF FREE WILL**

**Joshua 24:15** Now if it seems bad to you to serve Jehovah, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve....

It is clear from scripture that mankind has the ability to choose. But having the ability to choose DOES NOT mean that a person has a FREE WILL ability to choose.

Here is the definition of FREE WILL: the power or capacity to choose among alternatives or to act in certain situations independently of natural, social, or divine restraints.

Scripture teaches that mankind's "will" definitely has divine restraints and is not free:

**Prov 16:1** The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD.

**Prov 20:24** Man's goings are of the LORD; how can a man then understand his own way?

**Prov 21:1** The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.

**Isa 26:12** O Jehovah, Thou appointest peace to us, for, all our works also Thou hast wrought for us.

**Isa 64:8** But now, O LORD, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand.

**Jer 10:23** I know, Jehovah, that the way of man is not his own; it is not in a man that walketh to direct his steps.

**Jer 18:4** And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.

**Dan 4:35** And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; and he doeth according to his will in the army of the heavens, and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, what doest thou?

**John 1:12** But as many as received him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: 13 which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

Only God has a free will ability, mankind does not. When a person claims that they have a free will ability, they are making themselves out to be God. When a believer (babe) makes this claim, they have become a “man of sin” (apostate believer):

**2Thes 2:1 Now we beseech you, brethren, by the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, 2 that ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. 3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there comes a falling away first, and that Man of Sin be revealed, the son of perdition; 4 who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.**

The MAN OF SIN is a spiritual symbol for all fallen away Christians. All believers while they are a “babe” will experience this “worse than the first” (Mat 12:43-45) spiritual condition shortly they receive Early Rain of the Spirit.

The Early Rain of the Spirit that Christ gives a person is only a small amount of the Holy Spirit. It is not the baptism of the Spirit/Spirit of Truth that is poured out later as the Latter Rain.

**Hos 6:3 Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the RAIN, as the Latter and Early RAIN unto the earth.**

**Deu 32:2 My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain (Early Rain) upon the tender herb, and as the showers (Latter Rain) upon the grass:**

**Job 37:6 For he saith to the snow, Be thou on the earth; likewise to the small rain (Early Rain), and to the great rain (Latter Rain) of his strength.**

Shortly after a person has been given the small amount of the Spirit, they will make a confession of faith when they are presented the Gospel. This is the moment a person will become a “babe” in Christ and when they enter the church. But because a babe remains spiritually blind, they will quickly fall away from faith after Satan come to them and plants the spirit of anti-Christ within them. After Satan's deceptions run their course, the fallen away believer will spiritually become worse than the first and will approach Christ by a works-based belief system (religion) for salvation. This religious system is what our carnal nature prefers:

**Luke 5:39 No man also having drunk old wine straightway desireth new: for he saith, the old is better.**

Because of this preference for religion, a new believer will readily accept Satan’s leavened bread (Mat 13:33). This bread is the false truth which comes from the light of this world (Satan). It is not the light which comes from Christ.

Coming out from religion (Old Covenant) is vitally important for an apostate believer because salvation only comes to a person by the New Covenant of Grace through Faith in Jesus Christ. Salvation cannot come by works or a mixing of works with faith.

**Prov 23:26 My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways. 27 For a whore is a deep ditch; and a strange woman is a narrow pit. 28 She also lieth in wait as for a prey, and increaseth the transgressors among men. 29 Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? 30 They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. 31 Look not thou upon the wine when it is red (Old Wine), when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself (man's works) aright. 32 At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder (loss of salvation).**

A person's faith must be based solely on Christ and His works.

Because mankind must come out from religion to be saved, it necessitates that Christ come to a person a second time. This second coming event occurs when Christ gives a person the Latter Rain of the Spirit (also called the Baptism of the Holy Spirit/Spirit of Truth). When Christ comes to a person with this gift, He will heal their spiritual blindness and appear to them. This is when a person is "born again" and is gathered to heaven (Mat 24:29-31).

The judgment of the Day of the Lord will then immediately follow the gift of the Holy Spirit. This judgment comes from the truth of Christ as He reveals it to the believer (Marriage Supper of the Lamb). From the brightness of Christ's appearance, the Man of Sin who practices religion will be destroyed (**2Thes 2:8**). It is at this point that a believer will enter into the rest of Christ and will cease trying to be acceptable to Christ by their own works. This is the spiritual fulfillment of the physical Sabbath Day law.

Mankind lives and makes choices ALL by the will and work of God. Understanding and believing this truth requires FAITH because mankind has no ability to observe the spiritual work of God which He does within us.

**Ecc 3:11 He has made everything fitting in its season; However, He has put obscurity (the world/carnality) in their heart so that the man may NOT find out His work, that which God does, that which God does from the beginning to the end.**

Mankind is blinded from seeing (understanding) God because of their carnal mind. It is this foundation of spiritual blindness which gives support to the false Doctrine of Free Will.

### **DOCTRINE OF HELL**

Basically, the Doctrine of Hell states that any person who rejects Christ (by their own free will ability to do so) will die in their sins. Then, upon the person's bodily resurrection from the grave, the person will appear before Christ at the White Throne and not be found in the Lamb's

book of Life. As a result, Jesus Christ will cast them alive into a place of literal fire (Lake of Fire) where they will be tormented day and night for all eternity with no hope of ever escaping.

Those who support this false doctrine believe that this punishment is just and appropriate for the sins the person has committed. And because of what the Doctrine of Free Will teaches, the supporters also believe that those who suffer this punishment have no one to blame but themselves.

So how does the Doctrine of Hell stack up against what scripture actually teaches? Not very well. In fact, there is no truth at all in this ghastly and unjust doctrine.

Scripture says that the penalty of sin is death, not eternal torment in fire:

**Eze 18:4 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.**

Because of sin, after a person dies they will be forever perished and will have no consciousness. In other words, they will cease to exist.

**Gen 3:19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.**

**Ecc 3:18 I said in mine heart concerning the estate of the sons of men, that God might manifest them, and that they might see that they themselves are beasts. 19 For that which befalleth the sons of men befalleth beasts: even one thing befalleth them: as the one dieth, so dieth the other; yea, they have all one breath; so that a man hath no preeminence above a beast: for all is vanity. 20 All go unto one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again. 21 Who knoweth the spirit of man that goeth upward, and the spirit of the beast that goeth downward to the earth?**

**Ecc 9:5 For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not anything, neither, have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten. 6 Also, their love, and their hatred, and their envy, is now perished; neither have they any more a portion forever in anything that is done under the sun.**

But because God loves all mankind and wants new children, God sent Christ into the world to save each and every person who has ever lived .

**1John 4:14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Savior of the world.**

Now, because of Christ's perfect sacrifice at the cross, Christ earned the keys to death & hell and will resurrect from the state of death every person who has ever lived.

**John 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.**

Christ came to earth to not only give mankind “life”, He also came to give mankind a more abundant life. This more abundant life is a life that is free from sin with a restored relationship with His Father. This is the salvation that Christ brings mankind.

Now consider this verse below:

**2Pet 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.**

Notice that the verse above says that Christ is “not willing that any should perish”. God’s Word makes this statement because perishing (death) is the true penalty of sin. If the Doctrine of Hell were true, this verse would have stated so here but it does not.

The verse also makes mention of “his promise”. What is this promise that Christ made to mankind? We don’t have to guess because the promise is clearly stated in scripture:

**Isa 45:22 Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else. 23 I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, that unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.**

This promise is re-stated in the New Testament as well:

**Phi 2:10 That at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 and that every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

Paul also said it this way:

**1Tim 2:3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; 4 who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 6 who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.**

Clearly, from the verses presented above, scripture teaches that Jesus Christ will save all mankind. And because Christ will not fail in this mission, God’s Word gives us many reassurances to that effect.

**1 John 4:8 He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.**

**1Cor 13:8 Love never fails;**

**1Cor 15:20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first-fruits of them that slept. 21 For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.**

**John 12:32** And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.

**Rom 5:15** But shall not the act of favour be as the offence? For if by the offence of one the many have died, much rather has the grace of God, and the free gift in grace, which is by the one man Jesus Christ, abounded unto the many.

**Rom 5:18** so then as it was by one offence towards all men to condemnation, so by one righteousness towards all men for justification of life. **19** For as indeed by the disobedience of the one man the many have been constituted sinners, so also by the obedience of the one the many will be constituted righteous.

**Acts 3:20** And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: **21** Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

**1Tim 4:10** For therefore we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, **11** who is the Savior of all men, specially of those that believe. These things command and teach.

**Rev 5:13** And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.

So why do most churches in this world believe that Christ will fail to save all mankind?

The answer to this question gets a little complicated, but ultimately, it is because those churches are apostate and they teach the “perverse things” of Satan instead of the truth of Christ.

**Acts 20:29** For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. **30** Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. **31** Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

In my paper entitled “The Great Mystery of the Church”, I explained the apostasy of the church in more detail. However, in this short presentation, I will move onto the arguments that the apostate church uses to support their belief in the Doctrine of Hell.

The foundational support of the apostate church’s belief in the Doctrine of Hell is its belief in the Doctrine of Free Will. However, both doctrines are lies from Satan.

Another reason why the apostate church believes in the Doctrine of Hell is because they are spiritually blind and do not understand the pathway that Christ causes all mankind travel to their salvation.

Remember, mankind's salvation is having "life" and having it "more abundantly". To achieve this result, Christ must perform certain "works" that only He can do. His physical work at the cross gave Christ the legal authority to resurrect all mankind from the grave. But a life which continues in sin is not the more abundant life that His Father desires for mankind.

To achieve a life free from sin for mankind, Christ must spiritually change each person from "within".

Why? Because mankind was created spiritually "marred" and "subject to vanity" from the beginning.

**Jer 18:4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.**

**Rom 8:20 For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope...**

It is the flaw in mankind's spirit that caused the spirit to develop a carnal and religious spiritual nature. In turn, the marred spirit caused mankind's mind to become carnal and religious, as well.

Because of this marred spiritual makeup, mankind frequently puts their own needs & desires above their obedience to God (if they have any obedience at all). When a person does this, they are sinning against God.

In contrast to mankind's spiritual makeup, Christ came with a perfect spiritual makeup. Even though Christ came with the same physical body as mankind, He never developed a carnal or religious mind. As a result, Christ always put His obedience to His Father over His own needs and desires – thus, Christ never sinned.

**Mark 14:35 He went forward, and fell on the ground and prayed that if it is possible, this hour might pass from him. 36 And he said, Abba, Father, all things are possible for you; take away this cup from me: nevertheless, not what I will, but what thou wilt.**

Because of mankind's carnal and religious spiritual nature, God is veiled from mankind's understanding. For this reason, Satan (who feeds on mankind's carnal & religious nature, **Gen 3:14**) has become the god of this world and rules over mankind through his deceptions (**2Cor 4:4, Rev 12:9**). Now, instead of being children of God as it was in the beginning, mankind has become the children of the Devil who sin (**1John 3:8-10**). There are no exceptions.

In order for Christ to accomplish His work of giving mankind a more abundant life, Christ has established a time when He will individually come to every person who has ever lived. When Christ comes, He will give each person the Early & Latter Rains of the Spirit. With the Holy Spirit, a person will be born again as a child of God. Immediately following the new birth comes the Day of the Lord when Christ will judge the child of the Devil. From this judgment, the child of the Devil will be destroyed by the destruction of the marred spirit (shown in Rev 18) within

the person which has made them carnally & religiously minded. This is when Christ (as mankind's near kinsman redeemer) collects mankind's debt of death that they owe Him.

This entire spiritual process of giving mankind a more abundant life is called conversion.

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**Note:** God's Word teaches about the destruction of the child of the Devil who is representative of all mankind. The child's destruction is a spiritual destruction which destroys the individual's marred spirit (Great Harlot) and carnal mind (Old Man). This spiritual destruction appears to show that the person has perished - and in God's eyes they have. But before they perish, the person is spiritually recreated in such a way that the person's conscious existence will continue to live. In other words, the person's spirit & mind are the same ones that they have always had, except now, they have been "made new" (**Rev 21:5**) because they are governed of the Holy Spirit within them. It is this governance by the Holy Spirit that makes them into a child of God.

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Christ does His spiritual work within mankind because of His GRACE and not because of any work that mankind might do to make themselves worthy of His gift of salvation.

In fact, if Christ were to wait on mankind to act first, no one would ever be saved.

**Rom 8:7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.**

**Rom 3:10 As it is written, there is none righteous, no, not one: 11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.**

In mankind's spiritually marred and carnally minded condition, no one could be saved if God required mankind to contribute even just one "work" to qualify for the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Because mankind is helpless to save themselves, Christ came into the world to do all the work of saving mankind. When Christ is ready to save a person, He will begin the salvation process by coming to them and freely giving them the Early Rain of the Spirit. Christ will give them this gift without their asking or permission.

With this small amount of the Holy Spirit, a person will make a confession of faith after they are presented the Gospel.

**1Cor 12:3 Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Spirit.**

In this age, "many" people will receive the Early Rain of the Spirit.

**Mat 22:14 For many are called, but few are chosen.**



However, from this group of “many”, only a “few” have been chosen to be saved before they die. For them, Christ will come to them a second time and pour out the Latter Rain of the Spirit and convert them. They are the Elect and are called the First Fruits of Christ’s harvest of mankind. They are the only people who Christ will save in this age. The balance of unsaved mankind must wait until the final age to receive their salvation. This is when the great day of the Feast of Tabernacles (Ingathering) at year’s end will occur.

**John 7:37 In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, if any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. 38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.**

**Exo 34:22 And thou shalt observe the Feast of Weeks, of the Firstfruits of the wheat harvest, and the Feast of Ingathering at the year's end.**

After the last person in the final age has been saved, the ages will come to an end and God will be “all in all”.

**1Cor 15:20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first-fruits of them that slept. 21 For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. 23 But every man in his own order: Christ the first-fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. 24 Then cometh the consummation, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. 25 For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. 26 The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. 27 For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. 28 And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.**

Eternal life in the Kingdom of Heaven is the true & certain future that awaits all mankind. The only issue for mankind is “when” they will receive their salvation. Christ said as much to the chief priests and scribes in the scripture below:

**Mat 21:31 Which of the two was obeying his father?" They replied, "The first, of course." Then Jesus explained his meaning: "I assure you, corrupt tax collectors and prostitutes will get into the Kingdom of God before you do.**

The issue wasn’t a question of “if” Christ was going to save the chief priests and scribes, the issue was “when”.

The Doctrine of Hell that is taught by the apostate churches of this world is completely false. It is a lie from Satan. Jesus Christ really is the Savior of the world – mankind just needs to wait on Him to complete His work within each person. After Christ completes it, God will then have many new children who will never sin or die again.

## **TRANSLATION ISSUES**

One final point I want to discuss are the translation errors which are common in most bible translations. The verses which contain these errors are used as one of the primary arguments that the apostate churches use to support the Doctrine of Hell.

The errors occur in the translation of the Greek word "aion" and its adjective form "aionios".

“Aion” means an age of time and “aionios” means age-enduring (pertaining to the age).

The ages are a very important concept in scripture. God’s creation only pertains to the ages and once the ages come to an end, so will the reign of Christ. Scripture is silent on what happened before the ages began and is likewise silent on what will happen after the ages come to an end.

With this truth in mind, the incorrect translations of the Greek words of “aion” & “aionios” (forever/everlasting) can and does cause a false understanding of God’s Truth.

Here is an example:

**Rev 11:15 And the seventh messenger trumpets. And loud voices occurred in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of this world became our Lord's and His Christ's, and He shall be reigning for ever and ever! Amen! (KJV)**

Here is the correct translation:

**Rev 11:15 And the seventh messenger trumpets. And loud voices occurred in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of this world became our Lord's and His Christ's, and He shall be reigning for the ages of the ages! Amen!**

The phrase "ages of the ages" comes from aion. It does not mean for ever and ever as the KJV translates it. We can know this for sure because of what Paul said:

**1Cor 15:25 For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. 26 The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. 27 For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. 28 And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.**

Christ's reign comes to an end when He destroys the last enemy of death. Christ does not reign for ever and ever.

And likewise, the same error occurs in this verse:

**Rev 20:10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever. (KJV)**

Here is the correct translation:

**Rev 20:10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for the ages of the ages.**

And likewise, we can know this for sure because the Lake of Fire is the judgment of Christ. Christ's judgment is for the loving purpose of destroying our old vessel and for teaching us His righteousness:

**Psa 33:5 He loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.**

**Isa 26:9 With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.**

**Isa 1:27 Zion shall be redeemed with judgment, and her converts with righteousness.**

**1Cor 3:13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire (judgment); and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. 14 If any man's (the Elect/sheep) work abides which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 15 If any man's (balance of mankind/goats) work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.**

Note: Fire is the spiritual symbol that represents judgment. It is not literal fire.

After Christ's purpose for judgment is complete, His judgment will end. Judgment, like Christ's reign, is only for the ages. It does not last for ever and ever as the KJV translates the verse.

## **SUMMARY**

From what I have presented in this paper, it is my hope that you will be able to see the contradictions the Doctrines of Free Will and Hell have with the truth of God's Word. Christ is not the monster that the apostate churches of this world teach. Christ is mankind's Savior who is loving & merciful. He will not rest until He has fully accomplished the mission that His Father gave Him to save the world (**1John 4:14**).