

Study QUESTIONS

Ep.1347: Did a Belief in Hell Always Exist? (Hellfire Series Part IV)

<https://christianquestions.com/doctrine/1347-origin-hellfire-series-part-iv/>

See:  CQRewind
SHOW NOTES

1. What was God's first command to Adam? What was the stated consequence?
 - a. Do you think it reasonable that God would withhold information from Adam that the real consequence of sin was not death but eternal torture and torment?
 - b. How did Satan restate God's consequence—what was the resulting error that grew from Satan's lie? (Genesis 2:16-17, 3:4-5)
2. Describe the concept of hell in ancient Egypt at about the time of Moses:
 - a. What did God declare in Deuteronomy 32:21-22 to be the punishment for Israel for their unfaithfulness to Him at about the same time? What does the "fire...kindled in Mine anger" mean? What is *sheol*?
 - b. How does Paul interpret these verses when he quotes them in Romans 10:19-21?
 - c. What was the fate of Korah and his followers after rebelling against Moses and God? (Numbers 16:32-33)
3. How did God handle Baal's "superpowers" during Elijah's time? (1 Kings 18:20-40)
 - a. What was God's response to the sacrificing of children to Baal in Jeremiah's time? (Jeremiah 19:4-6)
 - b. Why was God silent about the doctrine of eternal torture all throughout Old Testament history?
 - c. What would you think of a God who lied or held back information that people would be tortured for all eternity for their sins while here on earth? What could justify this behavior?
4. What did Malachi 4:4 admonish the Jews to do? Did they do it?
 - a. During the 400 years from Malachi to Jesus when God was silent (without any prophets), how did the Jews change their belief in hell? Why did this happen? How could it have been prevented?
 - b. What strong lesson is this for us? When God seems silent in our lives, where should we look for guidance and comfort? Should we go "outside" to social media or society?
 - c. What was the reason both Polybius and Strabo gave for the purpose of a belief in torture and torment? Does this purpose exist today for modern beliefs of hellfire?
5. How do pagan history and biblical history differ in the view of what happens after people die? (Micah 4:3, Isaiah 66:22-24, Isaiah 35)
 - a. How do hellfire, torture and eternal damnation provide for the education and correction for future mankind? What impact has a belief in hell had on stopping man from sinning?
 - b. How does God provide for the redemption, education and correction for future mankind? How will this plan of God effect a profound difference in mankind turning from sin?