What Happens Next - **wk 2 – All Fired up!**

**Wearing gloves If you were to die today what would happen to you?**

**The afterlife is discussed, denounced, & debated. Some think that to say, “to know” is arrogant - well, the Bible says you can**

**What you believe about the afterlife, determines how you live this life and - What you believe about… determines how you will live the next**

**Everyone goes to heaven, reincarnation, Atheist, pagan, works**

**Three D’s – 1. The Death**

* **Death is certain - Death is probably the most painful fact of life.**

**Hebrews 9:27 Just as people are destined to die once, (no reincarnation) and after that to face judgment, (We don't hang out and haunt - bible says ghosts are demons impersonating people) 28 so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him. (Future hope in Jesus)**

**One thing is for sure it's going to happen. Might be today. Some were brought today for this**

* **Our body and soul will separate - We are eternal beings created to live forever - you are not your body - it is a temp.btent – toss glove**

**Matthew 10:28 Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. (separate) Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. (reverent fear of God, who holds your eternity).**

**Body, Soul, Spirit: spirt & soul used interchangeably in bible – when not, referred to as emotions/ will**

**2. The Divide (The great divide!!) – The wood post**

**Your body and soul will part ways one day - and when it does… Heb 9:27 - Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment…**

* **We will all face judgement**

**Romans 14:10b - For we will all stand before God's judgment (bema) seat.**

**For some the judgment is good - for others it is not**

**2 Corinthians 5:10 - For we must all appear before the judgment seat (bema) of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. (Matthew 25:46)**

**Typically referred to as 2/3 types of judgements:**

* **Judgement of the goats & sheep Parables of Jesus**
* **Judgment seat (Bema) of Christ: Xians – give account for our lives**
* **Judgement at the Great white throne: both non & believers**

**(stand if you can) Revelation 20:11 Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. (Jesus) The earth and the heavens fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. (literal books or symbolic- IDK. Point is, a record is kept) 13 The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, (place of the dead) and each person was judged according to what they had done. (actions) 14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. 15 Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life (Salvation) was thrown into the lake of fire. (how to get in that book? – There is no guest list or plus 1)**

**I believe they all reference the same final judgement – with diff. outcomes. Regardless don’t lose sight of this, all of us will stand before Christ and give account**

* **We all have a final eternal destination**

**Humans are eternal beings (last wk), will eventually die, will all stand before Jesus - and our eternal destination will be one of 2 places.**

**Matthew 13:49 This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous... (Malachi 3:18)**

**Kingdom Parables: sheep & goats, dead & living fish, right & left - divides the followers of Jesus from the those who do not**

**Matthew 25:46 “Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”**

**Biblically - no purgatory, no do overs, reboots, or work release programs. It is either everlasting life or everlasting punishment**

**3. The Destinations (The Eternal destinations)**

**The afterlife in OT is obscure - ancient Jews simply referred to it as:**

**Sheol *-* the grave / place of the dead (Gk - Hades). Referred to as 2 places: 1. Place of Paradise (Bosom of Abraham) 2. Place of suffering**

**Jesus - God in the flesh - explained and clarified the afterlife. Speaking more on this than about anything.**

**Destination A – Everlasting Life / The kingdom of HEAVEN**

**2 Peter 3, Is 65:17, Rev 19:7, 21:1-27, 22:3-5, 1 Cor 13:12, 2 Cor 11:2, Matt 16:26**

**What heaven be like (nxt wk) Many think of it as dumb/ *Wishful***

**Destination B – Everlasting Punishment - HELL**

**Hell is also under attack, but for different reasons. For many Hell is too *Hateful* - too harsh for a loving God – or unlikely.**

**Shared sloppily – fearfully – hatefully – misrepresenting.**

**Many reject a biblical reality of its horrors & the urgency of the gospel**

**Different words are translated Hell in the Bible:**

* **Sheol: OT - place where the dead go – both Paradise & Suffering Translated hell (when suffering), grave, pit**
* **Hades: GK word in the NT (used like Sheol) Underworld, region of the departed, realm of the dead. (Ma 16 Jesus says …torment in Hades)**
* **Gehenna: Ancient sacrifice site turned city dump, always burning - Valley of Hinnom - Jesus uses most often - place of continual fire.**

**Imagine maggots, worms, burning flesh, repulsive odor**

* **Tartaros: Common GK word - deepest abyss - demon dungeon**

**Peter uses this to describe the holding cell for fallen angels**

* **Limne pur: used in Revelation - Means - lake of fire. The final place**

**WHY HELL? 1st thing to know - Hell was created by - Jesus**

**John 1:3 Through Him *(Jesus)* all things were created… / John 1:10 …all was made by him *(Jesus)* / Ro 11:36 all things are …from Him, by Him, through Him.**

**Colossians 1:16 - For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. (for his purposes)**

**Hell is ruled over by - Jesus**

**Revelation 14: (referring to unbelievers) 10 they, too, will drink the wine of God’s fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of his wrath. They will be tormented with burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb. (Jesus created it, rules over it – He is the King od Kings – Lord of lords)**

**His presence is there - but not in the way you would want. His righteous justice & judgment are present- as a consuming fire.**

**Hell was created to deal righteously with Satan**

**Matthew 25:41 “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.**

**Satan is not there now – is not on a throne – or a manager**

**Behind addiction, abuse, violence, fear, pain, every sin. He is the destroyer, tempter, deceiver, father of lies – and hates you!**

**Satan is not cute – he is the embodiment of evil. (mask)**

**Hell was created to deal righteously with Sinner's**

**2 Thessalonians 1:8 He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. (that covers everyone) 9 They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might. (away from the joy & pleasure of his glory - instead they receive his wrath) 10 on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed...**

**Why wrath? Why justice? God is holy - we are sinful - sin is consumed by the light of his holiness. There is no love w/out justice.**

**Jesus and the apostles give us a pretty clear picture of Hell...**

**What will Hell / Lake of Fire Be Like?**

**1) Unspeakable Suffering - Rev 14:10-11 they will drink the wine of God’s fury, poured in full strength into the cup of his wrath – a burning with the smoke (evidence of pain) of their torment rising for ever and ever. / no rest day or night**

**No escape and life and no way to end your life**

**2) Unsatisfied Cravings - Luke 16:23-24 - torment and unsatisfying thirst, just let me dip my finger in water and cool my tongue - I am in agony in this fire.**

**3) Unquenchable Flames - Mark 9:43-48 - worm never dies, fire is never quenched / Rev 21:8 – fiery lake / Rev 20:10 - tormented forever and ever**

**Matt 13:41 The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. 42 They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.**

**4) Unknowable presence - Eternal Separation From Loved Ones (alone)**

**Luke 13:28 - There will be weeping, anguish, and regret - you see others, but will not be seen by them, unable to get to or talk to them (Lu 16:26-28, Ma 8:12,13:49-50)**

**5) Unending - Hell Is Forever - an eternal fixed destination**

**Rev 19:20, 20:10-21 - Cast alive into the lake of fire tormented day and night for ever and ever.**

**According to these verses: Darkness - wailing (sadness) – torment - everlasting pain – forever alone – no way to get out**

**It is literal worms, fire, sulfur, thirst, or only symbols? Symbols are only a glimpse. If symbols… Hell is much worse than this!**

**The Big Picture - The wood post / chair zones - figure 1- 5 volunteers**

* **OT - Hell and Paradise (both called Sheol - place of the dead)**

**Before Christ everyone went to Sheol - 2 places – Fig 1 & 2 in**

**Heaven is not explained in OT – why? No could go there yet.**

**Debated then - Pharisees (after life) and Sadducees (No after)**

**Most people today, debating it w/ limited understanding**

* **NT – Hell, Paradise, and Heaven**

**Jesus died on the cross to satisfy the justice of the Father Wood cross**

**When buried He did not go to Hell to duke it out with Satan (Satan is on earth, Hell is his final destination)**

**\*\* Jesus went to Sheol Paradise (not suffering side) & set captives free**

**On the cross Jesus said to the thief - Luke 23:43 - Jesus answered him, “I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.”**

**Ephesians 4:8 This is why it says: “When he ascended on high, he took many captives (took them from Sheol) and gave gifts to his people.” (Gifts of the HS to the redeemed) 9 What does “he ascended” mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? (Figurately earth – Literally Sheol – after the resurrection He took the people of Paradise to the Kingdom – the lost remained) 10 He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, (His resurrection and ascension) in order to fill the whole universe.**

**Move Fig 2 to heaven - Rescue from Paradise**

**1 Peter 3:18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous (Jesus) for the unrighteous, (us) to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. 19 After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits. (preached to and set free those in Paradise)**

**The cross was payment - the propitiation for sin.**

**His shed blood saved us - not his journey to Sheol.**

* **Now - Hell (Suffering Sheol) and Heaven (often called Paradise)**

**Now - things are different - since the cross of Jesus (3 vol – Fig 3-5)**

**Fig 3 when you die in Christ (heaven) / die in sin (Hell) Fig 4/5**

**2 Co 5:8- If a follower of JC you go immediately to His presence**

**But things will not always be like this... He will come again...**

* **Future - Lake of Fire and new heaven and earth**

**Revelation 20:14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. 15 Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire. (Fig 1,4,5 – jump off stage)**

**Born twice = die once. Born once = die twice**

**Revelation 2:11 Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who is victorious will not be hurt at all by the second death.**

**\*\* Question is... Who Goes to Hell? Everyone... without Jesus (pause)**

**John 3:3 Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.” 5 Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit.**

**This is why we preach – why we are missionaries!**

**\*\*\* How could a loving God send anyone to Hell?**

**Our sin guarantees a seat. We are born dead in sin – everyone.**

**But – I thought as long as we are sincere – there’s no area in life where sincerity makes a bad choice right. (Wrong medicine, surgery, flight route, etc. why do we think it does in our spiritual life)**

**But – Will God give grace to those who have not heard?**

**(John 3:3, 14:6, Ro 8:1, 10:13-16, 11:6, Act 8, Eph 2:17, Acts 10, Acts 4:12)**

**The issue is the state of our spirit. We are born dead in sin. Jesus not come to make bad people good, but to make dead people alive. John 3:13 No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. (no one yet - this was before the cross) 14 Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, 15 that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.” (after the cross heaven is open to everyone who believes) 16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, (God in the flesh) that whoever believes in him shall not perish (Hell) but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.**

**Without Jesus we are already condemned - How do you get in the book of life? You must be born again. Are you born again?**

**AMAZING GOOD NEWS - God does not want you to go to Hell (2 Pet 3:9)**

**That is the very reason Jesus came. While we were enemies of God... to be the wrath satisfier – to pay for our sins.**

**Jesus died, was buried, set the captives in Sheol free, & rose - so now those who are born again will rise and forever be in the glory of God Almighty. He conquered sin, death, hell, & grave!!**

**Sadly, many (the majority) bound to their own selfishness do not want the truth - Matthew 7:13 Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. 14 But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.**

**If I were the devil - I would convince you there is no hell.**

**Don’t take it seriously – a fable – imagined.**

**Hell is a place of wrath, justice, and love… how is it love?**

**Hells reality and pain are what lead Jesus to the cross to suffer. Hell points to the cross (God’s love rescuing from that wrath) God does not enjoy seeing the wicked perish (Ez 18:23)**

**\*\*\*That’s why that cross is so beautiful**

**God is compassionate, gracious, merciful, slow to anger, abounding in love – for you (Ex 34:6, Rom 2:4, Eph 2:3-4) It’s your loving kindness that leads us to repentance.**

* + **Are you ready to know the loving kindness of God?**