

The Doctrine of Hell: Proper Punishment or Flawed Fantasy?

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The doctrine of hell is vital in Christian theology because, without it, a Christian cannot fully recognize the glory of the gospel. Throughout human history, various people groups like the Egyptian, Mesopotamian, Greek, and Roman cultures and the Church Fathers have attempted to understand the concept of hell. From Dante's interpretation of hell in his famous *Inferno* to painters like Michelangelo, the doctrine of hell has seen numerous traditional views as a place of punishment. However, considering all these descriptions of hell, only one understanding stands out as the correct and valid description. These accurate descriptions are found in the Scriptures and especially in the words of Christ. The Scripture is trustworthy because it is inspired by the one and only true, holy, loving, and merciful God, who made all things as the *Alpha* and *Omega* of creation. The Scripture says that hell is not a place of purification or temporary punishment that culminates in non-existence. Instead, it is a real, eternal place of everlasting and just punishment in the presence of God's eternal wrath.