

FAITH CHAT

with James & John

Who Buys Our One Way Ticket To Hell?

Know This...

Some people say, "There is no heaven and there certainly is no hell." Others say, "Hell is the pain and suffering and misery we endure in this world." But informed, faithful Christians say, "Hell exists. Those who do evil in this life will suffer eternal separation from God in hell." We can deny its existence, as many people do; but Jesus, more than anyone else in the Bible, says hell exists. Read His words in Mt 18:8-9 or Mk 9:43-48.



James: Hell is the eternal home of Satan, the fallen angels, and men and women who die in a state of unrepented and unforgiven mortal sin.



John: God does not condemn anyone to hell. We condemn ourselves when we reject His merciful love, commit mortal sin, and refuse to confess and repent of our sins.

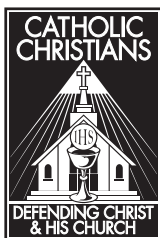
James: Our free will frees us to choose hell over heaven. Man is not willing to relinquish his free will; but we would love for God to eliminate hell. God cannot eliminate hell without eliminating our free will.

John: If we spend our life seeking God, we will find eternal separation from Him incomprehensible, repugnant, and unacceptable.

James: God gives us sufficient grace to be saved; but some of us freely choose to reject it.

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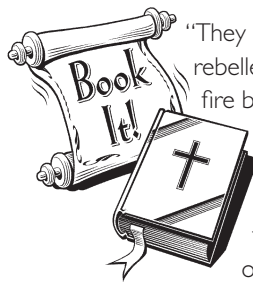
Jesus taught that hell exists. "Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear Him who can destroy both soul and body in hell!" Mt 10:28 "Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." Mt 25:34 "Depart from me, you accused, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels." Mt 25:41

"We cannot be united with God unless we freely choose to love Him. But we cannot love God if we sin gravely against Him, against our neighbor or against ourselves... To die in mortal sin without repenting and accepting God's merciful love means remaining separated from Him for ever by our own free choice." CCC 1033 "The chief punishment of hell is eternal separation from God, in whom alone man can possess the life and happiness for which he was created and for which he longs." CCC 1035 "God, who created you without you, will not save you without you." St. Augustine, Sermon, 169, 13 "If we do the will of Christ, we shall obtain rest; but if not, if we neglect His commandments, nothing will rescue us from eternal punishment." The so-called Second Letter of Clement of Rome to the Corinthians, 150 A.D.



PAPA SAYS

Saint Peter warns us, "For if God did not spare the angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of nether gloom to be kept until the judgment, if He did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, then the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trial, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment, and especially those who indulge in the lust of defiling passion and despise authority." 2 Pet 2:4-5a, 9-10



"They shall go out and see the corpses of the men who rebelled against me; their worm shall not die, nor their fire be extinguished; and they shall be abhorrent to all mankind." Is 66:24 "They [who do not acknowledge God and ignore His Gospel] shall suffer the punishment of eternal destruction and exclusion from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His might." 2 Thess 1:9

Most heavenly, Father, I love You and want to spend eternity with You in heaven. Turn me away from the trappings of this world, the sins of my flesh, and the temptations of Satan that lead me into sin. I believe in hell; but I do not fear death. Your Son destroyed death for ever. I do fear Your absence in my life. Give me the grace to distance myself from the causes of sin and to prepare myself to face death with hope, courage, and joyful anticipation. I ask this through my Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

