Is Hell Real?

"Yes, hell is definitely real."

Most people understand that hell is a place of eternal punishment, but there is actually a lot of confusion about hell. For one thing, many people (both non-Christians and even those who call themselves Christians) think that Heaven is for "good" people and hell is for "bad" people. They think that if you are "good enough you get to go to heaven when you die. But the Bible teaches that no one is good enough; we have all sinned, and so we all deserve to go to hell. We all deserve an eternity apart from God. Some don't believe in hell because they don't think a loving God would ever send people to hell. But Jesus came to the world to die for our sins. He took our place and paid the penalty we deserve to pay. This fact shows both that there is something we needed to be saved from and that He not only loves us, but loves us enough to die for us. So yes, hell is definitely real, but God isn't completely clear with us in Scripture about what exactly hell is. Sheol, Hades, Gehenna, and the Lake of Fire are all things from the Bible that have been called hell, but they might not all be talking about the same thing (Hades is thrown into the Lake of Fire, for example). But one thing is clear: if you believe in Jesus Christ, you will not be eternally separated from God in hell, but you will have eternal life with Him in Heaven.

Family Time Questions

- Is there such a thing as eternal punishment in hell?
- How does Jesus' sacrifice show us hell is real?
- Do you avoid hell by doing good things?
- What must you do to have eternal life?

Bible Verses

- Matthew 10:28 - God can destroy the soul in Gehenna
- Psalm 16:10 and Acts 2:27 - Jesus not abandoned to Sheol/Hades
- Revelation 20:10-15 - The Lake of Fire, eternal torment
- Luke 16:19-31 - The rich man and Lazarus

Prayer

"Dear God, thank You for sending Your Son to save us from hell. Help us to share the good news with those who need to hear it. In Jesus' name, Amen."