

CEDARCREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH

# **TOUGH TOPICS:** **CHALLENGING ASSUMPTIONS**

**Who are you  
to judge?**

**Hell and Judgment**

**TOUGH TOPICS:**  
**CHALLENGING ASSUMPTIONS**

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# Popular Culture

- Go to heaven for the climate, hell for the company.-Mark Twain
- You won't burn in hell, but be nice anyway.-Ricky Gervais
- I don't believe in an afterlife, so I don't have to spend my whole life fearing hell, or fearing heaven even more. For whatever the tortures of hell, I think the boredom of heaven would be even worse.-Isaac Asimov

**TOUGH TOPICS:**  
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**HEAVEN**  
DOESN'T WANT ME  
**HELL'S**  
AFRAID I'LL TAKE OVER

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"Oh, man! The coffee's cold!  
They thought of everything!"



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# Don't judge me

- Judge NOT! (Matthew 7:1)
- Stop judging by mere appearances, but instead judge correctly (John 7:24)
- So, which is it?

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# Wrong judgment

- Hypocritical-Matthew 7
- Superficial-John 7:24
- Harsh
- Self-righteous (Luke 18)
- Those outside the church (1 Corinthians 5)

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# What have Christians said about Hell?

- Christian Universalism
  - Annihilationism
  - Purgatory
  - Eternal Punishment
- 
- But what does the Bible say?

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# Gehenna

- Place of never ending fire, torment, child sacrifice
- Outside of Jerusalem

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# Never ending torment

- Fiery hell (Mt 5:22)
- Place of unquenchable fire (Mt 3:12)
- Eternal fire (Mt 25:41)
- Eternal punishment (Mt 25:46)
- Lake of fire and eternal torment (Rev. 20:10,15)
- Conscious torment (Mt 8:12, Mt 13:41-50, Rev. 14:9ff)
- Weeping and gnashing of teeth (Mt 13:42)
- A place of Jesus' vengeance and eternal destruction (2 Thes 2)

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# Outside of Jerusalem

- Away from the Presence of the Lord (2 Thes 2)
- Cast out into outer darkness (Mt 22:13)
- Separated (Eph 2:12)

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# Who goes to Hell?

- Angry, insulting (Mt 5:22)
- Those who don't serve the least of these (Mt 25:46)
- Sexually immoral (Jude 7)
- Beast worshippers (Rev 14:9)
- Not written in book of life (Rev 20)
- All causes of sin (Mt 13:41)
- All lawbreakers (Mt 13:41)
- All ungodliness (Rom 1:18)
- Anyone who rejects God or the gift of salvation

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# John 3:18

Whoever does not believe in him is condemned already.

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# How could a loving God send good people to hell?

- Assumptions:
  - God is love
  - God is powerful
  - God is just
  - God is infinite
- However God proceeds, 1) it is loving and 2) we don't have the answers

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# How could a loving God send good people to hell?

- We are not basically good (Rom 3:23)
- Do people choose hell?
  - Suppress the truth (Rom 1:18)
  - Refused to love truth (2 Thes 2:10)

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