

Is it Reasonable to Believe in Heaven & Hell?

Sermon Discussion Questions

Note: *To give & receive the greatest benefit from this discussion, please review your own sermon notes, read & reflect on these discussion questions in advance.*

1. Which of the arguments for life after death do you find most convincing and why?

- * i.e. **Nature** (planting seeds, caterpillars/butterflies) **Physics** (perpetual existence of “matter”) **Philosophy** (desire for justice), **Anthropology** (universal longing of mankind), **Experience** (near-death or out-of-body).
- * Do you know anyone who has had a near-death or out-of-body experience? How did they describe it?
- * Which of the Bible accounts of life after death do you find most compelling i.e. *Job 14:14-15, 19:25-27; Daniel 12:2; 1 Corinthians 15; Hebrews 9:27*, others?

2. Please take time to read the “brochure” about heaven from *Revelation 21:1 -27, 22:1-55* (prior to the discussion if possible).

- * What parts of that description do you find particularly beautiful, interesting, confusing, inspiring or encouraging?
- * What are you looking forward to i.e. reunions, worship, service, understanding, exploration, discussions, seeing God/Jesus/Holy Spirit, mansions, gardens, galaxies etc?
- * What difference does the hope of eternal life there in heaven make during your life here on earth?

3. Please read these biblical descriptions of hell: *Matthew 13:41-42, 25:41-46; Revelation 20:11-15, 21:8*.

- * What aspects of hell, as described in the Bible, do you find most disturbing i.e. isolation, darkness, regret, fire, agony, justice etc?
- * What additional questions do these and other passages about hell raise in your mind
- * What good can come from a study and understanding of hell i.e. for ourselves, our loved ones, our community, our church or our world?

4. Is there anything else which you would like to discuss related to the belief in heaven & hell?