Subject: Eternal Torment Part 2
Posted by Derick N. on Tue, 20 Nov 2007 20:18:30 GMT
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Rather than continue another thread on Eternal Punishment, I thought I would get down to serious theological cases of the issue.

I will start with Duncan's last post in the old thread asking me to reply to certain scriptures which in the minds of some, prove that God enjoys to have His former subjects and citizens of the world tormented forever to satisfy the demands of His Offended Justice.

I will take this one scripture at a time so as not to overburden the faint of heart at the prospect of "bailing the ocean out with a spoon".

Duncan wrote on Tue, 20 November 2007 12:15 Since you keep asking for more scripture (as if one time from the mouth of Jesus isn't enough), the following are a few more "holes in your bucket"...

I never asked for more scriptures, but rather said that any and all scriptures may easily understood to represent the Eternal Punishment as Death rather than Torture.

Duncan wrote on Tue, 20 November 2007 12:15 Jude 7 - "suffering the vengence of eternal fire."

This is the context:

"Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire."

Obviously the fire that burned Sodom and Gomorrha is not burning presently, so it can hardly be said to be literally "eternal", can it?

Who is the one spiritualizing scripture now? Is it a spiritual fire that continually burns somewhere in space?

Did they magically land in "hell" after their cities burned? No, they suffered the judgement of fire *in this life* as a judgement for their sin. That would be the *first death* spoken of in scripture.

The fact that you would use a bible search program and copy and paste any ocurrance of "eternal fire" and then apply it to the final judgement shows how weak this position is.