

Ed Fudge & Hell

by Wayne Goff

Ed Fudge is an apostate who once was a faithful gospel preacher. His father, Bennie Lee Fudge, lived and preached in Athens, Alabama, and published Bible class material and established the C.E.I. Bookstore. Ed fell away after believing and teaching error on the subject of Grace. He has wandered among various denominations since, and wrote a book several years ago entitled *The Fire That Consumes*. This book denies that hell is eternal punishment. It affirms the theory of annihilation.

Sadly, the Seventh Day Adventists, who agree with Mr. Fudge on the subject of annihilation, have decided to create a movie called "Hell & Mr. Fudge." It is a movie whose story-line depicts his life and views on hell.

With these thoughts in mind, consider a few thoughts on the subject of hell:

Jesus taught that there is hell fire, Matt. 5:22, 29-30.

Jesus taught that God is able to "destroy" both body and soul in hell, Matt. 10:28. Destroy here does not suggest annihilation, but the destruction of one's well-being.

Jesus taught that those who are cast into hell are punished there eternally, Matt. 18:8; 25:41, 46. The phrase here is "everlasting hell" and the word everlasting (aionios) means "perpetual: -- eternal, for ever, everlasting" [Strong's]. Perpetual, I remind you, means "never-ending."

It is argued that the Greek word suggests the duration of the period determined by the context. If that is so, then Matthew 25:46 tells us that hell lasts as long as heaven because everlasting (aionios) describes the duration of both!

The Bible teaches that adequate punishment is not inflicted in this finite life, 2 Peter 2:9. If Hitler killed six million Jews, then how could he be punished sufficiently when he only has one life?

The wicked who trouble the righteous will be punished in flaming fire as God takes vengeance upon them, 2 Thess. 1:6-7.

Much more could be said about this, but this is sufficient for this brief article. A temporary hell is a tempting belief and has been taught by many various religious groups over the years. It may provide comfort, but it is untrue.

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