

(1) How do you react when you hear of the reality of hell? Do you suppress any thoughts of it? Do you agonize over those you know who have died without Christ? What are some of the objections either you or others have brought against the truth of hell? Have you come to embrace it as true, in spite of those objections? If not, why not?

(2) Discuss the eight myths about hell that I mentioned in the message. Have you believed these in the past? Are there other myths about hell that you've heard from others?

(3) When you read about the nature of hell in vv. 9-11, what is your reaction? Is this an over-reaction on the part of God? Do you think these images are literal or symbolic? If symbolic, what do they symbolize? What do these verses say to you about the magnitude of God's honor and the depths of human depravity?

(4) Discuss the debate over hell's duration. Do you find the arguments for the annihilation of the wicked to be convincing? To what arguments would you appeal to defend the notion that hell involves eternal conscious punishment?

(5) What is the practical, spiritual impact of the doctrine of hell for you personally? Does it motivate you to evangelism? If not, why not? Does it energize your worship, specifically gratitude to God for his saving grace? Or do you simply avoid thinking about hell altogether? If so, why?