

DOCTRINE

Doctrine of Eternity

What does scripture say about eternity?

1. God and Eternity

Psalm 93:2

“Your throne was established long ago; you are from all eternity.”

Revelations 22:13

“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.”

2. People and Eternity

Ecclesiastes 3:11

“He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end.”

We have been made for the temporal and the eternal.

3. World and Eternity

2 Corinthians 4:17-18

“For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. “

What about Judgment?

John 5:24-29

“I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life.**25** I tell you the truth, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live.**26** For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself.

27 And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man.

28 “Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice **29** and come out—those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned.”

Romans 14:10

“For we will all stand before God's judgment seat.

11 It is written:

“ ‘As surely as I live,’ says the Lord,
‘every knee will bow before me;
every tongue will confess to God.’ ”

12 So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.”

Thomas A Kempis,

“Let not thy Word, O Lord, become a judgement upon us, that we hear it and do it not, that we believe it and obey it not.”

What about Hell?

Luke 16:19-31

“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day.**20** At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores
21 and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.
22 “The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried.**23** In hell, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side.
24 So he called to him, ‘Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.’
25 “But Abraham replied, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony.
26 And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.’
27 “He answered, ‘Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my father's house,
28 for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’
29 “Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.’
30 ” ‘No, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’
31 “He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

Mark 9:43-48

“If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed than with two hands to go into hell, where the fire never goes out.**45** And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than to have two feet and be thrown into hell.**47** And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell,
48 where “ ‘their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.’ ”

Romans 6:23

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”
It's a double death – both now and for the rest of eternity.

What about Heaven?

2 Corinthians 5:1-4

“Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands.**2** Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling,**3** because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked.**4** For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.”

John 6:40

“For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.”

Matthew 7:13-14

“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it.
14 But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.