“Hell, ...The Fire That Shall Never Be Quenched”
Mark 9:43-48

Introduction:
A. Three words translated “hell” in the King James Version.
   1. 10 times from “Hades” = “unseen, ... the place of departed souls (cf. Lk. 16:23; Acts 2:27. 31)
   2. Once from “Tartarus” = place of fallen angels awaiting final judgment (2 Pet. 2:4)
   3. 12 times from “Gehenna” = Final place of torment for wicked (text; Matt. 23:33)
B. Two basic attitudes about hell in our world.
   1. Some say, “There is no hell.”
   2. Most of others act as if there is no hell.
C. Three features of hell that should make it our business to escape it.

Discussion:
I. The Reality of Hell
A. It is real because Jesus clearly says so (text; Mt. 5:29-30; 23:33)
B. It is real in spite of efforts to explain it away.
   1. Must explain away plain Bible statements.
   2. Must show how their “hell” – the grave – is worse than death (Matt. 10:28; Heb. 10:29).
II. The Severity of Hell
A. The severity of the Biblical descriptions of it.
   1. “Lake that burns with fire and brimstone” (Rev. 21:8).
   2. Punishment worse than death (Heb. 10:28, 29)
   4. Separation from “God and the glory of His power” (2 Thess. 1:7-9).
   5. “Everlasting punishment” (Matt. 25:46)
B. The severity of the duration of it.
   1. Its eternal nature is emphasized five times in our text alone.
   2. It is eternal even if we cannot fully grasp the concept of eternity (cf. feather and steel ball).
      a. It is as long as heaven (Matt. 25:46).
      b. It offers no rest forever and ever – day nor night (Rev. 14:11)
C. The severity of its finality.
   1. Once there, there is no escape.
   2. Cannot escape into unconsciousness.
   3. Cannot put the fire out.
III. The Population of Hell
A. It will have the Devil and His angels – not there now, but will be (Matt. 25:41; Rev. 20:10)
   1. Busy now walking about seeking whom he may devour (1 Pet. 5:8).
   2. Busy now transforming himself into an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:14)
B. It will have all kinds of immoral people (Rev. 21:8)
C. It will have many religious and moral people (Matt. 7:21-24; 15:9, 13).
D. It will have those that know not God and obey not the gospel (2 Thess. 1:7-9).
E. It will have apostates from the truth (Heb. 10:26-29).

Conclusion:
A. God wants no one to go hell (2 Pet. 3:9) – that does not mean that no once will.
B. God will save you from hell if you obey the gospel, walk in the light and seek his pardon.