

Annihilationism

Annihilationism

- Variety of names
 - Annihilationism
 - Conditional Immortality
 - Conditionalism
 - Terminal Punishment
- Post-judgment destruction of the unrepentant
 - Heaven for the saved
 - Annihilation for the unsaved
 - Some torment v. no torment
- 'Eternal Conscious Torment'

Annihilationism

I. Teaching

I. Teaching

- Mortality of the soul
 - Soul not inherently immortal
 - 1 Timothy 6:15-16
 - ¹⁵ which He will manifest in His own time, He who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶ who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen.

I. Teaching

- Mortality of the soul
 - Soul not inherently immortal
 - 1 Timothy 6:15-16
 - Romans 2:5-7
 - ⁵ But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, ⁶ who “will render to each one according to his deeds”: ⁷ eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality;

I. Teaching

- Consequence of sin is death
 - 'Death', not 'torment' is the punishment for sin
 - Romans 6:23
 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

I. Teaching

- Consequence of sin is death
 - 'Death', not 'torment' is the punishment for sin
 - Romans 6:23
 - 1 Corinthians 15:3-4
 - ³ For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures
 - Unbelievers to pay the same cost: death

I. Teaching

- ‘Destruction’ means destruction
 - ‘Destruction’ language means what it says
 - John 3:16
 - For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

I. Teaching

- ‘Destruction’ means destruction
 - ‘Destruction’ language means what it says
 - John 3:16
 - Matthew 10:28
 - And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

I. Teaching

- ‘Destruction’ means destruction
 - ‘Destruction’ language means what it says
 - John 3:16
 - Matthew 10:28
 - Matthew 13:40-42
 - ⁴⁰ Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, ⁴² and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

Annihilationism

I. Teaching

II. Temptation

II. Temptation

- Softening hell
 - If hell is real, there will be punishment
 - Makes hell more 'palatable'
 - 'Better' for new converts
 - Increases numbers

II. Temptation

- ‘Explaining’ for God
 - “How can a loving God...”
 - Appeals to human ‘wisdom’
 - A ‘good God’ wouldn’t want an eternal hell
 - “God’s not as bad as He sounds!”

II. Temptation

- Downplaying sin
 - “Sin is finite, so punishment should be finite”
 - Lessening the consequences
 - Human perception flawed
 - Sinning against an eternal being
 - Refusal to repent and obey

II. Temptation

- Preferred by the world
 - Atheists already accept nonexistence
 - Nothing to be saved *from*
 - Everyone gets what they want
 - Christians in heaven
 - Rest annihilated

Annihilationism

I. Teaching

II. Temptation

III. Truth

III. Truth

- Physical examples of spiritual things
 - God explains things so that we understand
 - Romans 6:19
 - I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. . . .

III. Truth

- Physical examples of spiritual things
 - God explains things so that we understand
 - Romans 6:19
 - Ephesians 5:32
 - This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

III. Truth

- Physical examples of spiritual things
 - God explains things so that we understand
 - Romans 6:19
 - Ephesians 5:32
 - Matthew 13:40-42
 - ⁴⁰ Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, ⁴² and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

III. Truth

- 'Eternal' means eternal
 - 'Eternal' language means what it says
 - Matthew 25:46 (ESV)
 - And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.
 - 'Eternal' used 70x in NT

III. Truth

- “the everlasting fire”
- “have eternal life”
- “inherit eternal life”
- “the everlasting fire”
- “everlasting punishment”
- “into eternal life”
- “eternal condemnation”
- “inherit eternal life”
- “inherit eternal life”
- “an everlasting home”
- “inherit eternal life”
- “have eternal life”
- “have everlasting life”
- “has everlasting life”
- “into everlasting life”
- “for eternal life”
- “has everlasting life”
- “have eternal life”
- “to everlasting life”
- “have everlasting life”
- “has everlasting life”
- “has eternal life”
- “words of eternal life”
- “for eternal life”
- “everlasting life”
- “give eternal life”
- “the everlasting God”
- “house . . . eternal”
- “everlasting destruction”
- “everlasting consolation”
- “everlasting power”
- “eternal glory”
- “eternal salvation”
- “eternal judgment”
- “eternal redemption”
- “eternal Spirit”
- “eternal inheritance”

III. Truth

- ‘Eternal’ means eternal
 - ‘Eternal’ language means what it says
 - Matthew 25:46 (ESV)
 - And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.
 - ‘Eternal’ used 70x in NT
 - All current/future uses refer to something lasting forever
 - If life in heaven eternal, punishment in hell eternal

III. Truth

- ‘Eternal’ means eternal
 - ‘Eternal’ language means what it says
 - Matthew 25:46 (ESV)
 - Mark 9:43-48
 - ⁴³ If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed, rather than having two hands, to go to hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched— ⁴⁴ where ‘their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.’
 - We put out a fire when its job is done
 - Why specify the nature of the fire?

III. Truth

- Death is defeated
 - 1 Corinthians 15:21-22, 26
 - ²¹ For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.
 - ²⁶ The last enemy that will be destroyed is death.
 - Death wins if even one person remains dead
 - Annihilation = eternal death

III. Truth

- Separation from God as punishment
 - Hell not a 'scare tactic'
 - Matthew 25:41
 - “Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels’”
 - Not made for us, it's not *meant* for us!

III. Truth

- Separation from God as punishment
 - Hell not a 'scare tactic'
 - Matthew 25:41
 - 1 Timothy 2:3-4
 - ³ For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴ who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.
 - God wants *all* with Him!

III. Truth

- Separation from God as punishment
 - Hell not a 'scare tactic'
 - Matthew 25:41
 - 1 Timothy 2:3-4
 - 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9
 - ⁸ in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power
 - Separated from His presence

III. Truth

- God's love seen through hell
 - Righteousness requires punishment
 - Hebrews 9:22
 - And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.
 - Romans 5:8
 - But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.