

Welcome to: - Bible House of Grace.



God, through His Son Jesus, provides eternal grace for our failures and human limitations.

Destruction.

(2013)

The Bible not only reveals God's eternal plans purposes and promises

But also shows how you can know God for yourself.

Teach it, don't demand it.

Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man. As to such I neither claim special knowledge or perfect understanding.

If you think items presented on this site to be in error, please let me know and I will gladly reconsider the content.

Destruction.

Topics.

- God will bring them down to the pit of destruction.
- The destruction of the foolish and the poor.
- Hell and destruction are never full.
- Vessels of wrath prepared for destruction.
- The end of the enemies of the cross of Christ is destruction.
- When they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction.
- Everlasting destruction.

NOTE: the purpose of this document is not to do an in depth study on each topic, but simply to discover if any verse using the word destruction links it with eternal torment.

OLD TESTAMENT.

Destruction: in the Old Testament from Strong's Concordance means a pit (especially as a trap) and when used figuratively carries the idea of the body suffering corruption (decaying) in the pit of the grave.

God will bring them Down to the Pit of Destruction.

Psalm 55:23 ----- ²³You, O God, shall bring them down to the *pit of destruction*; Bloodthirsty and deceitful men shall not live out half their days; But I will trust in You.

Destruction in this context is death and the grave, especially death that cuts the life of murders and the deceitful short and brings them down to the pit of the grave.

The Destruction of the Foolish and the Poor.

Proverbs 10:14-15 ---- ¹⁴Wise people store up knowledge, But the mouth of the foolish *is* near *destruction*. ¹⁵The rich man's wealth *is* his strong city; The *destruction* of the poor *is* their poverty.

- The foolish are near destruction, because they do things that could ruin them.
- The rich man's wealth is his strong city because he can pay for the best help, the best medical care and anything else he might need (but he cannot buy eternal life).
- The destruction of the poor is their poverty, because they cannot afford even food let alone any health care.

Destruction in this context refers to anything that brings ruin and harm to a person, but its ultimate end is death and the grave.

Hell and Destruction are Never Full.

Proverbs 27:20 ----- ²⁰Hell and *destruction* are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied.

Hell is from the English translation of the Hebrew word sh^eowl and means the subterranean world of the dead (i.e. the grave). Destruction is anything that causes a person to die and hell is the grave. In this verse both hell and destruction are personified as a hungry person that is never full.

SUMMARY: there are many other Scriptures in the Old Testament that use the word destruction, but they all carry the same meaning as these three Scriptures. There are no verses using the word destruction that teach or are even linked to everlasting torment. Destruction in the Old Testament refers to anything that brings a person's life to ruin and to death in the pit of the grave. The Old Testament paints a picture of destruction as being anything that destroys or brings harm to a person with its ultimate end being death in the pit of the grave. Death and the grave are personified as a person who is never full or satisfied and destruction is personified as a person who constantly wants to destroy.

NEW TESTAMENT.

Destruction: in the New Testament from Strong's Concordance means ruin or loss (physical, spiritual or eternal) it carries the idea of a malicious or wicked person who cause great harm or death being utterly destroyed themselves so that they perish fully.

Vessels of Wrath Prepared for Destruction.

Romans 9:22 ----- ²²What if God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for *destruction*.

The vessel fit for destruction refers to anyone who denies God and acts against his ways and who deliberately does harm physically, financially, emotionally, verbally or spiritually (especially for their own gain) to another human. Those who act this way will be judged to eternal destruction which means they will be cast into in the Lake of Fire a symbol of eternal death (i.e., utter extinction).

The end of the Enemies of the Cross of Christ is Destruction.

Philippians 3:18-19 -- ¹⁸For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: ¹⁹whose end *is destruction*.

This group of people, not only do not believe in Christ they are actually classed as his enemies therefore destruction in this context is judgment to the Lake of Fire a symbol of eternal death (i.e., utter extinction).

When they say, "Peace and safety!" then Sudden Destruction.

1 Thess. 5:3 ----- ³For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden *destruction* comes upon them.

Destruction in this context can refer to the following two things: -

1. Anything that brings ruin and destroys especially natural disasters such as violent storms, earthquakes, hail volcanos, war and a global money or internet collapse and such like things.
 2. Anything that brings death such as plagues sickness and famine etc.
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Everlasting Destruction.

2 Thess. 1:6-9 ----- ⁶since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, ⁷and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, ⁸in 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. ⁹These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power

There are two things to notice in these verses: -

1. Those who will be punished with everlasting destruction are those who not only do not know God, but also trouble those who do. The people in focus in this context are those who deny God and persecute those who do believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.

The words, "Those who do not obey the Gospel" does not refer to doctrine but to behavior. When Jesus was asked, "Which commandment is the most important of all?" he said the most important is: -

- God is one and you shall love Him with all your heart, soul, mind and strength.

And the second is: -

- You shall love your neighbour as yourself there is no other commandment greater than these two (Mark 12:28-31).

James refers to Jesus commandment, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself" as the Royal law (James 2:8). The command, "Love your neighbour as yourself," means do not deliberately do harm to other humans. No sane person deliberately does things to inflict pain on themselves, loving others as you love yourself is not about feeling some warm and fuzzy emotion towards others, it is about not hurting others as you would not hurt yourself. The thing God hates the most is when we do harm to another person, physically, financially, sexually, verbally, mentally, emotionally or spiritually and the thing God loves the most is when we do-good to others. It is interesting to notice that the major crime that God points out in Noah's time and one of the main reasons for the flood was because of all the violence in the land.

- Micah wrote: "What the LORD requires of mankind is to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with their God" (Micah 6:5-10).
- Isaiah says: "The LORD loves justice, hates robbery and wrong doing" (Isaiah 61:8).
- Jeremiah said: "Those who know God practise steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth, because it is in these things that God delights" (Jer. 9:24).

The great prophets Micah, Isaiah and Jeremiah clearly show us that the people the LORD loves are not only those who acknowledge God, but who also uphold justice, do not lie, deceive or make promises they do not intend to keep, but speak the truth, do what is right, show respect and give help to others when able and make choices that lead to peace. These are the things the LORD delights in and that bring His favour.

Jesus famous Sermon on the Mount: the constant theme throughout Jesus famous Sermon on the Mount is doing what is right before God by seeking the way of peace in all situations. Jesus calls Christians to treat people fairly and with respect, dignity, decency grace compassion, kindness, mercy and to be quick to forgive. This means living a life that honours God and the Lord Jesus Christ is about doing all we can do to protect people from harm and being dominated by the thought: -

- What action can I take or do that will help and encourage this person.

It is all about doing right to others, thus the reason the message Jesus spoke on the mountain is referred to as, "The Famous Sermon" because the principals if followed not only by Christians but all humanity are the only way to peace (Matt 5). These are the things that delight the heart of God.

A wicked person is primarily one who deliberately and consciously denies the existence of God and does harm to other humans.

For further information on Jesus Famous Sermon see: -

- Matthew 5 in Commentary New Testament (ON WEBSITE MENU).

The words, "Those who do not obey the Gospel shall be punished with everlasting destruction" refers to those who are behaving in a manner that is totally contrary to the royal law "Love your neighbour as yourself." Everlasting Destruction carries the idea that a thing is utterly destroyed and implies that the destruction is on-going, meaning it is destroyed forever. This is why the word destruction is a perfect title for eternal death (i.e., total extinction).

In the context of these verses it means whoever persecutes those who believe in Christ and deliberately does harm to others (especially for their own gain) will be cast into the Lake of Fire a symbol of eternal death (i.e., utter extinction).

SUMMARY: there are many other Scriptures in the Old and New Testament the use the word destruction, but they all carry the same meaning as the ones mentioned in this study. There are no Scriptures using the word destruction in the Old or the New Testament that teach or link destruction to everlasting torment.

For further information concerning the Lake of Fire, see the title: -

- The Second Resurrection or Great White Throne Judgment.
- In Resurrection (ON WEBSITE MENU).
- Lake of Fire in, Death (ON WEBSITE MENU).

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