

FREQUENTLY-USED TERMS IN THE SERMON SERIES ON HELL

Eternal Conscious Punishment: What will sometimes be called the “traditional view” of hell. Eternal Conscious Punishment is the view that claims all those who are not saved by Jesus will experience pain and suffering for all of eternity.

Purgatory: The belief (traditionally, though not exclusively, within Catholicism) that after death, before a soul can move on to heaven it must experience a time where remnants of sin are purged in order for the soul to reside alongside God in heaven.

Universalism: Also called Universal Salvation, adherents believe that Jesus’s death on the cross atoned for the sins of all people, regardless of their religious affiliation. Some versions allow for a post-mortem reconciliation with God. In either case, universalists believe that God will reconcile all people to himself through Christ.

Conditionalism: The perspective that the human soul is not immortal and therefore when a person dies without experiencing the grace of Jesus they simply cease to exist. Within this view immortality and therefore eternal life is a gift from God to those who are saved.

Annihilationism: A form of conditionalism that believes that all human souls are immortal and enter into the afterlife, some into heaven and some into hell. However, the duration of punishment in hell is not eternal but rather is commensurate with the sinfulness of a person’s life.