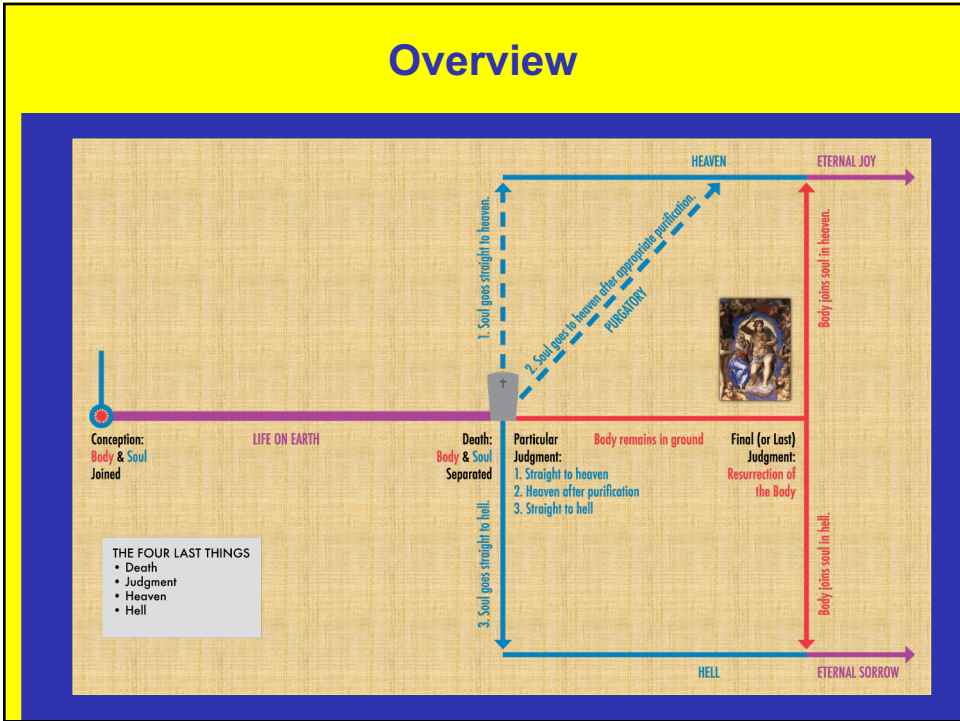


Last Things

Fr. Leonard Andrie
Fr. Luke Marquard

June 21, 2020

1



2

Hell – Old Testament

- **Isaiah 66:24:** They shall go to see the corpses of the people who rebelled against me; for their worm does not die; their fire is not extinguished; and they shall be an abhorrence to all flesh.
- **Context:** Isaiah presents a grand vision where God fulfills all His covenant promises through the suffering servant creating a new covenant family from all the nations, each bringing Him offerings in the new heavens and the new earth (66:18-23).
- Those who rebel against God are outside the walls of New Jerusalem, laying in the Valley of Hinnom (Gehenna).

3

Hell – Old Testament

- **Jeremiah 7:31:** In the Valley of Ben-Hinnom, they go on building the high places of Topheth to sacrifice their sons and daughters by fire, something I never commanded nor considered.



Source: <https://focusmagazine.org/the-hinnom-valley-and-jesus-teaching-on-final-punishment.php>

4

Hell – New Testament

- **Matt. 3:12:** His winnowing fan is in his hand. He will clear the threshing floor and gather wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.
- **Matt 5:22:** But I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother will be liable to judgement, and whoever says to his brother, 'Raqa,' will be answerable to the Sanhedrin, and whoever says, 'You fool,' will be liable to fiery Gehenna.

5

Hell – New Testament

Matt. 25:31-45: Judgment of Nations

| Goats (Left) | Sheep (Right) |
|--|---|
| Hungry: Gave no food | Hungry: Gave me food |
| Thirsty: Gave no drink | Thirsty: Gave me drink |
| Stranger: Not welcome me | Stranger: Welcomed me |
| Naked: Gave me no clothing | Naked: Gave me clothing |
| Ill and in Prison: Did not care for me | Ill and in Prison: Cared for me |
| Eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels | Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world |

6

Hell – New Testament

Will animals be in heaven?

Placed on Left?



- You did not greet me at the door
- You did not play with me
- You did not go on a walk with me

Placed on Right?



- You greeted me at the door
- You were willing to play with me
- You went on a walk with me

7

Hell – New Testament

Matthew 13:24-30

THE PARABLE OF THE




Wheat and Tares

<https://wyeshua.wordpress.com/2014/12/31/parable-of-the-wheat-and-the-tares-matthew-13/>

Look identical before harvest time
16th Sunday

Matthew 13:47-50



<https://www.bibleodyssey.org/en/places/related-articles/fishing-economy-in-the-sea-of-galilee>

Angels separate good and bad
17th Sunday

8

Hell – New Testament

New Testament Imagery for Hell

| Verses | Imagery |
|-----------------------|---|
| Matthew 5:22 | Fiery Gehenna |
| Matthew 8:12 | Outer darkness, wailing and grinding of teeth |
| Matthew 13:42 & 13:50 | Fiery furnace where wailing and grinding of teeth |
| Matthew 22:13 | Darkness outside, where wailing and grinding of teeth |
| Romans 9:22 | Vessels of wrath |
| 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9 | Blazing fire, separated from the presence of the Lord |

9

Hell – Church Councils

- **Lateran IV** (1215): He [Christ] will come at the end of the world; he will judge the living and the dead; and he will reward all, both the lost and the elect, according to their works...whether good or bad; the wicked, a perpetual punishment with the devil; the good, eternal glory with Christ.
- **Vatican I** (1869-70): Therefore, all who die in actual mortal sin are excluded from the kingdom of God and will suffer forever the torments of hell where there is no redemption.

10

Hell – Church Councils

- **Vatican II:** Since we know not the day nor the hour, on our Lord's advice we must constantly stand guard. Thus when we have finished the one and only course of our earthly life (cf. Heb. 9:27) we may merit to enter into the marriage feast with Him and to be numbered among the blessed (cf. Mt. 25:31-46).
- Thus we may not be condemned to go into eternal fire (cf. Mt. 25:41) like the wicked and slothful servant (cf. Mt. 25:26), into the exterior darkness where 'there will be the weeping and the gnashing of teeth' (Mt. 22:13; 25:30)." [*Lumen Gentium*, no. 48]

11

Hell – Catholic Catechism

- **CCC 1035:** The teaching of the Church affirms the existence of hell and its eternity.
- Immediately after death the souls of those who die in a state of mortal sin descend into hell, where they suffer the punishments of hell, "eternal fire."
- The chief punishment of hell is eternal separation from God, in whom alone man can possess the life and happiness for which he was created and for which he longs.

12

Hell – Catholic Catechism

- **CCC 1037**: God predestines no one to go to hell; for this, a willful turning away from God (a mortal sin) is necessary, and persistence in it until the end.
- In the Eucharistic liturgy and in the daily prayers of her faithful, the Church implores the mercy of God, who does not want "any to perish, but all to come to repentance":
 - **EP I**: Father, accept this offering from your whole family. Grant us your peace in this life, save us from final damnation, and count us among those you have chosen.

13

Hell – Two Pains

- **Poeni Damni** (Pain of loss): The eternal loss of the beatific vision in hell. It is the primary punishment of the evil spirits and of the souls who die rejecting God (Modern Catholic Dictionary).
- **Poeni Sensus** (Pain of sense): Suffering by some agent called "fire" in Scripture, external to the person and secondary to the main punishment, which is the loss of God (Modern Catholic Dictionary).
 - Spiritual physics: Sin causes suffering, creates misery
 - Clouds your vision: lust women as objects or envy other as enemy
 - Broken relationships: Taxes mind, heart, emotions, etc.
 - Affects body: Addictions extremely hard on the body

14

Hell – *Dante's Inferno*

- Dante's hell has nine circles, with ninth divided into four rings
- Fourth ring are the betrayers, frozen in ice
- Evil one presented as a giant demon, frozen at the center of hell.
- The deepest isolation is to suffer separation from the source of all light and life and warmth.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dante%27s_Satan

- **Hell:** Definitive self-isolation

15

Hell – Why?

- **Freedom:** We cannot be united with God unless we choose to love him.
 - **Common Objection:** How could a loving and merciful God condemn anyone to hell for all eternity?
 - **Professor:** This is to start off on the wrong foot. We must begin with human freedom and our capability of saying “yes” or “no” to love.
 - **Cost:** The high cost of freedom is that we can say “no.”

16

Hell – Why?

- **Seriousness:** The existence of hell affirms that what we do here matters.
- We trivialize the world's woes and betray the world's victims if we say glibly that everything comes out right in the end, even for those who perpetuate such evil.
- **Key:** God is not only loving and merciful, but also just repaying each one according to his works (Rom. 2:6-8).

17

Hell – Why?

- **Wedding Banquet:** Christ uses the image of the person without a wedding garment and cast into "outer darkness" for hell (Mt. 22:12-13).
- **Unfit:** The man is unfit or unprepared to enter the wedding banquet and celebrate the eternal feast.
- **Key:** Those who say "no" to God (reject grace, use their freedom poorly) are not properly prepared for heaven. They would be in great pain if forced into the light, e.g., someone coming out of a dark room into the light would be in great pain.

18

Summary

| Certain | Uncertain |
|---|--|
| Hell exists via Sacred Scripture and teaching of the Church. | Who is there and/or how many (or percentage) is in hell? |
| We have the freedom to say “yes” and “no” to God. | Why do some people refuse to believe and by converted to God? |
| Those who die in mortal sin are definitively excluded from the kingdom of God. | Are there levels of hell (e.g., <i>Dante's Inferno</i>) as there are levels in heaven? |
| Chief punishment is the pain of loss (unfulfilled longing for infinite love); those in hell have no remorse | How do those in hell view God and/or themselves? How do they experience their unfulfilled longing? |
| God predestines no one to hell, but rather desires the salvation of all | Does those in hell see the graces they refused/squandered in this life? |

19

Purgatory – Old Testament

- **Isaiah 6:1-10**: Isaiah sees a vision of the Lord seated on a lofty throne and garment filling the temple.
- Seraphim cry out, “Holy holy holy is the Lord of hosts.” Door shook and the house is filled with smoke.
- Then I said, “Woe is me, I am doomed!” For I am a man of unclean lips, living among a people of unclean lips.

20

Purgatory – Old Testament

- One of seraphim flew to me, holding an ember which he had taken with tongs from the altar.
- He touched my mouth with it. “See,” he said, “now that this has touched your lips, your wickedness is removed, your sin purged.”
- **Key:** Isaiah is purged (cleansed), so he can be sent to his people that they can be purged. i.e., so that they can see and hear the Lord.

21

Purgatory – Old Testament



The Calling of Isaiah
Giovanni Battista Tiepolo
(1726-1729)

22

Purgatory – Old Testament

- **2 Maccabees 12:38-46:** Judas went to gather the fallen troops in battle to bury them.
- He found amulets under their tunics sacred to the idols of Jamnia, which the law forbids the Jews to wear.
- Judas and soldiers pray and send a collection to Jerusalem...inasmuch as he has the resurrection in mind.
- Thus he made atonement for the dead that they might be absolved from their sin.

23

Purgatory – Old Testament

Judas Maccabeus – Praying for the Dead



<https://amaimaccabees.wordpress.com/2014/04/16/judas-maccabeus-prays-for-the-dead/>

24

Purgatory – New Testament

- **Luke 5:1-11:** Jesus encounters Peter while washing nets.
- Jesus invites him to put out into the deep wherein they catch a great number of fish.
- Peter falls to his knees and says, “Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man.”
- **Key:** Like Isaiah, Peter recognizes his unworthiness and need for purification.

25

Purgatory – New Testament



Miraculous Catch of Fish ~ Raphael (1515)

26

Purgatory – New Testament

- **Matthew 12:31-32:** Therefore, I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven people, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.
- And whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven; but whoever speaks against the holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come.
- **Key:** Jesus implies that some sins can be forgiven in the age to come.

27

Purgatory – New Testament

1 Corinthians 3:12-15

| Endure | Burned up |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Gold | Wood |
| Silver | Hay |
| Precious stones | Straw |

- **Key:** If the work stands that someone built upon the foundation, the person will receive a wage. But if someone's work is burned up, that one will suffer loss; the person will be saved, but only as through fire.

28

Purgatory – New Testament

- **Rev. 21:22-27:** After the cycles of purification, John has a vision of the new Jerusalem.
- The city is lit by the glory of God and the lamp of the Lamb.
- But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who does abominable things or tells lies. Only those will enter whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.
- **Key:** One must be perfected (purified) in love to enter the wedding feast of the Lamb.

29

Purgatory – Made Perfect

| Catholic | Lutheran |
|---|---|
| Intrinsic Justification: Sinner <u>made</u> righteous (infused) by God's mercy and love (Christ's Passion). | Extrinsic Justification: Sinner <u>declared</u> righteous (imputed) by God's mercy and love (Christ's Passion). |
| Baptism: Die with Christ, so that we might live with him. Baptism is a sacrament of faith (assumes faith). | Faith: Confess our wretchedness and God's grace manifested in Christ's death and Resurrection. |
| Purgatory: Those who die in God's friendship, but are imperfectly purified in order to achieve holiness necessary for heaven. They are made fit. | Not necessary: Not made clean, but rather remain dunghill covered with snow. We do not become holy, but God covers us with Christ's blood. |
| Prayers: Church commends prayers, almsgiving, penances for the dead. | No prayers: Superfluous to pray for the dead as in heaven or hell. |
| Glory: God is glorified when we become fully alive (perfected in love) | Glory: Admit your wretchedness and God's majesty and greatness. |

30

Purgatory – Gift

- **Experience:** We all experience brokenness from ourselves and from others in this life.
 - Hold grudges (refuse to forgive)
 - Disordered attachments
 - Addictions
 - Unhealed wounds (relationships, choices)
 - Willful blind spots
- **Key:** Sin and its effects compromise our ability to both receive and give love to others.

31

Purgatory – Gift

Trying to get into heaven holding lots of stuff



<https://people.com/pets/santa-fe-spa-resort-sunrise-springs-service-dog-puppy-cuddles/>

32

Purgatory – Gift

- Purgatory purifies or removes all that compromises our capacity to receive and give love. We are perfected through healing and forgiveness.
- **Metaphor:** Jesus washes your baptismal garment (wedding garment) and tailors it making you fit for the wedding banquet of heaven.



33

Purgatory - Gift



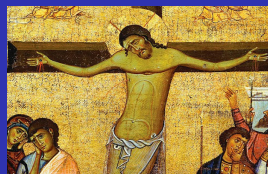
Baptismal Garment



Wedding Dress



Funeral Pall



Eternal Wedding Banquet

34

Summary

| Certain | Uncertain |
|--|--|
| Purgatory exists | What is nature of purgatory (e.g., time, levels, etc.)? |
| Entirely different from the punishment of the damned | What is the punishment like (cleaning fire, washing away)? |
| It is <u>not</u> a "second chance" as each receives eternal recompense at moment of death. | What role does gratitude and remorse play in purgatory? How do they see themselves or us? |
| The Church commends almsgiving, indulgences, and works of penance for the dead. | Can the souls in purgatory pray for us? Which prayers are the most efficacious (e.g., Mass)? |
| Those in purgatory are assured of entering heaven (color is green). | What role does faith, hope, and love play for those in purgatory? |

35

Heaven

What entrance into heaven may look like

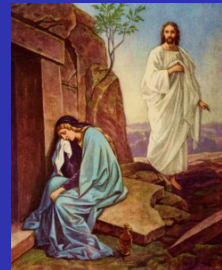


Source: <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/518828819550533669/>

36

Resurrected Bodies

- Jesus' Resurrection is the cause of our resurrection.
- **1 Cor. 15:20**: But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.
- Eternal life is a gift made possible because of Jesus' death and Resurrection.



37

Resurrected Bodies

- Jesus' Resurrection is the pattern of our resurrection.
- **Phil. 3:21**: He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body by the power that enables him also to bring all things into subjection to himself.
- **Key**: Jesus' glorified body is the blueprint or model for our glorified bodies.

38

Resurrected Bodies

Eucharistic Prayer III (Masses for the Dead)

- Remember your servant [Name], whom you have called from this world to yourself.
- Grant that he (she) who was united with your son in a death like his, may also be one with him in his Resurrection, when from the earth he will raise up in the flesh those who have died, and transform our lowly body after the pattern of his own glorious body (Rom. 6:5, Phil. 3:21).

39

Resurrected Bodies

- **1 Cor. 15:35-49:** St. Paul speaks about the resurrected body.
- He uses an image of a planted seed. The seed seems dried up and dead when sown in the earth. However, it brings new life.
- Our earthly body is “bare kernel” of our glorified body (wheat) in the resurrection. Your glorified body is continuation of your earthly body, but there will also be a radical newness to it.

40

Identifiable Traits

1. Quality:

- Your glorified body will still be the same sex. God created the human person male and female, and that's how it's going to stay.
- No matter what age we die – at ninety-nine years old or nine minutes old – our resurrected bodies will all be resurrected at "the most perfect stage of nature" (i.e., peak of physical strength, health, and attractiveness). ~Hahn, *Hope to Die*, 93-94.

41

Identifiable Traits

2. Identity

- Your body will still be your body and you will still be you. The same soul you have now will once more be united to the same body (albeit resurrected and glorified) that you have now.
- Sometimes Jesus' closest friends recognized Him, and sometimes they didn't.
- God will make sure you recognize your grandma or your uncle. ~Hahn, *Hope to Die*, 94.

42

Identifiable Traits

3. Integrity

- No matter what happens to your body in this life, in the next life it will be whole. People who lost limbs on earth will have those limbs back in heaven.
- People whose bodies were utterly destroyed in death, whose bodies were ravaged by fire, whose bones were crushed to dust, or whose whole physical selves were obliterated by a nuclear blast – all those people will have their bodies restored to them in their entirety in heaven. *~Hahn, Hope to Die, 95.*

43

Identifiable Traits

4. Impassibility

- Resurrected bodies of the blessed will not grow sick, cannot feel pain, cannot age, and cannot die.
- They will be incorruptible, entirely exempt from the effects of illness, injury, or time.
- They also won't be subject to bodily passions like lust or hunger, and will have no need to eat (although they can eat) or engage in sexual intercourse.

~Hahn, Hope to Die, 95-96.

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Identifiable Traits

5. Subtlety

- Our bodies – while real concrete, and present in space and time – will also possess a lightness that makes them almost ethereal. The heaviness that we experience in life will be absent.
- We will also possess the power to fully communicate ourselves – our thoughts, feelings, the whole essence of who we are – to others. All things in this life that make it difficult for us to understand others or share ourselves with others will disappear in the next.

~Hahn, *Hope to Die*, 96.

45

Identifiable Traits

6. Agility

- Our bodies will be perfectly coordinated, in a way that the movements of the greatest athletes and the greatest ballet dancers can only hint at.
- Basically, our bodies will do whatever we want them to do, and they will do it perfectly: they will dunk basketballs, do pirouettes, leap tall buildings, and fly through the air. In short, we will be able to immediately realize our desires.

~Hahn, *Hope to Die*, 96-97.

46

Identifiable Traits

6. Agility (Continued)

- None of these movements will be dictated by our whims.
- Every movement we make will be inspired by divine wisdom and ordered to knowing and loving God better, by both showing forth more clearly and perceiving more fully the glory of his creation and the beauty of all the saints.
~Hahn, *Hope to Die*, 97.

47

Identifiable Traits

7. Clarity

- Our bodies will immediately make visible the invisible truths about us. Someone will look at you and know everything about you (what you love, what you know, how you've suffered, and what you're capable of doing).
- Everyone will know each other perfectly at a glance. Illuminated by the light of God, our bodies will perfectly express who we are. They will image us and image Christ perfectly, beautifully, effortlessly, forever, in the presence of God. ~Hahn, *Hope to Die*, 97-98.

48

Identifiable Traits

- **Summary:** Your glorified body will possess the following characteristics:
 - **Quality:** Still be you at most perfect stage of nature;
 - **Identity:** You will have same body and be recognized;
 - **Integrity:** Your body will be restored whole;
 - **Impassibility:** Your body will be incorruptible;
 - **Subtlety:** Your body will possess a lightness;
 - **Agility:** Your body will be perfectly coordinated;
 - **Clarity:** Your body will express perfectly who you are.

49

Heaven – Fr. Luke

- **Heaven**
 - Sacred Scripture
 - Councils
 - Ways of understanding heaven
 - Beatific Vision (traditional)
 - Personalistic language or relational better images for modern man (e.g., communion)
 - Subjective experience of heaven

50