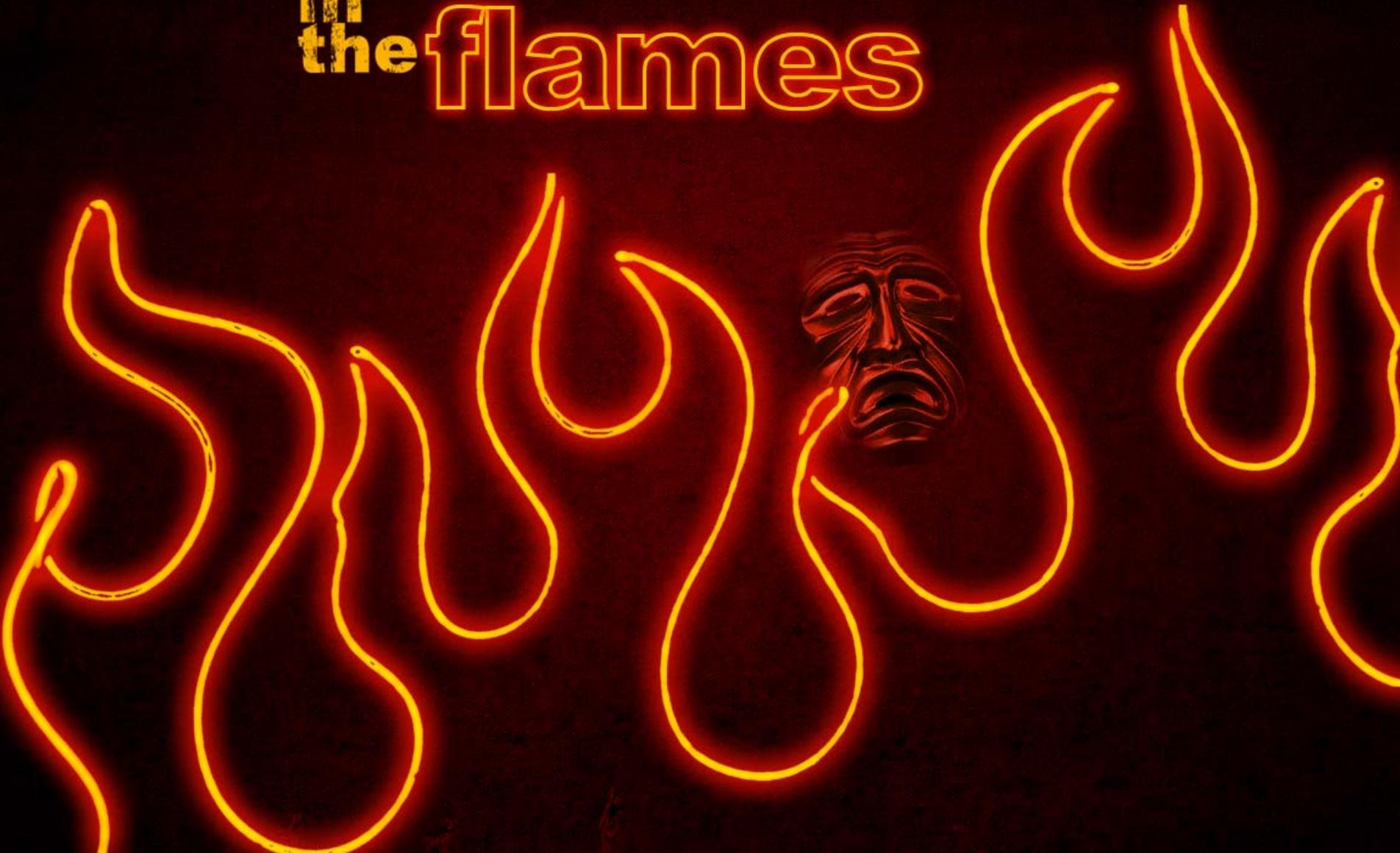


**tormented**  
**in the flames**



## Luke 16:19-24

There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day.



**At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.**



**The time came when the beggar died  
and the angels carried him to Abraham's  
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**The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. So he called to him, ‘Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.’**



## Matthew 25:46

[The wicked] will go away to eternal  
punishment...



## II Thessalonians 1:9

They will be punished with everlasting  
destruction...



## Hebrews 6:2

(The unredeemed) suffer “eternal judgment”.



- 1) How is eternal punishment consistent with the Biblical theme that God's anger lasts "for a moment," but his love, mercy and/or favor lasts "forever?" (Psalm 30:5; 103:9; I Chronicles 16:34; 2 Chronicles 20:21)**



## Lamentations 3:32-33

Though he brings grief, he will show compassion, so great is his unfailing love. For he does not willingly bring affliction or grief to any human being.



**2) How is eternal punishment consistent with the teaching that “God is love”?  
(I Jn 4:8; 16 )**



**3) How is eternal punishment consistent with the Bible's teaching regarding God's final victory? (I Jn 4:8; 16 )**



**All things will be brought together under one head, Christ.**

**Ephesians 1:10, 21-22**

**God will be “all in all”**

**I Corinthians 15:28**



**All creatures in heaven and earth shall bow in worship before the throne.**

**Philippians 2:10-11**

**cf. Romans 14:10-11**

**All things will be restored and be reconciled to God**

**Colossians 1:20**

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**There will be no more tears, sorrow,  
violence or death.**

**Revelation 21:4, etc.**



1) Luke 16:19-31 is a *parable*



**2) There are many metaphors used to describe God's final punishment**

**- *gehenna***

**(“hell” = a dump outside of Jerusalem)**



**2) There are many metaphors used to describe God's final punishment**

- *gehenna*
- *being consumed with unquenchable fire*



## Matthew 3:12

**[Messiah] will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”**



- *gehenna*
- *being consumed with unquenchable fire*
- ***separation/darkness/sorrow/rage***



## Matthew 8:12

[The unredeemed] will be thrown outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.



**3) The three most common ways of referring to God's final punishment in the Bible are...**



# Death

**Romans 6:23**

the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life

**James 1:15**

...sin, when it is fully grown, gives birth to death.



## ***Destruction***

### **Matthew 7:13**

Jesus contrasts the way that “leads to life” with the path that “leads to destruction.”

### **Matthew 10:28**

Jesus says we’re to fear him who “can destroy both soul and body in hell”



# *Perishing*

**John 3:16**

**God sent Jesus so that “everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life”**



The wicked will vanish away “like smoke” (Psalm 37:20) and “like a dream when one awakes” (Psalm 78:10). They will “not be remembered” (Psalm 9:6; 34:16) and “shall be as though they had never been” (Obadiah 16).



**4) The Bible sometimes speaks of things being “eternal” in *consequence*, not in *duration*.**



## Hebrews 5:9

The Son “became the source of *eternal salvation* for all who obey him...”



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Jesus “entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining *eternal redemption.*”



**Paul says everyone's life work will be tried by fire**

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**II Peter 3:7**



**1) You were created for eternal life,  
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**God is not wanting anyone to perish, but  
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