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Four Views On Hell: Second Edition (Counterpoints: Bible And Theology)



Synopsis

Recent years have seen much controversy regarding hell: Do we go to heaven or hell when we die? Or do we cease to exist? Are believers and unbelievers ultimately saved in the end? *Four Views on Hell* highlights why the church still needs to wrestle with the doctrine of hell. In the familiar counterpoints format, four leading scholars introduce us to the current views on eternal judgment, with particular attention being given to the new voices that have entered the debate. Contributors and views include:

Denny Burk: Eternal Conscious Torment
John Stackhouse: Annihilationism (Conditional Immortality)
Robin Parry: Universalism (Ultimate Reconciliation)
Jerry Walls: Purgatory
Preston Sprinkle concludes the discussion by evaluating each view, noting significant points of exchange between the essayists. The interactive nature of the volume allows the reader to reflect on the strengths and weaknesses of each view and come to an informed conclusion.
BONUS CONTENT: Includes entire first edition of *Four Views on Hell* to help readers grasp the history of the discussion and how it has developed over the last twenty years.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a good presentation of varying views evangelicals take on the reality, nature, & duration of hell. If you don't understand how someone can believe scripture to be true AND be a universalist or annihilationist, this book will be enlightening. It's an accessible read that accomplishes its objective; to state the case for a few diverse views. If you are already familiar with the positions Christians take on this issue, this book is unlikely to offer new insights. I was disappointed that so little attention was given by any of the contributors on the historical development of the doctrine of hell. This is, in my opinion, a significant shortcoming of the volume.

GREAT is an understatement. Having only been exposed to the traditional camp, it was great to see the other positions with respective scriptural support. Intellectually the purgatory view makes a ton of sense but the scriptural backing wasn't there IMO. The strongest scriptural basis seemed to be annihilationism or universalism. My only complaint would be the traditional view synopsis. Either the support is weak in the scriptures or Denny Burk did an absolutely TERRIBLE job supporting a strong position.

Excellent presentation of various arguments and responses. Beck's arguments seemed noticeably weak. He made many statements without back up evidence. E.g., the word for "forever" in Matt 25 he claims does definitely mean forever. There is good evidence that this is not the case but without evidence he merely states that this is what it means (p28). I'll give more detailed comments when I complete reading the book. This is a very good addition to the 1996 edition which had other contributors.

Good read if 1) you like deep stuff, and 2) you have always wondered about the hell gospel.

Very interesting and readable book about four views on hell. I found it encouraging to read the book and find that there are others that, like myself, do not believe that God would torture people for eternity. All four views on hell are well argued by their proponents and the book is very readable.

Not a bad read on hell. I would add it to your list if you are studying the topic.

Good to introduce the four views.

This is the best books in the area of views on hell.

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