

Dilemma: Jesus told us God is love. Jesus told us hell is real.

To reject one is to <u>reject both</u>

(Jesus): "The King will...say, 'Away with you, you cursed ones, into the eternal fire"... they will go away into eternal punishment" (Mt 25:41,46) "will be cast into outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Mt 8:12) "the unquenchable fires of hell ...where the worm never dies and the fire never goes out"" (Mk 9:43,48)

1. My Love Provides The <u>Justice</u> You Want

"Wake up, my God, and bring justice!" (Psalm 7:6)

"He (Jesus) will not crush the weakest reed or put out a flickering candle. Finally **he will cause justice to be victorious**." (Matt 12:20)

2. My Love Took The <u>Punishment</u> You Deserve

"No one is good, not even one...For all have sinned... God in his gracious kindness ...**sent Jesus to take the punishment** for our sins" (Rom 3:10,24,25)

3. My Love Hates Hell and <u>Pursues</u> You

"says the Sovereign Lord, I **take no pleasure in the death of wicked people**. I only want them to turn from their wicked ways so they can live." (Ezekiel 33:11) "(God) **wants everyone to be saved** and to understand the truth" (1 Timothy 2:4) "The Lord...**does not want anyone to be destroyed**" (2 Peter 3:9)

4. My Love Allows You To Say <u>No To Me</u>

(Jesus) "But all who **reject me** and my message will be judged" (John 12:48) "(Jesus) will come...bringing judgment on those... **who refuse to obey** the Good News of our Lord Jesus. They will be punished" (2 Thessalonians 1:7-9)

"But endless torture isn't fair for earthly mistakes."

5. Hell isn't a torture chamber and isn't for mistakes Saying "No" to God means "No God." <u>That is Hell.</u>

"They will be...forever separated from the Lord and from his glorious power" (2 Thess. 1:9)

6. I will match the punishment <u>to the crime</u>

(Jesus)" But they shamelessly cheat widows... to cover up the kind of people they really are, they make long prayers in public. Because of this, **their punishment will be the greater**" (Mark 12:40; also Luke 12:47,48; Matthew 11:20-24)

"Why should millions of people who haven't heard about Jesus, or can't understand it, go to hell?"

7. You Can Trust Me <u>To Be Fair</u>

(I am)" The God of **compassion and mercy**... filled with unfailing love" (Exodus 34:6) "God is a judge who is **perfectly fair**" (Psalm 7:11)

God welcomes the children

"Your father in heaven doesn't want any of these little children to be lost" (Matt 18:14) (David referring to his dead infant son) "I will go to him someday" (2 Sam. 12:23)

God <u>reveals Himself</u> to honest seekers

"God rewards those who sincerely seek him." (Heb. 11:6) "When **you look for me** whole heartedly **you will find me**." (Jeremiah. 29:13)

God considers what people know and <u>understand</u>

"For you **look deep within the mind and heart**, O righteous God...saving those whose hearts are true and right. God is an honest judge." (Psalm 7:9-10)

"How can I be happy with loved ones in hell?"

8. You will agree the punishment is <u>just</u> "Yes, Lord God Almighty, your punishments are true and just" (Rev 16:7; 15:3, 19:2)

9. <u>Joy</u> will swallow up sadness "(God) will remove all of their sorrows" (Revelation 21:4)

"God, why don't you just forgive?"

10. I do, but you must <u>accept it.</u>