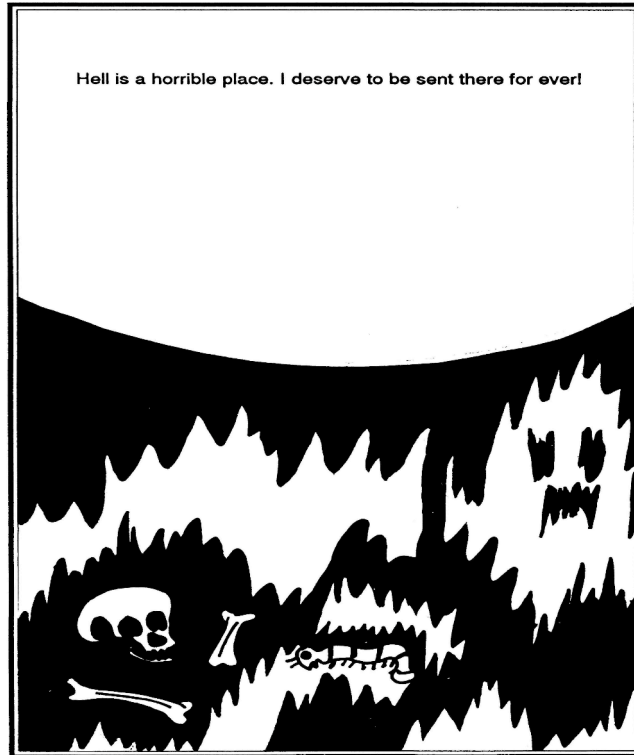


6. Hell Is No Joke!



Hell is a place of torment, where the worm does not die and the fire is not quenched. It is the place of darkness, where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth. It is the place where all the wicked, and the demons, are tormented day and night forever. Hell is a horrible place. Hell is no joke!

At death, the soul goes to either heaven or hell. There is no third place to go to. Heaven is a perfectly righteous place where sinful people cannot go to. The place we deserve to go to is hell.

Some people believe that they will suffer in hell for some time to pay for their sins. After that, they will go to heaven. But this belief is not true. It was first invented and taught by two Christian leaders, Clement and Origen, in Alexandria, Egypt, in the second and third centuries A. D. It has been adopted by some other religions. It is a clever idea that helps to appease the conscience of man. Since it is not true, we will be deluding ourselves by believing in it.

Consider the character of God. We have offended a *perfectly holy and pure* God, so the punishment we deserve must be the *severest* possible. We have offended a *perfectly just* God, so the punishment must be carried out *exactly* as we deserve. We have offended an *eternal* God who forever sees our sins, so our punishment must be *eternal*!

It is not possible for you to escape being punished in hell, unless God shows mercy to you.

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