

## ETERNAL PUNISHMENT IN HELL, ULTIMATE JUSTICE?

Christians lie that ultimate justice is not served or is a fiction if there is no eternal punishment. That is an interesting argument. It denies that Hell is merely what happens if you keep out of Heaven. It really is a punishment like somebody being sent to prison. The doctrine goes too far in accusing those who think there is no Hell of being the enemies of justice. It may be unfair that ultimate justice is not possible but that does not mean there is no justice as in a principle that needs to be served if possible. You are basically saying that justice is rubbish if it cannot be administered! Thus ultimate justice does not imply there is a Hell.

Clearly if God does punish forever and God makes sure that it will be administered and there will be no "Johnny should be punished but owing to the circumstances he cannot be" then if God is good then the ultimate justice argument is being presupposed. God must arrange it that he will deliver the punishment.

Many Christians have a more emotional take on the Hell idea. They don't want to feel that some mass murdering tyrant can end up as well off as say a totally dedicated humanitarian. They say that is not justice having the final say. At least they admit how spiteful they are. They might say they don't want Hitler in Heaven. These are the people that say if he repented he should be in Heaven!

It is clearly hate to want somebody unhappy and punished forever when who care if they are happy as long as they cannot hurt anybody any more?

To tell us we are evil and not on the side of the oppressed if we deny Hell for we should seek ultimate justice is simply using the suffering of the oppressed to blackmail us. Ultimate justice should not need eternal punishment. We wouldn't put a murderer away forever in jail. For life maybe but not forever if we could.

