

# Hell

*The Subject I'd Rather  
Not Teach*

*Heaven?*

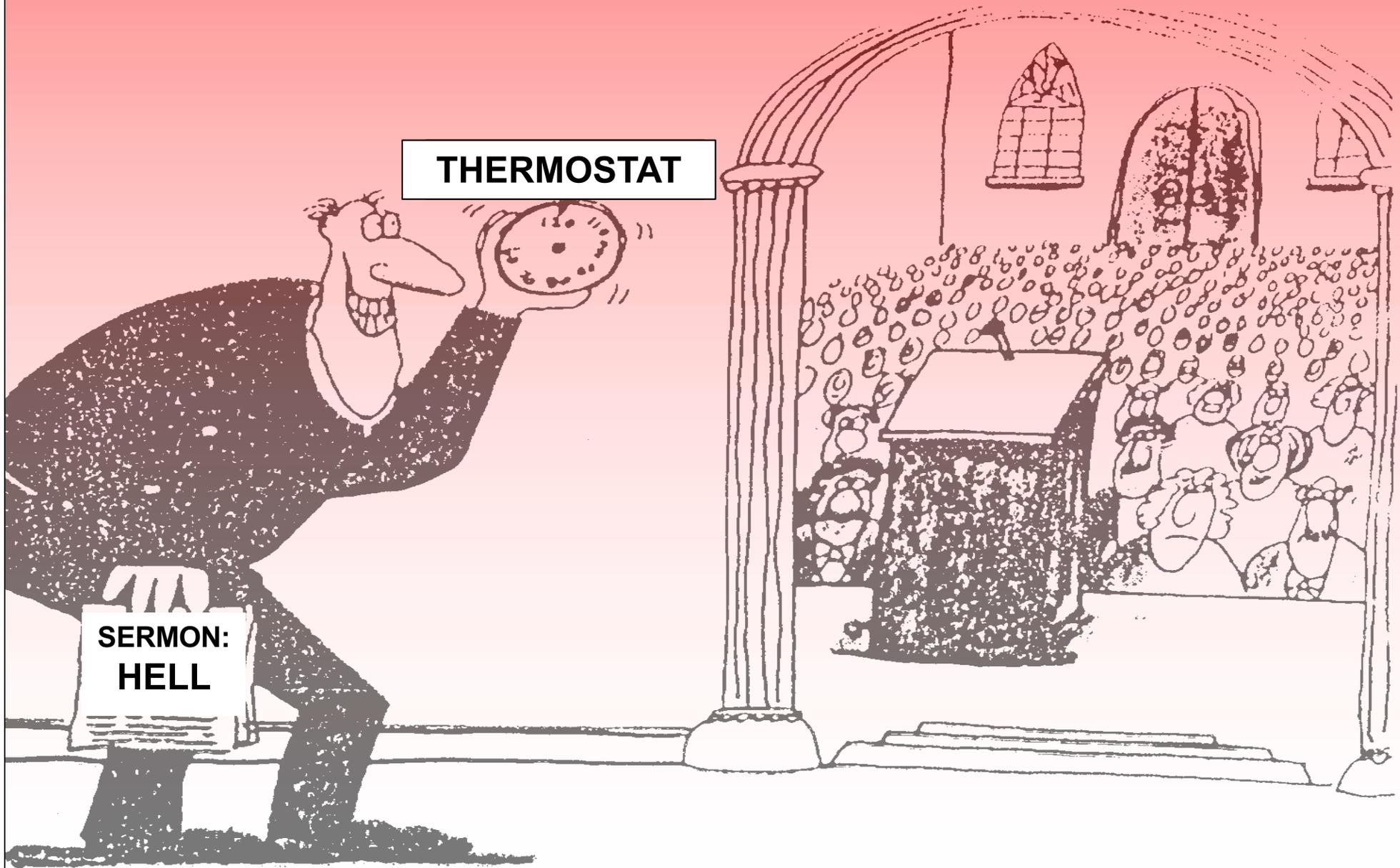
*What Do You Think of...*

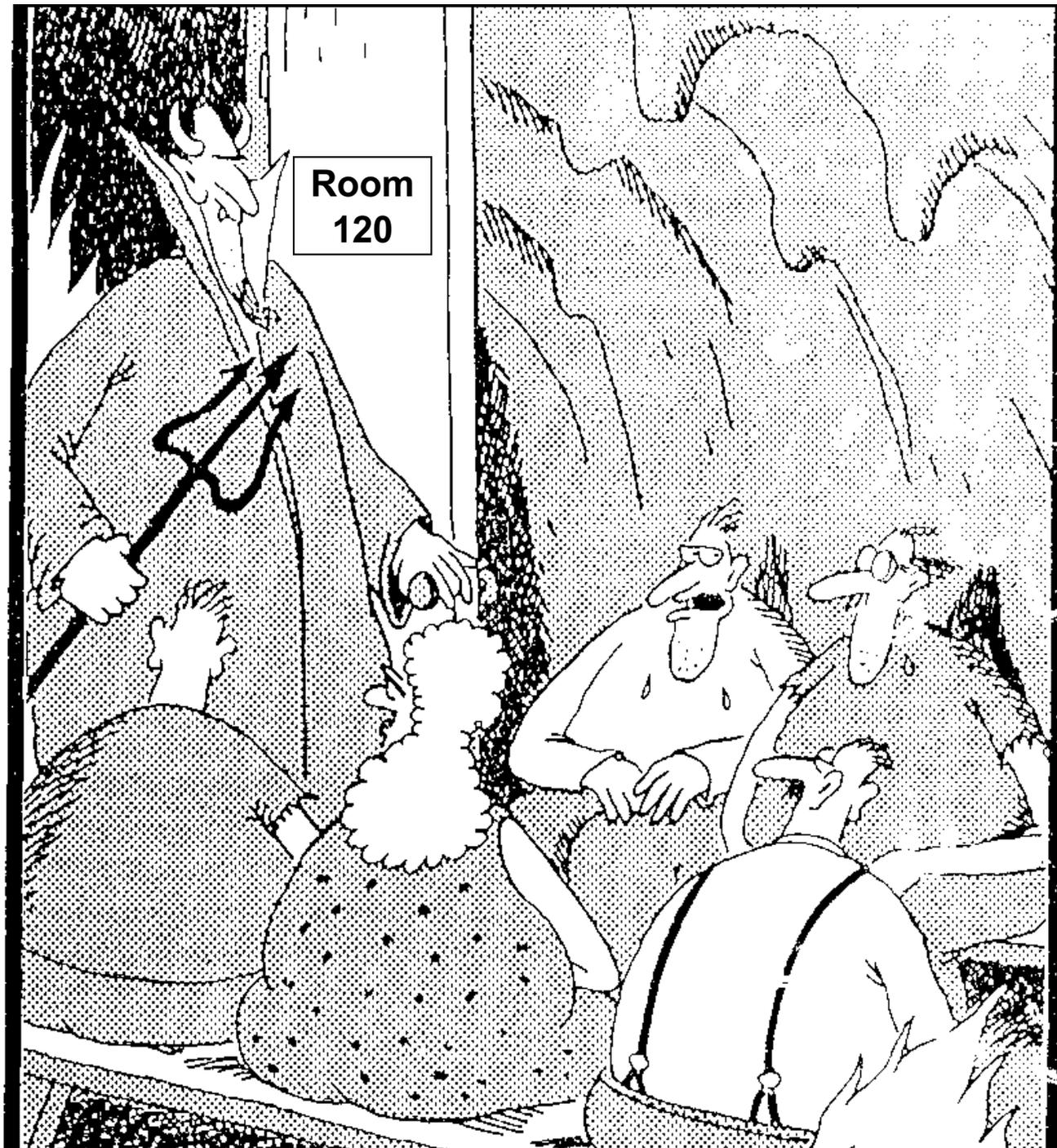
**and**

**Hell?**

**THERMOSTAT**

**SERMON:  
HELL**





**"Speak of the Devil."**



Nerds in Hell





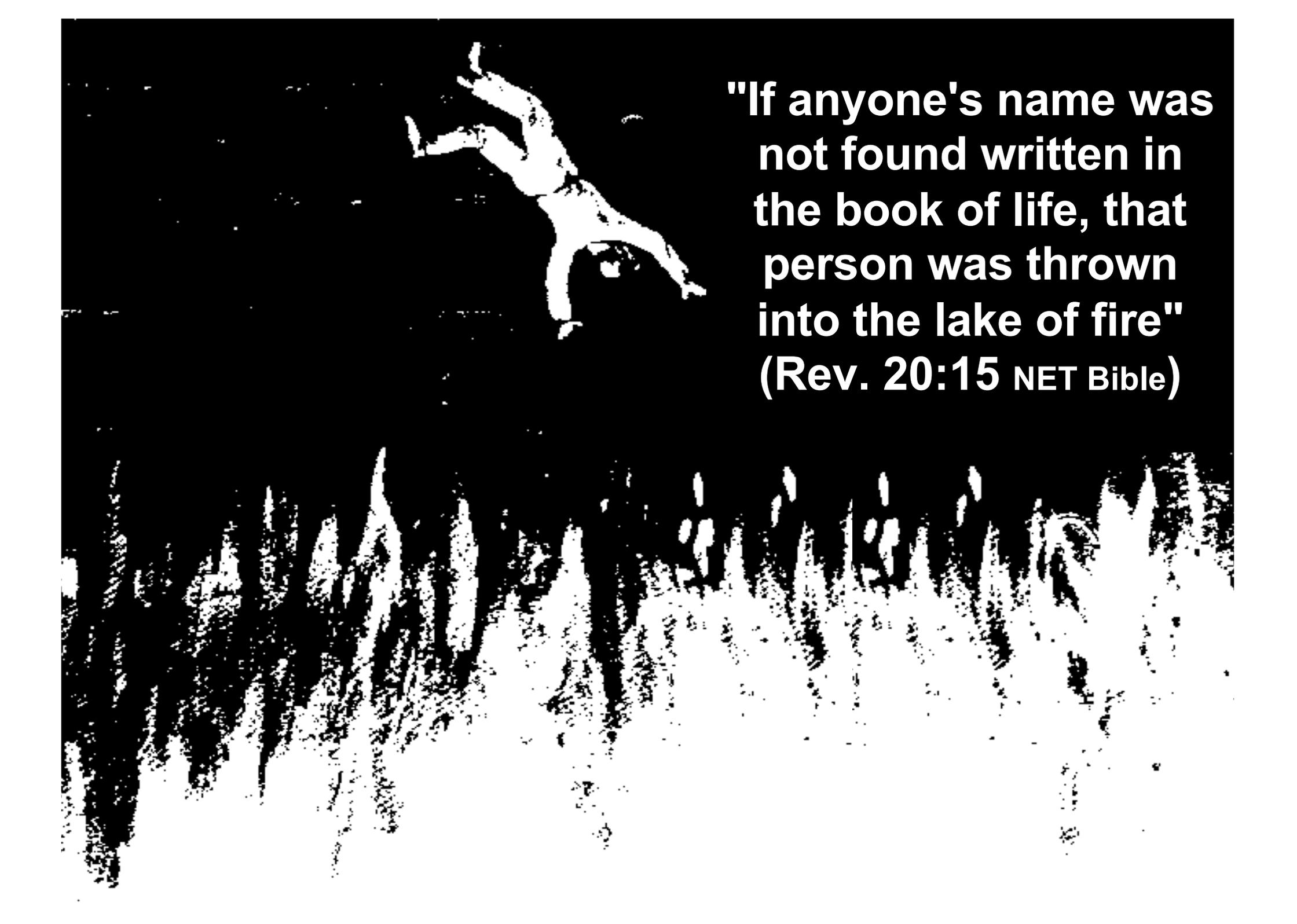
**C'MON, LET'S GO  
HOME AND I'LL STAB  
YOUR GUTS OUT.**

**WHEEEE!!  
I LOVE HELL!**

**HELL  
LOVES YOU  
TOO KID.**

A digital illustration of a hellish landscape. The scene is dominated by intense red and orange colors, suggesting fire and lava. In the foreground, there are jagged, dark, rocky formations. A single human skull is placed on a small mound of dark earth in the center of the scene. The background features a bright, yellowish-green glow, possibly representing a source of light or fire. The overall atmosphere is one of torment and suffering.

**Hell: What if  
it's Real?**

A high-contrast, black and white image. The top half shows a person in mid-air, falling head-down. The bottom half shows a large, intense fire with many vertical flames. The overall image is very dark and grainy.

**"If anyone's name was  
not found written in  
the book of life, that  
person was thrown  
into the lake of fire"  
(Rev. 20:15 NET Bible)**

# Attacks on Hell



**Universalism**  
**Annihilationism**  
**Purgatory**

# Universalism



**What is it?**

**Arguments cited**

**Rebuttals**

LOVE WINS

A BOOK ABOUT  
HEAVEN, HELL AND  
THE FATE OF  
EVERY PERSON  
WHO EVER LIVED

ROB BELL

## Recent Universalism



**Of his 10,000-member Grand Rapids Mars Hill Bible Church, 3000 left after the book, then Bell himself left for California to run a "faith-inflected talk show"**





**"Then I saw a  
great white  
throne..."  
(20:11)**

# The Lake of Fire (20:14-15)



# Annihilationism



**What is it?**

**Arguments cited**

**Rebuttals**

# Annihilationist Groups

- **Seventh-Day Adventists**
- **Jehovah's Witnesses**
- **Some "Evangelicals"?**



# Annihilationist Arguments

Rebuttals

- God is too nice to send people to eternal hell

God is absolutely just and holy

- "Destruction" implies annihilation

"Destruction" refers to physical death

# Church of England Report, January 1996

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- "Hell as ultimate non-being is the way in which we've put it. The horrible demons are the imaginations of inventors and medievalists."

Bishop John Taylor

One of the authors of the report

# Purgatory

What is it?

# Arguments Cited for Purgatory

- "Not good enough for heaven but not bad enough for hell"
- 2 Maccabees



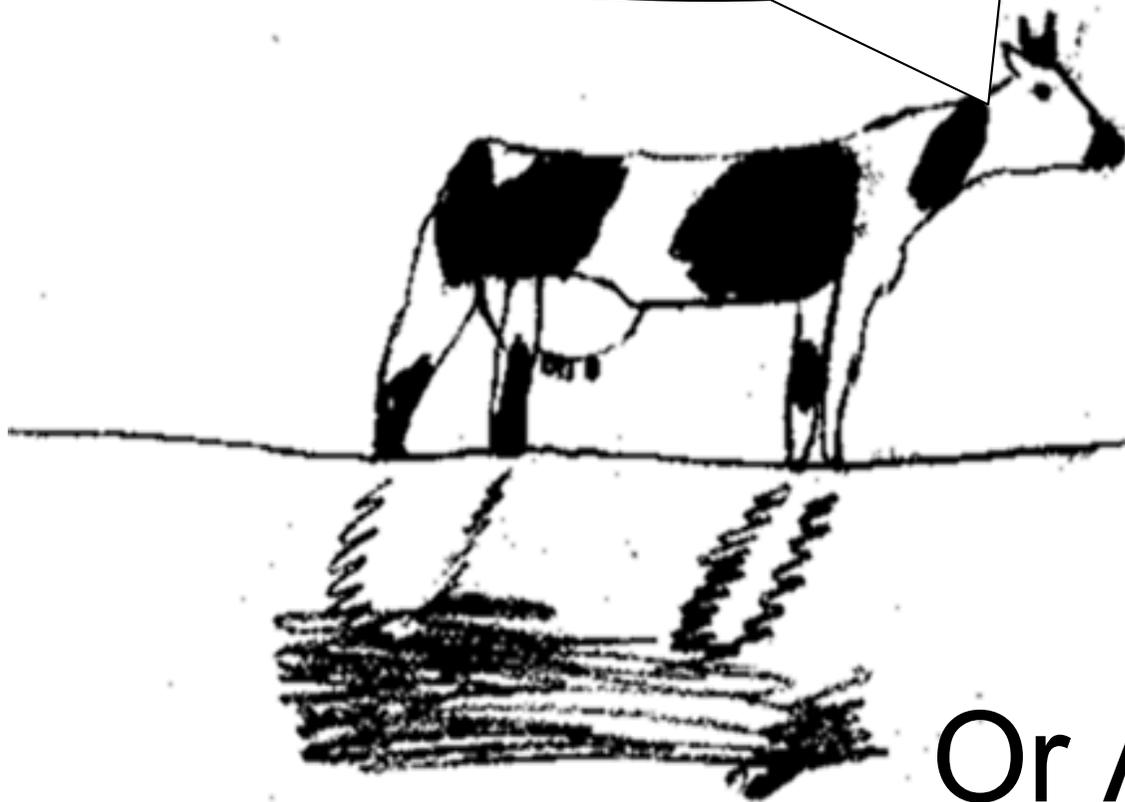
# Rebuttals to Purgatory

- **Salvation by works**
- **Apocrypha**
- **No second chance**

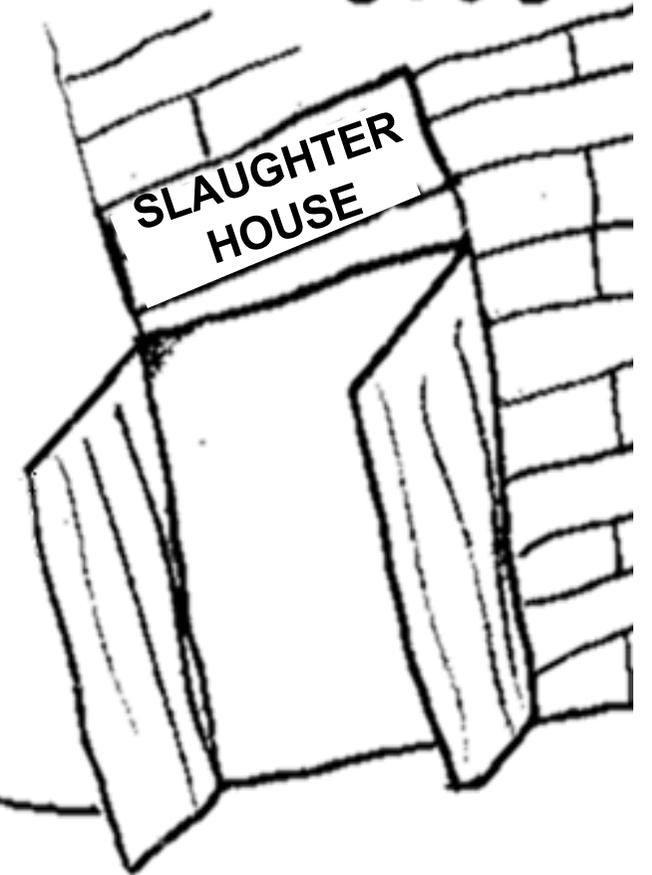


# HELL IS...

AT LEAST I DON'T HAVE TO GO  
TO WORK TOMORROW



© Paul Welch  
2000



Purgatory?  
Or Annihilationism?

# Why study and teach about hell?

# What's the Difference?

## Grace

...is God  
giving us  
what we  
do **not**  
deserve

## Mercy

...is God  
**not** giving us  
what we  
**do**  
deserve

# Where is Hell?

# Gates of Hell





# Hell is Making a Comeback

By ROY RIVENBURG

**J**UST when it seemed safe to enter the afterlife, eternal damnation has returned — that glowing light at the end of the tunnel might just turn out to be a blast furnace. Hell, after practically vanishing from public thought in recent de-

• "It exists but it's not a place," said Biola University philosophy professor J.P. Moreland, co-author of *Immortality: The Other Side of Death*. "It's like numbers. They're real, but no one knows where they are."

Y  
Of

history professor who taught a class

# What is Hell Like?

171

- Eternal (Matt. 25:46; 2 Thess. 1:8-9; 1 Cor. 1:18; 4:3; Heb. 2:3)
- Eternal consumption by worms (Mark 9:47-48)
- Total Separation from God's Presence (2 Thess. 1:9)
- Outer Darkness (Matt. 8:12; 25:30; 2 Peter 2:17; Jude 13; cf. *1 Enoch* 102:8; *Ps. Sol.* 14:9)
- Unquenchable fire (Matt. 5:22; 18:8-9; 25:41; Mark 9:47-48; Luke 16:24; James 3:6; Jude 7; Rev. 20:14-15; cf. *Exod.* 3:1-6; *Sib. Or.* 4:40-44)

# Classical View of Hell



χαλός ♦ μόνος ♦ δέδογμαι ♦ φυχή ♦ υεός ♦ γεγένημαι

172  
Point c

**There is no  
boss there!**

λευσομαι ♦ έρώ ♦ έδόϋην ♦ έδείχϋην ♦ έβουλήϋην ♦ φη

BY JAY

# Literal or Figurative Fire?



# Degrees of Punishment in Hell?



**"Smoking or non-smoking?"**

# The Tri-City Area

172  
Point f



**Then Jesus began to denounce the cities in which most of his miracles had been performed, because they did not repent.**

**"Woe to you, Korazin! Woe to you Bethsaida!  
If the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.  
But I tell you, it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon on the day of judgment than for you.**

**And you, Capernaum, will you be lifted up to the skies? ... It will be more bearable for Sodom on the day of judgment than for you."**

**Matthew 11:20-24**

**One of the worst things  
about hell is a memory.**

I'M ALONE NOW. I'M ON THE ISLAND ALONE. PLEASE SOMEONE COME.  
THE OTHERS. THEY'RE DEAD.  
IT KILLED THEM. IT KILLED THEM ALL.

BLOODY HELL

Who will go to hell?



Those who reject Christ



# God's Wrath (Romans 1:18-20)

- **The Reality (18a)**
- **The Reason (18b-20a)**
- **The Result (20b)**

Romans 1:20

**Person who is  
Limitless**

**Person who is  
Supernatural**

For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse (NIV).

# Why God is Angry at Gentiles (1:21-32)

Ignore God (21-23)

God gave  
them over

Impurity (24)

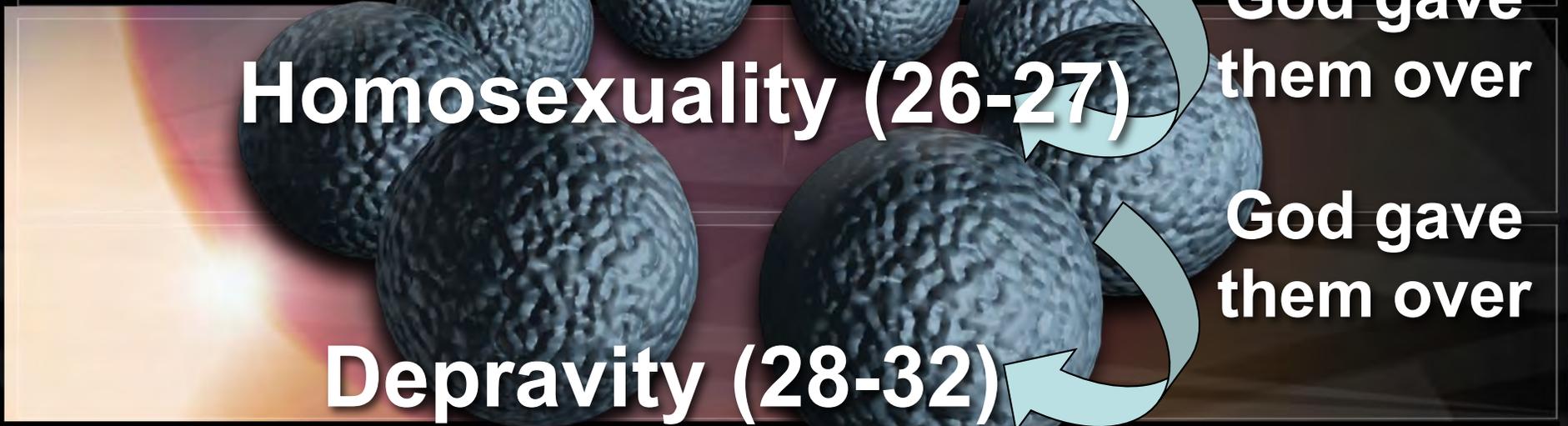
Idolatry (25)

God gave  
them over

Homosexuality (26-27)

God gave  
them over

Depravity (28-32)

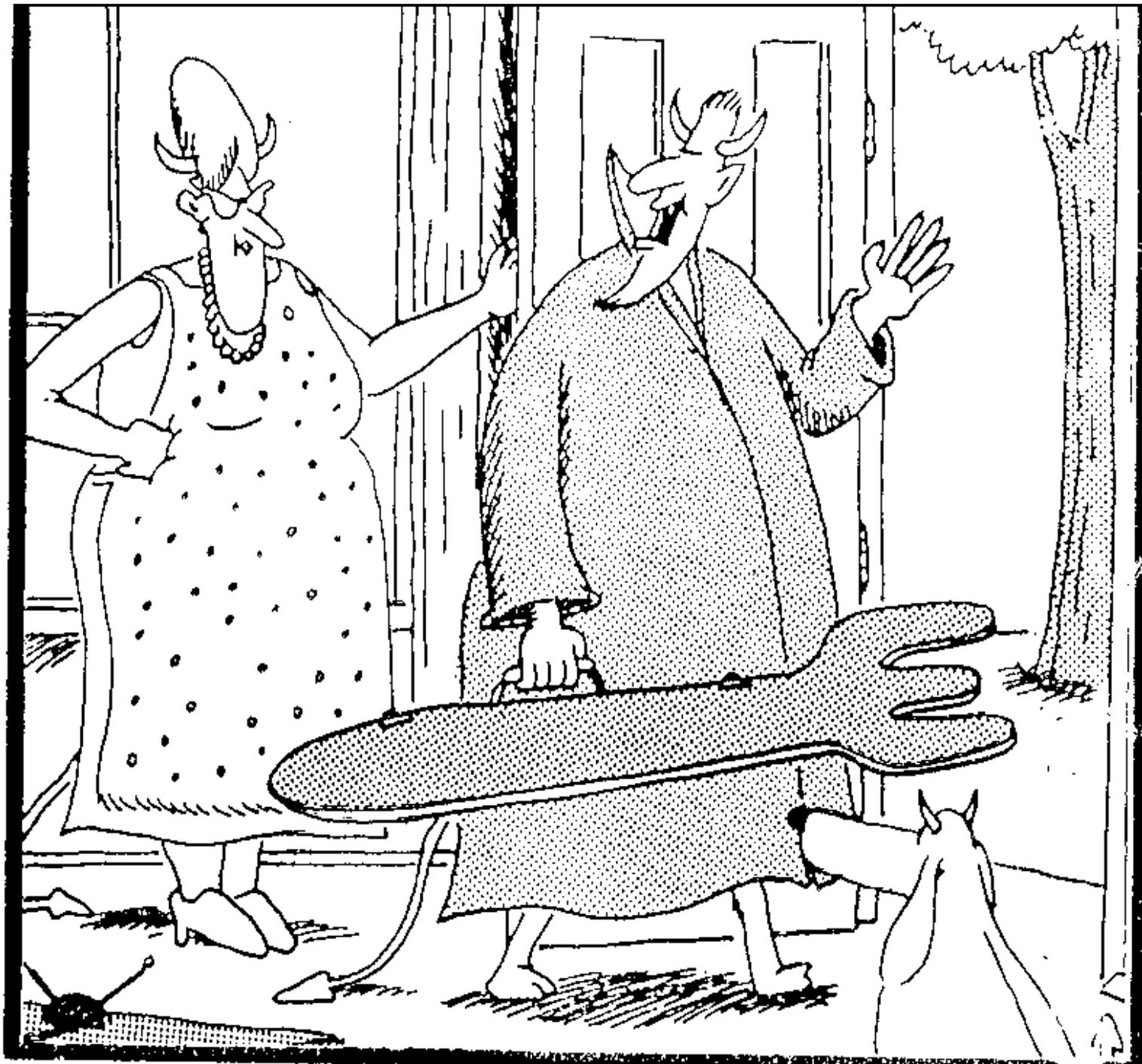


# Which Will We Believe?

Tradition

Man dwells with the  
devil

Bible



**"Well, down I go."**

# Which Will We Believe?

## Tradition

Man dwells with the devil—the boss

"At least my friends will be there"

Bodies suffer mild discomfort

## Bible

Man is alone (Luke 13:28)

Yes, but you won't see them (Luke 13:28)

Bodies suffer from burning sulfur and consumption by worms (Mark 9:47-48; Rev. 21:8)

# Which Will We Believe?

## Tradition

Satan is tormenter  
over all in Hell

A place of solid earth

People alone suffer

Satan rules with  
pitchfork

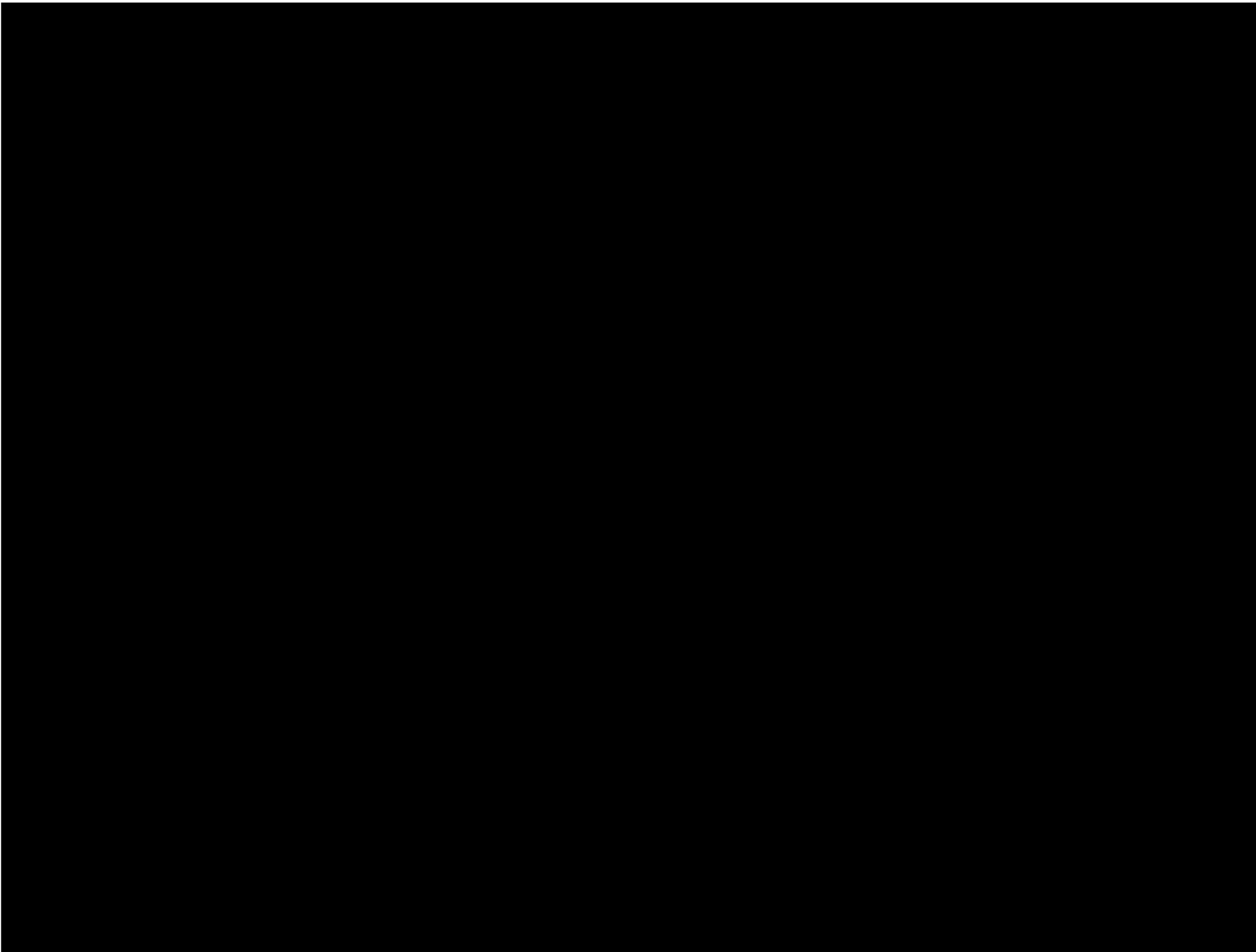
## Bible

Satan in torment with  
those tormented (Rev. 20:10)

A lake (Rev. 20:10)

Demons too (2 Pet. 2:4)

Satan thrown into Hell  
with no emblems of  
dominion (Rev. 20:10)



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