

1. The Word of God tells us that we all know that those who do these types of things deserve to die eternally, facing the judgment of God in Hell. But even though we know it, we not only do these types of things, we give approval to those who practice them. So even if we deny that we do these things, we have given approval to those who practice them without a doubt.
2. Yet even if we argue that we are innocent and have never given approval to sin, God says we have no excuse because we have self-righteously judged those who practice these sins, thinking that we are better than them. And He then says that even though we deny it, we practice the same things. So because of this, we rightly face God's judgment.
3. God then asks us if we think we will escape His judgment when we sin against Him and pridefully judge others for the same sins that we commit. Or, do we instead believe we will escape His judgment because of His kindness, patience, and love? But He tells us that His patience and love are meant to lead us to repentance. Without true repentance, there will be no escape from the judgment of God.
4. But we do not naturally have repentant hearts. Instead, we have hard and impenitent hearts that do not desire to repent of our sins. And because of our unrepentant hearts, the wrath of God is rising up and building up against us. So one day soon, God's judgment will be revealed against our sin, and we will face justice in eternal Hell.
5. How will God judge us when we face Him on judgment day? According to everything we have done. For anyone who has lived sinlessly, they will receive eternal life. But that includes no one. Since we have not obeyed God's truth perfectly, there will be eternal wrath and fury for us.
6. No matter who we are and where we come from, every one of us will face tribulation and distress in eternal Hell because of the evil we have done.
7. God's standard is flawless, holy perfection. If there is any sin against Him in us at all, we deserve eternal Hell as we have sinned against an infinite God. Our sins against God must be punished.
8. But Jesus has done something so that it is possible for us to be saved from the wrath of God. On the Cross, He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. And God the Father has stricken Him, smitten Him, and afflicted Him. All these words mean that God has punished His Son for our sins in our place.
9. The piercing of Jesus' hands and feet was done because of our transgressions, or our sin. He was crushed under the weight of our sins. God chastised Him so that we might have peace. Jesus was wounded so that our relationship with God might be healed.
10. Here again, we see that all of us have turned away from God and gone our own selfish ways, every last one of us. Because of this, we deserve God's judgment. But instead of judgment, all those who trust in Christ's atoning death will receive forgiveness because God has laid on Jesus all our iniquity, all our sin.
11. Jesus was oppressed by the wrath of God being poured out on Him and afflicted by the weight of our sin, but He never wavered, never complained. He was an innocent, sinless, perfect lamb given as a sacrifice to take the punishment of Hell upon Himself for all those who would trust in Him.
12. Under the weight of the oppression and judgment of His Father, He not only bore the Father's wrath but also physically died as punishment for the sins that were imputed to Him by the Father from those who would believe in Him.
13. Last but not least, Jesus faced ultimate shame as all those around Him abandoned Him and looked on Him as a criminal even though He was completely innocent and sinless, the purest man who ever lived.
14. Why did Jesus come to die an atoning death? Because of our sin. His soul made an offering, or a sacrifice, for our guilt before God. And it was God's will to crush Jesus, to put Him to grief, to pour out the Father's wrath on the Son so that those who trust in Him might know atonement, might know forgiveness, for their sin.

1. Turn from our unholy ways and cling to the imputed righteousness of Christ as our own through trust in His perfect, sinless life.
2. Turn desperately from our sinful ways and trust in Christ's atoning work as God imputes our sin to Jesus on the cross and pours out His wrath upon Jesus in our place.

Isaiah 64:6

⁶ We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

Matthew 5:48

⁴⁸ [Jesus said,] "You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

2 Corinthians 5:21

²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Matthew 7:21-23

²¹ [Jesus said,] "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²² On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' ²³ And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'