

"If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed, rather than having two hands, to go to hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched."

-Jesus, Mark 9:43 (This statement is not understood correctly.)

Those who do not forsake their evil habits during their earth-life carry those torturing worms of evil tendencies into the astral world and their next incarnation, and are continuously burnt by the inextinguishable fires of ever-increasing evil desires.

-Yogananda

If bodily sensations and sense-pleasures prevent thee from uniting your consciousness with the eternal ever new happiness of meditation. Then cut them off by switching your attention from the sensations. It is better to be united with the eternal happiness found in meditation than to remain conscious of the body constantly burning with the hell-fires of desires born of insatiable love of sense-pleasures. - Yogananda

Jesus is not telling you to cut off your hands or feet or any other organ if they have been the instruments of evil. Or to cast them off. For by doing so, you destroy only the instruments of evil, but not the evil tendencies themselves, which are the real forces which urge your innocent hands and feet to commit evil. Cutting off hands and feet and any other body part may "disable" you from doing "physical evil" but it will not prevent you from doing "mental" evil, which is the source and the real cause of physical evil and the downfall of the soul.

- Yogananda

Yogananda States:

It is better for you to relinquish temporal pleasures for the eternal spiritual bliss and satisfaction of "evolutionary mediation-cultivation" rather than allowing the sense organs and nervous system to be continuously used to "burn" with the insatiable "fire" of physical lust. If you are identified with your sense pleasures, they will inevitably make you aware that sensuality is everlastingly insatiable and productive of fire-like burning misery. "Pluck out" the "impulse" in the optic nerves by disconnecting it by the power of concentration when you are led to see evil or to act according to evil. After doing that forever, destroy the "impulse" of "greed" in your eyes. It is better for you to enter into Christ consciousness (self-realization, Satori, Nirvana, the kingdom of heaven, Brahma, through the use of evolutionary mediation cultivation), by opening the all-seeing eye of wisdom and meditative intuition rather than use your two eyes of "relativity" and sense consciousness and thus remain bound in the misery-making hell-fire of insatiable ego reinforcing sensations. The word "hell" is from the Anglo-Saxon root "Helan;" – "to conceal" The Greek root is Helos, sun or fire therefore the word hellfire is very appropriate to depict the concealed fire of agony which stored-up tendencies can produce in the earthly life.

-Yogananda

There is no such place as hell...hell is the condition of being separated from God.

-Pope, John Paul II; Peter Jennings ABC Evening News (1999?)

Does the Pope mean separation from the church, the body of God? Or did Pope John Paul II have a spiritual revelation which no one else seems to understand?

In the allegory of the cave by Plato, the material realm is the cave, and to KNOW-THY-SELF to be eternal spirit, or spiritual enlightenment is to be out of the cave and in form of virtue, or spirit.

Being separate from God means the same thing as being identified with the physical body-brain and its self created psychological person-ality. In a state of spiritual enlightenment you are one and the same as God. To leave your true natural center and become identified with the body-brain-personality is the condition of separation, from a universal state of mind to a limited state or condition of the mind, from KNOWING that you are ETERNAL SPIRIT to believing you are the mortal physical body and brain. This is the condition and meaning of Hell, in hell you are CONCEALED from God.

The WORST thing about hell is that you don't know that you are ALREADY in it.

When one becomes IDENTIFIED with the body-brain-personality one automatically forgets one's original spiritual state, one feels that even though one is suffering in life it is a natural condition, nothing could be further from the truth. When one seeks the SPIRITUAL KINGDOM WITHIN one has the REVELATION and REMEMBRANCE of what one actually is, one is SPIRIT and NOT the physical body-brain personality.

In the western religions it is taught that when one goes to hell (after physical death) that it is FOREVER! In the eastern schools of spiritual development it is taught that one is already in a hellish state of existence, but one can practice meditation and save one's self by returning and remembering one's true and original spiritual state of being. When in hell, God cannot be found, when in Heaven (enlightenment) hell does not exist any longer.

In Matthew 5:1-48, Jesus is teaching how to be perfect "just as your Father in Heaven is perfect." Jesus speaks of the left hand and right hand, i.e., the true inner self and the outer egocentric self.

This chapter describes meditation in which you are not letting your psychological self (ego-I) know what your true inner self is doing.

In the practice of being perfect spirit, you are not identifying with the false self, the ego-I, your spiritual self is not using the physical self as a POINT OF REFERENCE or POINT OF VIEW. This is why the body and brain are shut down or turned off during meditation. The inner self cannot be turned off, but it can be suppressed by the egocentric personality of the body.

Imagine there's no heaven (outside of us), it's easy if you try. No hell below us, and above us only sky.

-John Lennon

Earthly hells are not to be confused with astral hells, which do exist.

The worst thing about hell is that an individual cannot understand that they are in fact already in it, and have fallen into it by identifying their pure consciousness with the physical body and its limited self created personality, which is *not* God.

"No Man Does Wrong Knowingly" -Socrates

This means, that when any person KNOWS-THY-SELF to be eternal spirit, they would not knowingly or willingly give up that divine state for the egocentric state which is the "WRONG" state to experience life. One would not "BRING FORTH THAT WHICH IS WITHIN" and then relinquish it.