

10 THE UNDER-WORLD OF THE DEAD

the Gehenna of fire, yet future, when the righteous wrath of the thrice holy God shall burn continually and when the worm of a living conscience will gnaw eternally, will be the judgment upon all the wicked and those who refuse Christ and His redemption.

The eternity of the Gehenna punishment is the one thing that our Lord emphasizes in all these passages. He allows absolutely no place for annihilation or restoration. The bodies as well as the souls of the wicked are to be cast into the Gehenna flame and that forever. He speaks of the future Gehenna as "eternal fire," "unquenchable fire," "the place where their worm dieth not," and "their fire is not quenched," "the prison" from which there is no escape," "eternal punishment" as contrasted with eternal life, exclusion from the kingdom, banishment from Christ, "weeping and gnashing of teeth," "outer darkness," etc. (Matt. 18 : 8, 9; Mark 9 : 43-49; Matt. 5 : 25, 26; Luke 12 : 58, 59; Matt. 25 : 30).

Elsewhere the final destiny of the unrighteous is described as the "mist of darkness forever," 2 Peter