

## HADES IS THE TOOL OF DEATH

Hades is the state of a person, community, or nation whereby the fruits of the Spirit are absent, crime is rampant, evil is the norm, and death is imminent.

In Scripture, the depths of Hades was the fate of Capernaum as foretold by Jesus. When a community rejects the teachings of Jesus and thus rejects the indwelling fruits of the Spirit, that community ends in self destruction.

Jesus walked the streets of Capernaum and did many miracles there. By Jesus' presence and miracles they saw the Kingdom of Heaven exalted and lifted up. But Capernaum rejected Jesus. The result of a community rejecting Jesus is that they are brought down to Hades where the fruits of the Spirit are absent, crime is rampant, evil is the norm, and death is the end. This is what Jesus is describing in Matthew 11:23. So, Hades is not some future destination. Hades is the condition in society that brings about death and destruction. Hades is the tool of death.

At the Great White Throne Judgment, Hades, that great tool of death, will be cast into the Lake of Fire. Hades is the condition of those who remain lost in their sin, and have exhibited rebellion against God as a way of life. In Revelation 20:14-15, "Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death— the lake of fire. And if anyone was found whose name was not written in the Book of Life, he was thrown into the lake of fire."

Hades has a destination, the lake of fire, but Hades is much more than a destination. Hades is the condition of living without the fruits of the Spirit, where crime is rampant, where evil is the norm, and in which physical death in this world is often the result, and in which separation from God will be experienced in the second death.