

Where is Hell?

The purpose of this document is to define the original words for Hell in the Bible. I do not like controversy over Bible interpretation. From the time I began earnestly reading the Bible (from cover to cover at least two times a year for the first twenty years, since then more than one time a year with the Lectionary) I have been building a Bible Model that avoids controversy. By focusing on the facts discussed throughout the Bible, it focuses on and is controlled by the relationships defined in Genesis, and it is basically a story of ten people (and the forty people they knew), fifty locations, and how we are now living in that story prophetically. In other words, like all my Business Models, my Bible Model is based on the facts stated in the Bible. Since it is designed to model the things that obviously recur throughout the Bible, I do not need to waste much time linking Scripture verses. However, I do have one document that provides all the Scripture references for the words I use when presenting the Bible as a Business Model. Reading the Bible so much, I have some confidence I know what is there factually. But, this past week I was exposed for the first time to the fact that many translations do not include the idea of Hell. I think it is interesting that my first reaction was that: “it is not in my models either”. I do not like controversy, but to me the statement was not controversial. From what I have read in the book [Raising Hell](#) though, many people do not agree with me.

Raising Hell

A week before last I met Stephen Ferwerda, husband of Julie Ferwerda the author of [Raising Hell](#) (2011, all rights reserved, Vagabond Group, PO Box 1001, Lander WY 82520). We both love to ski including ski racing, so we decided to meet again. Stephen and Julie have recently moved to Sandpoint, ID; which is on the other side of Schweitzer Mountain from my home in Bonners Ferry, ID. To exchange contact information we exchanged websites where we both noted we had more in common than skiing. The next time we skied we discussed my calling and Julie’s book. Stephen warned me about the controversial nature of Julie’s book, which he brought to me the third day we skied together. Before I even read the book though, I realized that Hell was not in my Bible Model. After I read [Raising Hell](#), I realized it was not in the original Hebrew and Greek Scripture either. It only came into Bible translations hundreds of years after the Church was established, after the Creeds were established and only in the Western Church. It first came in to the Church from Greek thought by the way of Saint Augustine. In [Raising Hell](#) Julie demonstrates this by comparing the way the original words for Hell are translated in various translations and noting there is no Hell in the Old Testament, Psalms, Acts, or Paul’s Epistles.

Summary: Where is Hell?

The purpose of this document is to define the original words for Hell in the Bible. There are no original words for Hell in the Bible. That means that Jesus saved everyone. Check it out in [Raising Hell](#). Like it did for me, it should clarify much Scripture.