to be tried; and after being sentenced as risen men,  
they are cast into hell, or the lake of fire.  
 In that lake they and the three specially mentioned  
“shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.”  
No further exit, for these firebrands, into God’s universe!  
*Eternally* they shall suffer. It is no marvel, if in our  
day the awful doctrine of eternal punishment is frequently attacked: but the evidence for it is overwhelming.  
 Here the difference between temporary and eternal  
punishment comes directly into view. We are set at  
the close of the temporary vengeance: and there the  
Holy Spirit traces for us the line of future wrath. It  
is not millennial wrath alone that the wicked are to  
endure. After that period is over, we are instructed  
that onward, without a break, *torment* is to continue.  
It is not annihilation, and relative punishment, in consequence of transgressors being blotted out of conscious  
existence. It is life and conscious life in misery—“TORMENTED FOR EVER AND EVER.”

THE FINAL JUDGMENT

11-15. “And I saw a great white throne, and the Sitter on it,  
from whose face the earth and the heaven fled: and place was not  
found for them. And I saw the dead, the great and the small,  
standing before the throne:1 and books were opened; and another  
book was opened which is (the book) of life: and the dead were  
judged out of the things written in the books according to their  
works. And the sea gave up the dead that were in it; and Death  
and Hades gave up the dead that were in them: and they were  
judged each according to their works. And Death and Hades  
were cast into the lake of fire. This is the Second Death, the lake  
of fire.1 And if any was not found written in the book of life, he  
was cast into the lake of fire.”  
  
 In the Holy Spirit’s words we have the scene which  
is usually called “the Judgment Day.” It is also

1 So Tregelles.