

After Death What Then ?

What will you choose ?

Eternal Life

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F.W.C. Nesor M.Sc.

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Introduction.

Life is a preparation for death. In the midst of life we stand in death.
King David said:

“There is but a step between me and death” -- 1 Samuel 20:3.

Every time we hear the sirens of an ambulance we are reminded of death. Every mortuary, every churchyard, every funeral procession reminds us of the last enemy, death, -----

1 Corinthians 15:26;

The last enemy *that* shall be destroyed *is* death.

----- and warns us that also for us the **merciless reaper** might come completely unexpectedly.

No matter what we do, before the return of Christ, death must be the eventual experience for everyone on earth.

Think of this, that of the world population of over 3 billion today (January 1968) in a 100 years' time, not one of them will remain.

Their bodies will be dead and without feeling, but what of their souls?

What does the word of God say?

What does the word of God teach us about the condition of: - “man after death”?

The Bible teaches us:

That man's soul continues forever in one of two places:

Namely heaven or hell.

Chapter 1

Physical & Spiritual nature of man

The difference between the Physical & Spiritual nature of man.

Man is not just a physical being, in reality man is a spirit being. The Bible teaches us very clearly that man has a spiritual nature which is completely separate from the body it inhabits.

Job 32:8 says;

But *there is* a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding.

Zachariah 12:1 says;

THE burden of the word of the LORD for Israel, saith the LORD, which stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeth the foundation of the earth, and formeth the spirit of man within him.

The “spirit of man within him” and “man” that we can see, are as different from each other as a house is from the person that lives in it.

Compare also the following:

Job 14:22;

But his flesh upon him shall have pain, and his soul within him shall mourn.

Matthew 10:28;

And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

1 Corinthians 2:11;

For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

1 Corinthians 6:20;

For ye are bought with a price: therefore glory God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

In Genesis 2:7 we read;

And the LORD God formed man *of* the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

Here we see that God first made man's body from the dust of the ground, and then breathed into it the breath of life, and by doing so caused the spirit of man to dwell in the earthly body.

Read also:

1 Thessalonians 5:23;

And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and *I pray God* your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 4:12;

For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edge sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Here we see that man is a three-fold being, because he is created in the image of God.

Genesis 1:26;

And God said, let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

God never intended that man should be separated from his body, therefore heaven, as we know it today, can never be man's final home. There will come a day when God will create a new heaven and a new earth, wherein will dwell the righteousness

2 Peter 3:13;

Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

See also our booklet: "The New Heavens and the New Earth".

Man, in his immortal body and reborn spirit, will not be bound anymore to space or time, and will thus move freely in the new heavens and new earth.

Read:

Philippians 3:20-21;

20 For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:

21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

1 John 3:2-3;

2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be; but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

1 Corinthians 15:51-55;

- 51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all
be changed,
- 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the
trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and
we shall be changed.
- 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put
on immortality.
- 54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this
mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass
the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.
- 55 O death, where *is* thy sting ? O grave, where *is* thy victory?

Chapter 2

When is one "Dead"?

This question has become very real for people with the latest advance in medical science, namely the heart transplant.

The Biblical definition of death is:

When the spirit of the person is totally separated from his body.

This is the first death.

The Bible talks of a second death.

This is when the spirit of a person, the real "you", is totally separated from God. We talk more of this further on in this article.

In connection with the first "death" it is very interesting to read the book of the late Rev. M.J. de Kock: "On boundaries of Eternity", in which he describes what he "saw" and experienced in the spirit world when he was apparently dead.

The book of John Bunyan, "Visions of Heaven en Hell", also the author of "Pilgrim's Progress", is also very readable and moving. Here he describes how he wanted to commit suicide when he was still unsaved, but how an angel appeared to him and warned him not to do it. This heavenly Being then took him and showed him heaven and hell.

In Ecclesiastes 8:8, Solomon says that;

There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death: and there is no discharge in that war; neither shall wickedness deliver those that are given to it.

"No man hath power in the day of death".

In Ecclesiastes 12:7 he speaks of;

Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.

"The spirit shall return to God who gave it".

Of the body, Genesis 3:19 says;

In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

Genesis 25:8 says;

Then Abraham gave up the ghost, and died in a good old age, an old man, and full of years; and was gathered to his people.

It was said of Jesus:

Luke 23:46;

And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said this, he gave up the ghost.

Elijah the prophet prayed over the dead son of the widow:

1 Kings 17:20-22;

- 20 And he cried unto the LORD, and said, O LORD my God hast thou also brought evil upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son?
- 21 And he stretched himself upon the child three times and cried unto the LORD, and said, O, LORD my God, I pray thee, let this child's soul come into him again.
- 22 And the LORD heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came into him again, and he revived.

Paul writes to the Corinthians:

2 Corinthians 5:6-9;

- 6 Therefore *we are* always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord:
- 7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)
- 8 We are confident, *I say*, and, willing rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.
- 9 Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him.

And Paul says to the Philippians:

Philippians 1:21-24;

- 21 For to me to live *is* Christ, and to die *is* gain.
- 22 But if I live in the flesh, this *is* the fruit of my labour: yet what I shall choose I wot not.
- 23 For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better:
- 24 Nevertheless, to abide in the flesh *is* more needful for you.

Death therefore is:

The separation of the spirit, the real you, from the body.

Chapter 3

Whence goes the Spirit?

We have seen:

a) that man has a spirit,

b) and that his spirit leaves his body on death.

What happens to this departed spirit after death?

It is here that a thorough grasp of the meaning of the words in the original Greek and Hebrew is an absolute necessity.

Let us look at the following examples in The New Testament:

Luke 16:22-23;

22 And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried;

23 And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

Here the original Greek word for:-

“Abraham’s bosom” or “the kingdom of the dead” is -- **Hades**.

Matthew 23:33;

Ye serpents, ye generations of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?

Here the original Greek word for “hell” is -- **Gehenna**.

2 Peter 2:4;

For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast *them* down to hell, and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgement;

Here the Greek word for “hell” is -- **Tartarus**.

And according to Bullinger (a Critical Lexicon and Concordance), means the boundaries of our present firmament, of which Satan is the “prince”:

As in Ephesians 2:2;

Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that worketh in the children of disobedience:

In Ephesians 6:12;

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

Paul speaks of principalities, powers, the rulers of the darkness of this age, spiritual wickedness in high places.

Jude 1:6; (speaks of disobedient angels who will be kept in chains under darkness until judgement day).

6 And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.

The occupying demons of Gadara called out:

Matthew 8:29;

And behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time?

In Daniel 10 we read how that there was a struggle between an angel of God and the "King of Persia", a ruler of the darkness of this age:-----

Ephesians 6:12;

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

----- until the Archangel Michael came to help him.

Let us look at the following examples in the Old Testament:

Here the word for the "world of the dead" is -- **Sheol**.

When the grave is meant, the word used is -- **Queber**.

1 Kings 13:30;

And he laid his carcase in his own grave, and they mourned over him, *saying*, Alas, my brother!

This occurs 34 times in the Old Testament.

Summary:

In the Old Testament "the spirits" of the dead went to a place called "**Sheol**".

The equivalent in the New Testament is "**Hades**".

The best comparison is between:-----

Psalms 16:10; "**Sheol**" -- Hebrew.

For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

Acts 2:27; "**Hades**" -- Greek.

Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

----- where both speak of Christ's body that will not see corruption.

A clear distinction between:-

a) the grave for the body,

b) and the place for the spirit.

The word "grave" is totally different from the word:

"**Sheol**" -- Hebrew, - - - - "**Hades**" -- Greek.

The grave for the body of the dead is:

"**Queber**" in -- Hebrew

"**Mnemeion**" in -- Greek.

The word "Sheol", is never used in the plural.

While “Queber”, is often used in the plural.
Therefore there are many graves,
but only one kingdom of the dead, “Sheol or Hades”.

Chapter 4.

The Kingdom of the Dead.

The kingdom of the dead (Hades -- Greek, and Sheol -- Hebrew)
in old Testament days and during Christ's Ministry on Earth:

Read the story of the rich man and Lazarus as Jesus himself tells it in:-
Luke 16:19-31;

- 19 There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day:
- 20 And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores,
- 21 And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.
- 22 And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried;
- 23 And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.
- 24 And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.
- 25 But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.
- 26 And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, *that would* come from thence.
- 27 Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house:
- 28 For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.
- 29 Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.
- 30 And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent.
- 31 And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

Note that verse 28: -- mentions this place of torment

And in verse 26: -- we read that there was a great gulf between the Bosom of Abraham, where Lazarus went after death.

And the kingdom of the dead, -- where the rich man went after his death.

So there was very definitely **two compartments**:

1) one for the righteous -- the bosom of Abraham

2) and one for the unrighteous -- the place of torment.

The inhabitants of both compartments were fully conscious.

Now read:

Acts 2:27;

Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell (Hades), neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

This refers back to Psalm 16:10, where David prophesied that Jesus Spirit would go to the "kingdom of the dead", and his body to the grave, where it would not see corruption.

Compare this with:

Luke 23:43;

And Jesus said unto him: Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.

This was what Jesus replied to the repentant thief on the cross when the thief said: "Lord, remember me when Thou comest into thy kingdom".

Shortly afterwards darkness fell over the earth, the veil of the temple was torn in the middle, and Jesus called out with a loud voice:

"Father, into Thy hands I commend my Spirit" -- Luke 23:46.

His body was laid in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea for three days and three nights, from whence He arose on the third day, without seeing corruption, as prophesied in Ps. 16:10.

His Spirit, the true Jesus, went to paradise, where He had promised to meet the thief. This is the bosom of Abraham, where Lazarus and all other righteous ones were after death. This was the blessed place of safe keeping whence they went after death, to wait there until the announcement that the Lamb of God, in whom they hoped, had been slain.

No-one other than Jesus himself brought the Good News to them when, immediately after breathing his last breath on the cross, He triumphantly entered the "paradise" compartment of the "kingdom of the dead" and told them that it was "fulfilled".

Chapter 5

The Kingdom of the Dead since the Ascension of Christ.

Under the old covenant, the righteous dead could not appear in the presence of God until the blood of the Lamb of God, who took away the sin of the world, had been presented before the Throne of Grace.

Jesus did this just after his resurrection.

Therefore Jesus said to Mary, who was at the tomb first, on the day of the resurrection:

John 20:17;

Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them I ascend unto my Father and your Father, and to my God and your God.

Shortly after the resurrection and before the ascension the disciples did indeed touch him.

We read e.g. in:

Matthew 28:9;

And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him.

“And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them saying: All hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him”.

So he thus went to the Father before his visible ascension. This was to offer his blood in the Holy of Holies.

See also Hebrew 10:19-22;

- 19 Having therefore brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,
- 20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh.
- 21 And *having* an high priest over the house of God;
- 22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

At the real ascension, when Jesus went to sit at the right hand of God -----

See Mark 16:19;

So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

----- he took with him all the righteous dead from the paradise compartment of the "kingdom of the dead", also called the "bosom of Abraham", the father of all believers.

On the Island of Patmos John saw this, among others:

Revelation 6:9;

And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held:

Revelation 7:9-17;

- 9 After this I beheld and lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;
- 10 And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.
- 11 And all the angels stood round about the throne, and *about* the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God,
- 12 Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, *be* unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.
- 13 And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?
- 14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
- 15 Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.
- 16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.
- 17 For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto livings fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

Paul writes as follows in:

Ephesians 4:8-10;

- 8 Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.
- 9 (Now that he ascended, What is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?
- 10 He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.)

The New English translation says: "With captives in his train".

In other words, Jesus descended to paradise, which was then in the lowest regions of the earth, thus deeper than the grave -----

1 Samuel 28:13-14;

13 And the kind said unto her, Be not afraid: for what sawest thou? And the woman said to Saul, I saw gods ascending out of the earth.

14 And he said unto her, What form *is* he of? And she said, An old man cometh up; and he *is* covered with a mantle. And Saul perceived that it *was* Samuel, and he stooped with *his* face to the ground, and bowed himself.

----- fetched the righteous dead from there, and took them with Him in his ascension to the presence of God.

Paul also speaks of paradise as synonymous with the "third heaven".

See 2 Corinthians 12:2, 4;

2 I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven.

4 How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

Just before he died, Stephen, the first martyr, saw the heavens opened and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, and said: "Lord Jesus receive my spirit".

Acts 7:55-60;

55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,

56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.

57 Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord,

58 And cast *him* out of the city, and stoned *him*: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.

59 And they stoned Stephen, calling upon *God* and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

60 And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

Paul says that if we are absent from the body we are present with the Lord.

2 Corinthians 5:8;

We are confident / say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

And that he has a desire to depart and be with Christ,-- 1 Phil. 1:23.

Remember that Jesus is at the right hand of God according to Mark 16:19 and Acts 7:55, 56.

Therefore, on death, the believer goes to be in the presence of God as well.

Paul comforts the Thessalonians with the assurance that God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 4:14;

For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

Summary:

Before Golgotha the believer went to the paradise compartment of the kingdom of the dead, which was situated in the deepest part of the earth, This was also called the "bosom of Abraham" and was a place of comforting.

After Golgotha, paradise, and those in it, was transferred to the presence of God, or the third heaven.

After the crucifixion: all true believers in our Lord Jesus go directly to him where He is seated at the right hand of God.

Chapter 6

The Present Hell.

God sends no-one to hell. People condemn themselves to hell when they reject Christ as their personal Saviour and reject God's plan of salvation.

There is now a difference in the condition of the unsaved in the "kingdom of the dead" and their position in the final hell (Greek -- **Gehenna**), after the last judgement.

We have seen that there are three Greek words, namely: -----

1) Hades

2) Gehenna

3) Tartarus,

----- each denoting a separate place.

The present abode of the godless who have died is portrayed very clearly in the story of Lazarus and the rich man.

In Luke 16:22 we read;

And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: ----

In verses 22, 23 we read;

22 ---- the rich man also died, and was buried;

23 and in hell ----

"Hades"

---- he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

In the kingdom of the dead (Hades) his spirit was alive and he was conscious, he could see, because he recognized Abraham and Lazarus from afar.

He could feel, he was thirsty, he could talk, and he could remember, Verse 24 says;

And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.

"For I am tormented in this flame".

Verse 28 speaks of;

For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.

"this place of torment".

It is thus a place and not a condition in which people exist.

This is not a parable, but an example of a real case.

In Luke 16:19, there **was** a rich man,
and in verse 20 there **was** a beggar.
Nowhere is this referred to as a parable as in:
e. g. Matthew 13:18, 24, 31, 33;
18 -- the sower,
24 -- the tares among the wheat,
31 -- the grain of mustard seed,
33 -- the mystery, the leaven.

Parables also do not give personal names as given here: Abraham,
Lazarus.

But even if it was a parable, it would still have conveyed the same truth,
namely, that after death the sinner is punished in the place of torment,
where he is alive, fully conscious, and can see, hear, feel, remember; and
recognize others.

Chapter 7

The Last Judgement before the Great White Throne.

In Revelation 20:11-13 we read;

- 11 And I saw a great white throne and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.
- 12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.
- 13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell (Hades) delivered up the dead that which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

Here we find a description of the second resurrection and of the last judgement in:-

Revelation 20:4-5;

- 4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and *I* saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received *his* mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.
- 5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finish. This is the first resurrection.

John 5:28-29;

- 28 Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice,
- 29 And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of live; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.

Daniel 12:1-2;

- 1 AND at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation *even* to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one shall be found written in the book.
- 2 And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame *and* everlasting contempt.

Then the unsaved dead and fallen angels are judged.

The Acts 17:31;

Because he hath appointed a day, in which he will judge the world in righteousness by *that* man whom he hath ordained; *whereof* he hath given assurance unto all *men* in that he hath raised him from the dead.

Romans 2:16;

In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

2 Peter 2:4;

For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast *them* down to hell, and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment:

All godless angels, demons and men are cast into the lake of fire for ever.

See: Matthew 5:22-30;

- 22 But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say. Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.
- 23 Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee;
- 24 Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.
- 25 Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison.
- 26 Verily I say unto thee, Thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing.
- 27 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery:
- 28 But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.
- 29 And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck *it* out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not *that* thy whole body should be cast into hell.
- 30 And if thy right hand offend thee, cut *it* off, and cast *it* from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not *that* thy whole body should be cast into hell.

Matthew 10:28;

28 And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Matthew 25:41;

41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

Mark 9:42-48;

42 And whosoever shall offend one of *these* little ones that believe in me, it is better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea.

43 And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:

44 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.

45 And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:

46 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.

47 And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire:

48 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.

Hebrews 6:2;

Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

Hebrews 10:26-31;

26 For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,

27 But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.

28 He that despised Moses law died without mercy under two or three witnesses:

29 Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

30 For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people.

31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Revelation 20:10-15;

- 10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet *are*, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.
- 11 And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.
- 12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is *the book of life*: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.
- 13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.
- 14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.
- 15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

The white throne introduces the **absolute justice and righteousness** of the final judgement.

In verse 13 we saw that everyone is judged according to his works.

In verse 12 we saw that it is God the Father who sits on the throne, and is therefore the judge, not the Lord Jesus Christ.

Christ is still the mediator today.

1 Timothy 2:5;

For *there* is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

2 Corinthians 6:2;

(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now *is* the accepted time; behold, now *is* the day of salvation.)

But in that day there will be no mediator and no intercession.

1 John 2:1;

MY little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

Salvation is only for those whose names are written in the book of life.

Read:

Philippians 4:3;

And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which labour with me in the gospel. With Clement also, and *with* other my fellowlabourers, whose names *are* in the book of life.

Luke 10:20;

Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.

Hebrew 12:25;

See that you refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more *shall not* we *escape*, if we turn away from him that *speaketh* from heaven:

Revelation 20:15;

And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Revelation 21:27;

And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither *whatsoever* worketh abomination, or *maketh* a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

The godless will be judged from the first book according to their works.

Revelation 20:13;

And the sea gave up their dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

Included will be: rich people, prominent people, respected people, learned people, prominent churchmen, priests, lawyers and Pharisees. Their names will not be in the book of life because they rejected Christ and did not witness for His Name and His Word.

How do you stand in this matter?

The godless will be judged just to determine the severity of their punishment.

See:

Matthew 10:15;

Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrhah in the day of judgment, than for that city.

Matthew 11:22-24;

22 But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the day of judgment, than for you.

23 And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day.

24 But I say unto you, That it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for thee.

Matthew 12:41-42;

41 The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas *is* here.

42 The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon *is* here.

Matthew 23:14, 33;

14 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widow's houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation.

33 Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?

Mark 6:11;

And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear you, when ye depart thence, shake off the dust under your feet for a testimony against them. Verily I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrhah in the day of judgment, than for the city.

Luke 10:14;

But when Jesus saw *it*, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.

Luke 12:47-48;

47 And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not *himself*, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many *stripes*.

48 But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few *stripes*. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

Revelation 20:10-15;

10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet *are*, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

11 And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is *the*

book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Revelation 22:12;

And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward *is* with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

There is not a second chance.

Because it is appointed for man;

Once to die and then the JUDGMENT -- Hebrew 9:27.

Those whose names are written in the book of live by the blood of the Lamb are not condemned but merely judged to determine their position and reward in eternal life according to their works as recorded in the books.

John 3:36 says;

He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not on the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

Read also John 3:16;

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

And John 5:24;

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

Chapter 8

The Future Destination of Believers.

Our Lord Jesus said to Martha:

John 11:25-26;

25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

26 And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believeth thou this?

He also said in John 8:51;

Verily, verily, I say unto you, if a man keep my saying, he shall never see death.

Believers in Jesus Christ sleep they never die! (According to Acts 7:60)

The Apostle Paul wrote to the Thessalonians as follows;

1 Thessalonians 4:16;

For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

Read also: 1 Corinthians 15:12-13, 20-33, 35-38;

12 Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead?

13 But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen:

20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, *and* become the firstfruits of them that slept.

21 For since by man *came* death, by man *came* also, the resurrection of the dead.

22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

23 But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

24 Then *cometh* the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.

25 For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.

26 The last enemy *that* shall be destroyed *is* death.

27 For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under *him*, *it is* manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him.

28 And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.

29 Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? why are they then baptized for the dead?

30 And why stand we in jeopardy every hour?

- 31 I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily.
- 32 If after the manner of men I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantageth it me, if the dead rise not? let us eat and drink; for to morrow we die.
- 33 Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.
- 35 But some *man* will say, How the dead raised up? and with what body do they come?
- 36 *Thou* fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die:
- 37 And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other *grain*:
- 38 But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body.

Read 2 Corinthians 5:1, 2, 4;

- 1 FOR we know that if our earthly house of *this* tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.
- 2 For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven:
- 4 For we that are in *this* tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life.

He wrote to the Philippians as follows:

Philippians 3:20-21;

- 20 For our conversation ["citizenship"] is in heaven, from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:
- 21 Who shall change our vile ["lowly"] body, that it may be fashioned like his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

The believer will also be given a glorified, eternal body at the resurrection, like that of Jesus at his resurrection. All signs of sickness and deformity will be removed, but there will be enough of our attributes from this live to be able to recognize one another. It will be as the grain of wheat which falls in the ground and dies, then grows again to become the same kernel, yet different.

See also 1 John 3:2-3;

- 2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.
- 3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

Chapter 9

Further Properties of the Resurrected Body.

As just explained, it will not be exactly the same as the one laid in the grave, and yet still the same.

Read 1 Corinthians 15:35-38;

35 But some *man* will say, How the dead raised up? and with what body do they come?

36 *Thou* fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die:

37 And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other *grain*:

38 But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body.

1) Jesus resurrected body had the marks of the nails in his hands and feet, and that of the sword in his side; and his disciples could recognize him, and yet it was a body that could appear and disappear at will, and also pass through obstructions that were impenetrable to the normal body.

2) It will be a body without blood, but with flesh and bone.

Luke 24:39;

Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.

1 Corinthians 15:50-51;

50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

Philippians 3:21;

Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

In our natural body we need blood to sustain life, to provide food to the cells and to remove waste material. The eternal body will not decay, and will thus not need blood to keep it alive. It will be an eternal body which will neither decay nor corrupt.

1 Corinthians 15:42 says;

So also *is* the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:

3) It will be a glorified body.

1 Corinthians 15:43;

It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power:

Compare also:

Revelation 1:13-17.

- 13 And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.
- 14 His head and *his* hairs *were* white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes *were* as a flame of fire;
- 15 And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.
- 16 And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword: and his countenance *was* as the sun shineth in his strength.
- 17 And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:

4) It will be a powerful body: the days of weariness and weakness will be at an end. The body will be able to do everything the spirit wants it to. It will be a heavenly body:

1 Corinthians 15:47-49;

- 47 The first man *is* of the earth, earthy; the second man *is* the Lord from heaven.
- 48 As *is* the earthy, such **are** they also that are earthy: and as *is* the heavenly, such **are** they also that are heavenly.
- 49 And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

5) It will be clothed in light, and shine and sparkle as the sun.

See:-

Matthew 13:43;

Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

Daniel 12:3;

And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

Matthew 17:2;

And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.

Luke 9:29;

And as he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment *was* white *and* glistening

It is supposed that the bodies of Adam and Eve were not naked when created, but clothed in light. That is why they noticed their nakedness immediately after sinning -----

Genesis 3:7;

And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

----- because the light had left them then.

6) In the resurrection there will be no marrying, and also no more dying, but we will be like the angels.

Matthew 22:30;

For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven.

Luke 20:35-36;

35 But they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage:

36 Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection.

7) There will be a difference in the glory of the resurrected bodies, which is determined according to works done here on earth.

See:-

1 Corinthians 15:41-42;

41 *There is* one glory of the sun, and another of the moon, and another of the stars: for *one* star differeth from *another* star in glory.

42 So also *is* the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:

Luke 19:16-19;

16 Then came the first, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained ten pounds.

17 And he said unto him, Well thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities.

18 And the second came, saying Lord, thy pound hath gained five pounds.

19 And he said likewise to him, Be thou also over five cities.

Matthew 6:20;

But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

1 Corinthians 3:11-15;

11 For other foundation can man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

- 12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;
- 13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.
- 14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.
- 15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

We will now go into more detail in the section:

"The First and the Second Resurrection".

In the Bible we see that there is a very clear distinction between the first and the second resurrection.

It is more blessed to take part in the first than in the second resurrection.

A period of 1000 years separates the two, and is called the Millennium or Thousand years of Peace.

Chapter 10

The First and Second Resurrection.

John writes as follows about the first resurrection in:

Revelation 20:4-6;

- 4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them; and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received *his* mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.
- 5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This *is* the first resurrection.
- 6 Blessed and holy *is* he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priest of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

When Peter told the Lord Jesus that they had left everything to follow him, and wanted to know what they would get for doing so, Jesus answered him as follows:

Matthew 19:28;

And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye shall also sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Compare: Acts 3:21;

Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

We see therefore, that those who are part of the "first resurrection" will reign with Jesus for one thousand years. Secondly, we see that Jesus promised that only those who are prepared to sacrifice everything, yes, even to die for the witness of Jesus and the word of God, will sit with him on his throne to reign for one thousand years.

This is confirmed by the following Scriptures:

Revelation 3:21;

To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

2 Timothy 2:12;

If we suffer, we shall also reign with *him*; if we deny *him*, he also will deny us:

Hebrew 11:35;

Women received their dead raised to life again, and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection.

Paul strove for the resurrection from the dead in: -----

Philippians 3:10-14;

- 10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;
- 11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.
- 12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.
- 13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,
- 14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

----- and calls it the “high calling” of God in Christ Jesus.

When we examine these Scriptures carefully this is the conclusion:

All who are truly washed in the blood of the Lamb will be saved and will inherit eternal life. But only those who live the overcomer's life will reign with Jesus and thus will be raised at the beginning of the 1000 years in immortal, incorruptible and glorified bodies.

Those who do not lead the overcomer's life will be raised with the godless dead at the second resurrection at the end of the 1000 years to appear before the **great white throne**. Their names will be found in the **book of life** and thus they will not die the second death, but they will have forfeited the privilege to reign with Jesus for 1000 years.

The same applies to those living at the time of Christ's return. All those living the overcomer's life, sacrificing all for the sake of the name and cause of Christ, even willing to die for Him, will be changed in the twinkling of an eye at the last trump, and, together with those raised from the grave for the first resurrection, will go to meet the Lord in the air.

The saved who did not live the overcomer's life will remain behind to start the 1000 years of peace in their mortal bodies. They will die during the millennium, because only those who took part in the **rapture** will obtain immortality. At the end of the 1000 years they will be raised to appear before the great white throne with the others.

O, how an understanding of these things should spur us on to devote our lives, spirit, soul and body, to God.

Be sure to read our pamphlet “The Rapture” which gives a more detailed account of this important matter.

Chapter 11

Rewards for Believers.

We can never earn our salvation we are only saved by grace.

Ephesians 2:1-10;

- 1 AND you *hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins:
- 2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:
- 3 Among whom also we all had conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.
- 4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,
- 5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)
- 6 And hath raised *us* up together, made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus:
- 7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of grace in *his* kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.
- 8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:
- 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.
- 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

God offers the lost grace and redemption through the blood of Jesus Christ, and rewards for the faithful service of the saved.

Redemption and grace are free gifts.

See:

John 4:10;

Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.

Romans 6:23;

For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Ephesians 2:8-9;

- 8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:
- 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Rewards are obtained by works.

See:

Matthew 10:42;

And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold *water* only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.

Luke 19:17;

And he said unto him, Well thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities.

1 Corinthians 3:8-15;

8 Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.

9 For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry ye *are* God's building.

10 According to the grace of God, which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth there on. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is, Jesus Christ.

12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

1 Corinthians 9:24-27;

24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the price? So run, that ye may obtain.

25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they *do it* to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air;

27 But I keep under my body, and bring *it* into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

2 Timothy 4:8;

Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

James 1:12;

Blessed *is* the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him..

1 Peter 5:4;

And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

Revelation 2:10;

Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast *some* of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

Revelation 3:11;

Behold I come quickly; hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

Revelation 22:12;

And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward *is* with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

Another difference is that one **participates in grace immediately** -----

Luke 7:50;

And he said to the woman, Thy faith saved thee; go in peace.

John 3:36;

He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

John 5:24;

Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that heareth my word, and believeth on him that send me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

John 6:47;

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.

1 John 5:11-13;

11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

12 He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe in the name of the Son of God.

----- while the **rewards must wait for the future** when they will be distributed, for overcomer's, at the return of Christ and at the end of the 1000 years for those who have inherited eternal life.

See:

Matthew 16:27;

For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.

2 Timothy 4:7-8;

7 I have fought a good fight, I have finish *my* course, I have kept the faith:

8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

Revelation 22:12;

And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward *is* with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

Malachi 3:16-18;

16 Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name.

17 And that shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

18 Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

Daniel 12:3;

And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

Mark 9:41;

For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward.

Chapter 12

The Final Hell (Gehenna) or Lake of Fire.

At the present moment, the ultimate hell, "Gehenna or Lake of Fire" is empty. At the battle of Armageddon the beast and the false prophet will be thrown into the lake of fire.

Revelation 19:20;

And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

They will be the only ones there for the duration of the 1000 years of peace. After the 1000 years the devil and his angels will be cast in as well, to be tormented night and day for all eternity.

See:

Matthew 25:41;

Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

Revelation 20:10;

And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet *are*, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

Then, after the trial before the great white throne.

Revelation 20:12-15;

- 12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.
- 13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.
- 14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.
- 15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Those whose spirits are called from the "Hades", part of the Kingdom of the dead, the present hell, to receive in their bodies -----

See:

2 Corinthians 5:10;

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he have done, whether *it be* good or bad.

Romans 14:12;

So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

----- the punishment for their disobedience, will be cast into the lake of fire.

Revelation 20:15;

And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

This is the second death.

Revelation 20:14;

And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

This is a terrible place that was not intended for man, but for the devil and his angels.

See our pamphlet: "The New Heavens and the New Earth".

Wherein dwelleth righteousness and -----,

See 2 Peter 3:13;

Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

----- is intended for man.

But you determine your own course, if you are a disciple of Christ.

Read John 12:24, 26;

24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.

26 If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will *my* Father honour.

You will eventually arrive where Christ is: but if you are Satan's follower, you will end up where Satan does, the Lake of Fire!

In the Old Testament the earthly equivalent of this place is called "Tophet".

See:-

Jeremiah 7:31-32;

- 31 And that have built the high places of Tophet, which *is* in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire; which I commanded *them* not, neither came it into my heart.
- 32 Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that it shall no more be called Tophet, nor the valley of the son of Hinnom but the valley of slaughter: for they shall bury in Tophet, till there be no place.

Jeremiah 19:6,11-13;

- 6 Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that this place shall no more be called Tophet nor The valley of the son of Hinnom, but The valley of slaughter.
- 11 And shalt say unto them, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Even so will I break this people and this city, as *one* breaketh a potter's vessel, that cannot be made whole again: and they shall bury *them* in Tophet, till *there be* no place to bury.
- 12 Thus will I do unto this place, saith the LORD, and to the inhabitants thereof, and even make this city as Tophet:
- 13 And the houses of Jerusalem, and the houses of the kings of Judah, shall be defiled as the place of Tophet, because of all the houses upon whose roofs they have burned incense unto all the host of heaven, and have poured out drink-offerings unto other gods.

Isaiah 30:33;

For Tophet *is* ordained of old; yea, for the king it is prepared; he hath made *it* deep *and* large; the pile thereof *is* fire and much wood; the breath of the LORD, like a stream of brimstone, doth kindle it.

2 Kings 23:10;

And he defiled Topheth, which *is* in the valley of the children of Hinnom, that no man might make his son or his daughter to pass through the fire to Molech.

This was in the valley of Hinnom near Jerusalem where continual fires burnt the refuse. It was also here that the Israelites burnt their children to Molech when they fell into idolatry. Imagine the bitter weeping and screaming, and the rhythm of heathen drumbeats to deafen it.

This same place is called "**Gehenna**" in the Greek New Testament. This was the best illustration of the eternal consuming "fire of hell" for the people to understand, it is used twelve times. The "lake of fire", is used five times.

The rubbish in the valley of Hinnom naturally crawled with worms assisting in the decaying process. Therefore, our Lord Jesus uses this term when He warns in: -----

Mark 9:43-48;

- 43 And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:
- 44 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.
- 45 And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:
- 46 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.
- 47 And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire:
- 48 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.
----- that in hell “**Gehenna**” the worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.

Our Lord Jesus also used the term “**Gehenna**”, for hell in the following Scriptures:

He says in Matthew 5:22;

----- but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

In Matthew 5:29;

----- and not *that* thy whole body should be cast into hell.

Matthew 10:28;

----- but rather fear him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Matthew 18:9;

----- it is better for thee to enter into life with one eye, rather than, having two eyes, to be cast into hell fire.

Matthew 23:33;

Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?

These, and other portions that use the word “**Gehenna**” for the final hell, are therefore to be clearly distinguished from other passages that use the Greek word “**Hades**” for the present hell.

Chapter 13

Hell is a Place of Fire.

The Bible is very clear about the fact that the final hell is a place of fire.

In Revelation 20:14-15; -----

14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death

15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

----- it is called a lake of fire.

In Mark 9:43, 45; -----

43 And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:

45 And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into fire that never shall be quenched:

----- Jesus talks of the unquenchable fire.

In Matthew 5:22; -----

But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council; but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

----- He speaks of hell fire.

In Matthew 18:8; -----

Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast *them* from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or feet to be cast into everlasting fire.

----- Jesus calls it the eternal fire.

And in Matthew 3:12; -----

Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

----- John the Baptist speaks of the unquenchable fire.

The Apostle John writes in:

Revelation 21:8;

But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.

In Matthew 25:41; -----

Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

----- Jesus again talks of the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

In Matthew 25:46; -----

And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life internal.

----- of the everlasting punishment.

In Matthews 13:41-42; -----

41 The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity;

42 And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

----- He speaks of a furnace of fire where there will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

In the light of these Scriptures it is almost unnecessary to ask whether it is literal or figurative.

But let us look anyway at the following Scriptures:

James 3:6;

And the tongue *is* a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that is defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.

1 Peter 1:7;

That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

Psalms 104:4;

Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire:

1 Corinthians 3:13;

Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

Hebrew 12:29;

For our God *is* a consuming fire.

In the case of Moses and the burning bush in -----

Exodus 3:2;

And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush *was* not consumed.

----- the thorn bush burned in the fire and yet was not consumed.

But whether literal or figurative, one fact remains: the punishment is horrible. For anyone to say that there is no future punishment in hell for the ungodly is to totally disregard many clear teachings on this in the Bible.

Look for instance at the following: -----

Matthew 8:12;

But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 13:42, 50;

42 And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

50 And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 22:13;

Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, cast *him* into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 24:51;

And shall cut him asunder, and appoint *him* his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 25:30;

And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Luke 13:28;

There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and you *yourselves* thrust out.

----- All speak of the "wailing and gnashing of teeth", and these words were even used by Jesus Himself.

Chapter 14

Is Hell Punishment Eternal?

Nowhere does the Bible teach that there is a second chance!

In Hebrews 9:27 we read;

And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

The ungodly will not be destroyed in the sense that they cease to exist, and are therefore unaware of their punishment. The words "destroy", "perish", "decay", do not mean annihilation.

Psalm 78:45, uses the word "destroy" in the following sense;

He sent divers sorts of flies among them, which devoured them; and frogs, which destroyed them.

This does not mean that the flies and frogs annihilated them.

Hebrews 2:14 says;

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

Christ came to destroy the devil, but the devil is still around today.

And according to: -----

Revelation 20:10;

And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet *are*, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

----- will exist for ever.

This simply means that Christ on the Cross broke his power.

Now compare:

2 Thessalonians 1:9;

Who shall be punish with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his power;

With: Genesis 4:16;

And Cain went out from the presence of the LORD, and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden.

Actual death does not mean annihilation, but a removal from the Presence of God.

Eternal death is not an unconscious condition of non-existence, but a conscious existence outside of the presence of God.

Wherever God is not, it is dark, exceptionally so, because only God is pure light. The **lost** will be **thoroughly aware of this**, otherwise it will not be darkness for him, and therefore no punishment.

The Divine Presence is revealed more in heaven than in any other place, and it is from this Divine Presence that the ungodly will be banished forever. This is a terrible thought!

The words “perish”, “decay”, “lost”, in Greek – “apollumi”, never mean annihilation, but rather devastated, or out of action for its particular purpose.

So, for instance are the words “**perish**” in: -----

John 3:15, 16;

15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Matthew 9:17;

Neither do men put new wine into old bottles: else the bottles break, and the wine runneth out, and the bottles perish: but they put new wine into new bottles, and both are preserved.

Luke 15:17;

And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!

2 Peter 3:6;

Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

----- derived from the same Greek word.

From science we know that in reality nothing decays in the sense that it ceases to exist, but just changes form, for instance matter into energy.

This principle applies even more to a person's spirit.

Eternal death means an everlasting separation from God, the Source of Life.

In 1 Timothy 5:6;

But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth.

The woman that liveth in pleasure is referred to as being “dead while she liveth”.

There will not be a general universal reconciliation of everything and everyone.

Some people use Acts 3:21, to show that everything, including the devil, eventually become reconciled with God:

Acts 3:21;

Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began.

Nowhere did God speak through his prophets of a general reconciliation with the devil and his angels.

Jesus said that hell “**Gehenna**” or “eternal fire” is prepared for the devil and his angels, and also for those that are disobedient to God.

Matthew 25:41;

Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

The Bible teaches very clearly that reconciliation with God only comes through faith in Christ.

See:

2 Corinthians 5:17-21;

17 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

18 And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech *you* by us: we pray *you* in Christ’s stead, be ye reconciled to God.

21 For he made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Colossians 1:20-21;

20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether *they be* things in earth, or things in heaven.

21 And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in *your* mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled.

The punishment of the ungodly will last forever and ever!

Just as the final heaven is a place that will endure forever.

So shall the final hell also last forever.

God is love, but God is also just.

It is necessary and reasonable that the righteous should be forever separated from the ungodly.

This is one reason for hell!

The sinful, unregenerate man is an eternal wrongdoer and therefore there should be a place of eternal confinement.

In Matthew 25:46 we read;

And these shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal.

Here the Greek word “**aionios**” is translated “eternal”, and “everlasting”.

If we take eternal life as forever, then we must also take everlasting punishment as forever.

The word “**aionios**” is also translated as **eternal** in the following cases:

1) God:

Romans 1:20;

For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even his **eternal** power and **Godhead***; so that they are without excuse:

Romans 16:26;

But now it is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the **everlasting God**, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:

2) The Holy Ghost:

Hebrew 9:14;

How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the **eternal Spirit** offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

3) Life:

Matthew 19:16, 29;

16 And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have **eternal life**?

29 And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or fathers, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit **everlasting life**.

Matthew 25:46;

And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into **life eternal**.

John 3:16, 36;

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have **everlasting life**.

36 He that believeth on the Son hath **everlasting life**; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

Romans 6:23;

For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* **eternal life** through Jesus Christ our Lord.

4) Salvation:

Hebrew 5:9;

And being made perfect, he became the author of **eternal salvation** unto all them that obey him;

5) Redemption:

Hebrew 9:12;

Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained **eternal redemption** *for us*.

6) Inheritance:

Hebrew 9:15;

And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions *that were* under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of **eternal inheritance**.

7) Gospel:

Revelation 14:6;

And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the **everlasting** gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people.

8) Testament:

Hebrew 13:20;

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the **everlasting covenant**.

9) Kingdom:

2 Peter 1:11;

For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the **everlasting kingdom** of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

10) Honour and power:

1 Timothy 6:16;

Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom *be* **honour and power everlasting**. Amen.

11) Consolation:

2 Thessalonians 2:16;

Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given *us* **everlasting consolation** and good hope through grace.

12) Glory:

2 Thessalonians 1:9;

Who shall be punish with **everlasting** destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the **glory** of his power;

1 Peter 5:10;

But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his **eternal glory** by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle *you*.

13) Resurrected bodies:

2 Corinthians 5:1;

FOR we know that if our earthly house of *this* tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an **house** not made with hands, **eternal** in the heavens.

14) Things not seen:

2 Corinthians 4:18;

While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen *are* temporal; but the **things which are not seen are eternal**.

15) Everlasting habitations:

Luke 16:9;

And I say unto you, Make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness; that, when ye fail, they may receive you into **everlasting habitations**.

16) Judgement:

Hebrew 6:1-2;

- 1 THEREFORE leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,
- 2 Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of **eternal judgment**.

Mark 3:29;

But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of **eternal damnation**:

17) Fire:

Matthew 18:8;

Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast *them* from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or feet to be cast into **everlasting fire**.

Matthew 25:41;

Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into **everlasting fire**, prepared for the devil and his angels:

Jude 1:7;

Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of **eternal fire**.

18) Punishment:

Matthew 25:46;

And these shall go away into **everlasting punishment**; but the righteous into life eternal.

Punishment of the ungodly will therefore last as long as the life of the righteous:-

Read again Matthew 25:46.

Chapter 15

Heaven is Eternally shut to those who die Unsaved

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

Verily, verily I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God --John 3:3.

Read also John 3:5, 7, 15-18, 36;

5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

He said to the Pharisees:

I go my way, and ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sins; where I go ye cannot come - John 8:21.

Read about Lazarus and the Rich Man in: - Luke 16:19-31.

There are no conversions in the abode of the lost.

Paul writes to the Corinthians: "----- now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation", - 2 Corinthians 6:2.

The Prophet Amos said to God's people: "Prepare to meet thy God", in: Amos 4:12;

Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel: and because I will do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God, O Israel.

Are you ready to die? It is an appointment you will have to keep.

Paul writes to the Hebrews:

And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment, - Hebrew 9:27.

Read:

John 14:6;

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Acts 4:12;

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

Romans 3:23;

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Romans 6:23;

For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 14:12;

12 So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

Nobody will get to heaven by good works only.

Paul writes to the Ephesians:

Ephesians 2:8-9;

8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:

9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

The Prophet Isaiah writes:

Isaiah 64:6;

But we are all as an unclean *thing*, and all our righteousnesses *are* as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

Read also:

Titus 3:5;

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

The writer asks a very solemn question in:

Hebrews 2:3;

How shall we escape, if we neglect so great a salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard *him*;

Chapter 16

The Cross is the Bridge.

We read in:

1 Peter 3:18;

For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

In Christ Jesus God made allowances for the sins of every man who will accept that offer. **The greatest sin is the rejection of Christ.**

Read: -----

John 16:7-11;

7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

8 And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

9 Of sin, because they believe not on me;

10 Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more;

11 Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

----- and note verse 9, "Of sin, because they believe not on me".

Read also:

1 John 5:9-13;

9 If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son.

10 He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.

11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

12 He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

If you can fathom Golgotha, you can grasp the everlasting punishment of hell. Two things will torment the lost in damnation for ever, and these are:

Firstly; his sins against God and his fellow man;

Secondly; that he had the opportunity to escape -----

See Hebrew 2:3;

How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard *him*;

----- but stubbornly refused, and chose to be hell-bound rather than heaven-bound.

God has boundless grace;

Because He does not want that any should be lost;

But that all should come to repentance.

2 Peter 3:9;

the Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

Paul writes to the Romans:

Romans 5:20;

Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:

“But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound”.

Read also:

Romans 5:10;

For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

Ephesians 2:1-10;

- 1 AND you *hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins:
- 2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:
- 3 Among whom also we all had conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.
- 4 But God, who is rich in mercy, his great love wherewith he loved us,
- 5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)
- 6 And hath raised *us* up together, made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus:
- 7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of grace in *his* kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.
- 8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of ourselves: *it is* the gift of God:

- 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.
10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

God offers the lost grace and redemption through the blood of Jesus Christ, and rewards for the faithful service of the saved.

If this is all true, and it is the truth -----

John 17:17;

Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

----- what a terrible choice do you not have?

Do not let the devil deceive you:

He has always tried to destroy God's word since the day he said:

"Hath God said?"

Genesis 3:1;

NOW the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, **hath God said**, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

But the word still stands today, and will stand forever!

Matthew 5:19;

Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach *them*, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

You, therefore, stand before this tremendous challenge to choose between life and death.

What will you choose?

Eternal Life

or

Eternal Death?

The End.

Something about the Author

F.W.C. Nesor was trained as a Scientist but is a dedicated Christian since his youth. To him the Bible is the Word of God from Genesis to Revelation.

Very early in his life he came to realise that man himself is the cause of all wars, depressions, famine, droughts, disease, and misery here on earth.

He saw that God had given his absolute Law to Israel, his chosen people and had promised that should they live thereby they would be free of all adversity and would then act as God's exemplary nation on earth.

A matter of importance, which became clear to Nesor, was that Israel was neither the Jew nor the Church. It was with gratitude that he eventually discovered the great truth, namely that Israel was in fact the Germanic, Anglo-Saxon and Celtic peoples.

With the imminent Second Coming of Christ, Israel will come to a true regeneration, will be filled with the Holy Spirit and with Jesus the Messiah as their King, they will lead the world back to a state of perfect harmony with God.

F.W.C. Nesor has written the following books:

Appendix:

Afrikaans Books available from Ekklesia.

No	Title
1	Die Afrikaner -- 'n Unieke Volk
2	Ander Evangelie
3	Segregasie -- Wat sê die Skrif?
4	Die Bedienings Gawes van Jesus Christus
5	Die Bybel is Waar
6	Christendom en Kommunisme
7	Die Boek van Daniël
8	Daniël se 70ste Week
9	Die Derde dag Opstanding van Christus
10	Deur Lyding na Volmaaktheid
11	Die Brief van die Apostel Paulus aan die Efésiërs
12	Die Bybel Voorspel Atoomoorlog
13	Die Doop, in watter Naam (pamflet)
14	Die Duiwel
15	Engele

No	Title
16	Die Fondament van die Christelike Lewe
17	Die Gawes van die Heilige Gees
18	God se Groot Week
19	Goddelike Genesing
20	Die Profeet Hoséa
21	In die Oppersaal
22	Insig in die Verlede en die Hede bring Uitsig op die Toekoms
23	Israel in die Nuwe Testament
24	Die Israelwaarheid - TV Onderhoud
25	Die Boek van Jesaja
26	Jesus van Nasaret
27	Die Boek van Joël
28	Die Kerk van Rome en die Mens van Sonde
29	Krag van die dwaling
30	Die Kruis
31	Moses en sy "Kusitiese" Vrou
32	Mure van Jerusalem
33	Na die Dood – Wat Dan?
34	Die Name van God
35	Die Nuwe Hemel en die Nuwe Aarde
36	Die Boek van Openbaring
37	Die Openbaringe van die Apostel Paulus
38	Die Opraping
39	Die Brief aan die Romeine
40	Rusland in Profesie
41	Die Sabbat
42	Die Slang van Génesis 3
43	Sommige Aspekte van die Werk van die Heilige Gees
44	Tempel van God
45	Terwille van die Engele
46	Troos troos my Volk sê julle God
47	Die Twee Sade op Aarde.
48	Die Tyd van die Heiden
49	Verblinding van Sinne

No	Title
50	Die Groot Verdrukking
51	Die Verlore Tien Stamme van Israel Deel 1
52	Die Verlore Tien Stamme van Israel
53	Versterk mekaar in 'n tyd soos hierdie
54	Die Vrug van die Heilige Gees
55	Waar het Kain sy Vrou Gekry?
56	Waarom die Bybel die Eet van Varkvleis Verbied
57	Wat die Bybel ons Leer Aangaande die Heilige Gees
58	Wat die Bybel ons Leer Aangaande die Mens
59	Wat die Bybel ons Leer Aangaande God
60	Die Wederkoms van Christus
61	Wêreldgebeure
62	Die Wet van die Here
63	Wie is my Naaste?
64	Wie was Hulle?

Nuwe byvoegings:

No	Title
65	Hoe sal ons ontvlug
66	Wat ek vrees kom oor my
67	Laat U wil geskied
68	Die Arsenale van God
69	Die kinders van God
70	Noag die Opregte
71	Ken U Vyand
72	Die Groot opdrag
73	Die Wonderlike Wêreld van Môre
74	Die Volk en Verootmoediging
75	Die Troon van Dawid
76	Die Huidige Wêreldstelsel
77	Galásiërs 3
78	Uitlander en Vreemdeling/ Griek of Jood

English Books available

No	Title
1	After Death What Then?
2	Segregation – What saith the Scripture?
3	The Bible Predicts "Atomic War"
4	The Book of Joel
5	The Book of Revelation
6	Christianity and Communism
7	Daniel's 70 th week
8	The Great Tribulation
9	The Israel Truth T.V. Interview
10	The Lost Ten Tribes of Israel Part 1
11	The Lost Ten Tribes of Israel
12	The New Heavens and the New Earth
13	The Origin, History and Destiny of the White Race
14	The Past the Present and the Future in the Light of Scripture
15	The Rapture
16	Russia in Prophecy
17	The Serpent of Genesis 3
18	Why the Bible Prohibits Pork
19	World Affairs

New Additions:

No	Title
20	Sons of God
21	The Two Seeds Upon Earth
22	The Bible is True
23	Noah the Man Without Blemish
24	Israel in the New Testament
25	Moses and his Cushite wife
26	Unpublished writings 1953
27	The Wonderful World of Tomorrow
28	The Book of Isaiah
29	Who is Thy Neighbour?
30	The Book of Romans

Reference Library: Books on various subjects are also available.

Audio Cassette / CD's and Video's also available

There are about 3000 audio cassette / CD's and a number of video's available wherein pastor F.W.C. Nesor messages are recorded.

Website

Visit our website: www.israelmusthear.co.za where you can download ±1500 sermons/teachings as well as ± 100 Afrikaans/English books by Pastor F.W.C. Nesor. All downloads are free.

E mail address:

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