

Short Answer Series #3

What happens to me when I die?

Each one of us is made up of 3 parts. (1 Thessalonians 5v23) Our Spirit, which is the True us, because we are Spiritual Beings. Our Soul, which is the nature of our spirit. It is our attributes and character that make us different from everyone else on earth. And our Body. The physical part of us that our Spirit and Soul inhabit.

Our soul uses our Body to interact with the physical world around us. When our Body dies, our Spirit and Soul step out of it, into the Spiritual World, and it rots back to the earthly elements it was made from. We are still alive, and still conscious. Read the story of the Rich Man and Lazarus in Luke 16v19 – 31 as an example. Or read accounts of those who have died and come back to life.

They were conscious, they could still see, hear, think and speak. Watch the DVD “Raised from the Dead”. The story of Daniel Ekechukwu, who was dead for 3 days, before being restored to life during prayer. He tells about what happened while he was ‘dead’. Or, watch the DVD ‘A Glimpse of Eternity’ by New Zealander Ian McCormack who tells of his experiences after death.

Where do we go to when we die? Before the Blood of Jesus Christ was given for our sins at Calvary, no one could go into the Lords presence at death, because they only had animal blood to atone for their sins. The blood of cattle, sheep and goats. Animal blood only covered their sins, it could not erase them. So, they went to Paradise. But after Calvary, when the Blood of the Lord Jesus was given, Paradise was emptied, and the Old Testament Saints arose, and went to Heaven. See Mathew 27 v 52-53. Paradise does not exist anymore.

Hell was originally created for the Devil and his Angels after they rebelled in Heaven (Matthew 25v41.) But, after sin entered the human race in the Garden of Eden, mankind who sinned could not go to Paradise, so they went to Hell.

Today, there are only two destinations for a Soul after death. Either Heaven or Hell. Hell is the place where the souls of the Lost are kept until the Judgement. (Daniel 7v10. Revelations 20v11 – 15.) They will be Judged there individually and fairly. But, the Judgement is not the place where Salvation or Condemnation are decided. We do that here on earth before death. And, every person dies, either Eternally Saved, or Eternally Lost. And, nothing done on earth will affect a person after they die. Prayers said for the dead cannot change anything for them.

And there is no such place as Purgatory. It was made a Dogma of the Catholic Church during the Dark ages, to empty the pockets of the grieving after their loved ones had died. And to make the supposed torment even worse in Purgatory, they told them they had an Immortal Soul, so they could be punished there Eternally. But, we do not have an Immortal Soul which is why we have to receive Eternal Life.

After sentence has been passed at the Judgement, the Lost will be cast into the Lake of Fire. The death of the Body is the first death. (Hebrews 9v27) The lake of fire is the second death (Revelation 20v14-15), the death of the Spirit and Soul, and the end of existence. The Lost will be punished there for what the Bible calls ‘for ever’, an ‘Aion’, a ‘space of time.’ It may be 5 minutes it may be a million years. But, they do not have Eternal Life and their soul and Spirit will be destroyed there.

That is why ‘God is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.’ (2 Peter 3v9.) He created each one of us in His own Image, and when we are lost, we are lost for Eternity, which is why our Creator Himself willingly went to be tortured and killed at Calvary, to give us a way to be saved from our sins. And, it is offered free to every person on earth (Ephesians 2v8.) But, we must accept it before we die, because it is too late afterwards.

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