

The State of the Dead

The funeral is a sad moment, as I am sure many of us understand. Nevertheless, there is Good News for the believer!



Let us be clear: the Bible is the only handbook we have concerning the state of the dead. No human being can know the truth without reference to the Bible, which is the Holy Word of God.

If we could ask Jesus what happens to us when we die, what would He say to us?

And if He couldn't answer, who should we ask?

Yet He says in Revelations 1:18:

"I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death."



The question remains: *So what happens when we die?*

Leviticus 17:11 says: "For the life of the flesh is in the blood." The word *nephesh* is used here.

Ecclesiastes 12:7 provides the answer:

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

In other words, a precise reversal of the creation.

The word 'spirit' describes what goes back to God. The Hebrew word that is here translated as 'spirit' is the word 'ruach'. It means breath, spirit, wind, breath of life. So, the ruach goes back to God and the body back to earth.

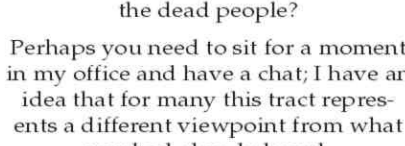
In the Greek new testament, the equivalent word is 'pneuma'.

So when Stephen said, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit", he could have said, "Take my breath, my life". (Acts 7:59)

So if that is the case, where does the soul or spirit go when the person dies? We have just seen the breath (spirit) goes back to God; the body goes back to earth.

Now if the body goes back to earth and the breath back to God, where are the dead people?

Perhaps you need to sit for a moment in my office and have a chat; I have an idea that for many this tract represents a different viewpoint from what you had already heard.



His breath goes back to God, his body back to earth. "On that very day man's thoughts perish." The question is then: when you die, can you think?

Or in other words, if all people are in graves, what are they doing there?



underestimate the powers of darkness that attempt to hide the Truth

In other words, when you die there is no love, work, knowledge, wisdom. No rich no poor. That is the 'state of the dead' where we will all end up.

"For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out." (1 Timothy 6:7)

But what about the New Testament? You guys quote a lot from the Old Testament!

Remember the daughter of Jairus in Matt 9:2 and Lazarus in John 11:11?

Why did Jesus use the word 'sleep' to describe the dead? If you think about it, it may be the best word you can use. The *death* is a total rest.

◆The original meaning is 'a state of unconsciousness'.

Jesus said: "Lazarus come out!"

Why did Jesus call him by name? If Jesus had just said 'come out', then all the graves would have opened.

Because Jesus the Giver of Life was 'the One' standing before the grave.

Check Matt 9:24:

"He said unto them, give place: for the maid is not dead, but sleepeth. And they laughed him to scorn."

Then John 11:11:

"These things said He: and after that He saith unto them, our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep."

So what did Lazarus say about being dead? Some preachers would have us believe he was in heaven for four days! What did he have to say about those four days?

NOTHING! Because he wasn't there. He was sleeping in the grave. Think about it! The moment you open your eyes, there is your Saviour. This is a comforting message that the devil has changed into a scare message.

THE TRUTH OF THE BIBLE CANNOT BE CHANGED.

But the Bible said that the thief on the cross would be in heaven that same day. Please explain!

And he said unto Jesus, "Lord, remember me when Thou comest into Thy kingdom."

And Jesus said unto him, "Verily I say unto thee, today shalt thou be with me in paradise." (Luke 23:42-43)

Good News! There is life after death!

This is ridiculous! I have attended church all my life and no one ever told me this truth.

Suddenly the trumpet sounds

I think the following text sums up the kernel of this tract's message:

Jesus saith unto her, "Thy brother shall rise again."

Martha saith unto him, "I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

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

John 11:23-25

1 Thessalonians 4:16:

"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first."

Want to know more? Here are some useful contact details.

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