

Let's open in prayer, with humility when we handle the Word of God ...

Where do we go when we die?

Christians, out of **compassion** for people,

- share God's love to mankind,
- speak the truth,
- warn of danger,
- to draw people to forgiveness and right relationship with a holy God.

Jesus, who is God, who cannot lie, **told us** exactly where we go when we die,

- Those who died **before** His death, resurrection and ascension
- Those who have died after His return to heaven
- **Luke 16:19-31 – Jesus gives us a true, factual account of 2 people who died**

Luke 16:1

And the He said also to His **disciples**...

Luke 16:14

And the **Pharisees** also, who were covetous, heard all these things...

- Strict orthodox Jews who believed in the **resurrection** from the dead

Luke 16:19-31 – Jesus is speaking ...

- **Actual people & events, NOT a parable, NOT a metaphor, NOT a simile.**
 - There **was** a certain rich man
 - There **was** a certain beggar named Lazarus
 - When the Bible tells us that Jesus said
 - that there were actual, specific people and events,
 - we need to **STOP** using the word “story”
 - this **IS** real

Luke 16:19 There was a certain rich man, who was clothe in purple and fine linen, and ate sumptuously every day:

Luke 16:20 And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, who was laid at his gate, full of sores

Luke 16:21 And desiring to be fed with the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores

Luke 16:22 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;

Luke 16:23 And **in hell** he lifted up his eyes, being in torments, and sees Abraham far off, and Lazarus in his bosom;

Luke 16:24 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.

Luke 16:25 But Abraham said, Son, remember that you **in your lifetime** received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and you are tormented.

Luke 16:26 And beside all this, between us and you there is **a great gulf fixed**: so that they who would pass from here to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, who would come from there.

Luke 16:27 The he said, I pray you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father's house:

Luke 16:28 For I have five brothers; that he may testify to them, lest they also come into this place of torment:

Luke 16:29 Abraham said to him, they have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.

Luke 16:30 And he said, No, father Abraham: but if one went to them from the dead, they will repent.

Luke 16:31 And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rose from the dead.

What did Jesus tell us about the reality of death:

- a person who dies has **consciousness**, in the **spiritual realm with physicality**
- **the rich man**
 - was **nameless**
 - was **tormented** in flames
 - had **no break** from his torment; had **no water**
 - was able to **see** over to Paradise
 - **recognized** Abraham and the beggar Lazarus
 - **saw** that they had goodness in Paradise, and water
 - was **able to form thoughts, questions, pleas, and arguments**
 - appears to have been Jewish, with knowledge and all benefits and blessings of the Covenant of God to the Jews, had the Tenach
 - had **knowledge** of his 5 brothers still alive on earth
 - had **human care** for his brothers, that they not go to hell
 - **appealed** for miraculous resurrection to warn those on earth
 - even **presented a counter-argument** to Abraham
 - **was not given a non-Biblical option** of a Purgatory of burning out sins
- Jesus **resurrected a different Lazarus**, the brother of Martha & Mary, and instead of believing on Jesus as the promised Messiah, **the religious rulers sought to kill Lazarus**, to stop his being a **living witness** to the power of the Messiah Jesus.

Where are **Hell**, and the **gulf between Hell and Paradise**?

- **Center of the Earth** – this is what the Bible says

Psalm 55:15	Let death seize upon them, and let them go down quick into hell : for wickedness is in their dwellings, and among them.
Proverbs 15:24	The way of life is above to the wise, that he may depart (avoid) from hell beneath .
Psalm 86:13	For great is thy mercy toward me: and thou hast delivered my soul from the lowest hell .
Proverbs 7:27	Her house is the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death.
Hebrews 9:27	And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment .
● no reincarnation, no “do-overs”, no “partying with my friends in hell”	
Isaiah 14:15	Yet you (Lucifer) shalt be brought down to hell , to the sides of the pit.
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;
Matt. 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 :
2 Thess. 1:9	Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord , and from the glory of his power
Jude 1:6	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.

Paradise / Abraham's Bosom – Jesus' 3-day Celebration

Luke 23:42-43 And he (the thief on the cross) said to Jesus, Lord, remember me when you come into Your kingdom

And Jesus said to him, Truly I say to you, this day you shall be with me in **Paradise**.

Why were the spirits of pre-Calvary saints in Paradise and not in the presence of God in Heaven?

- **Animal's blood** could only **cover** their sins
- **Only Christ's blood** can wash away sin & impute holiness

Heb. 9:13-14 For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies to the **purifying of the flesh**: 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?

Heb. 10:4 For it is **not possible** that the blood of bulls and of goats should **take away** sins.

Heb 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**.

Paradise / Abraham's Bosom – Jesus' 3-day Celebration

- Eph. 4:8-10** Wherefore he says, **When He (Jesus) ascended up on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.**
- Vs. 9** (Now that He ascended, what is it but that He also **descended first into the lower parts of the earth?**
- Vs. 10** He that **descended** is the same also that **ascended** up far above all heavens, that He might fill all things.)
- 1 Peter 3:19** By which also **He went and preached unto the spirits in prison;**
- **confinement;** in the **waiting room** of Paradise
 - Pre-Calvary saints awaiting the promised sacrifice of Jesus the Lamb of God
 - the Innocent sacrificed for the Guilty
 - the Just paying the punishment of the Unjust (me)
- 1 Peter 4:6** For this cause was **the gospel preached also to them that are dead**, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit.
- Jesus shared with the Old Testament saints in Paradise, that He paid for the price, and that He would resurrect, ascend to Heaven, and take their spirits to heaven
- Acts 2:27** (of Jesus, David prophesied in Psalms) Because You will not leave my **soul in Sheol (waiting place of the spirits of dead men)**, neither will You suffer Your Holy One to see **corruption**
- (Jesus' physical body **did not decompose** during the 3 days in the tomb—**He had not sinned**).

Where did the **spirits of the dead** go **PRIOR** to the Cross, Resurrection & Ascension of Jesus?

Unbelievers

- **hell**, center of the earth
- in a place of torment, awaiting God's final Judgement of all unbelievers in the White Throne Judgement, over 1,007 years from now

Believers

- The **RIGHTEOUS** went to **Paradise / Abraham's bosom**
- Abraham **believed** God, and it was accounted to him as righteousness
- This includes
 - John the Baptist
 - The repentant thief on the cross

What about NOW? Is there a **difference** since Jesus died, rose again, and ascended to Heaven? **Yes**

Unbelievers

- The spirit goes to hell, awaiting the final Judgement
- After the 1000-year reign of Christ on earth ...
 - Christ will resurrect the physical body of ever unbeliever
 - Every unbeliever will be a complete **person** of body, soul, and spirit for the final White Throne Judgement
- Christ will cast death, hell, Satan, fallen angels, and all unbelievers into the lake of fire for eternity

Rev 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.**

Rev 20:14 **And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.**

- That is what Jesus, who is God, says in His Bible, the Old Testament (Tenach) & New Testament

Believers in Christ – New Testament Saints

- **From** the Resurrection & Ascension of Christ through **now**...
- When a follower of Christ dies, the spirit goes directly to heaven
 - How, technically, legally, righteously can this happen?
 - Because the shed blood of Jesus grants us access to be in the presence of a holy God

2 Cor. 5:8 We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be **absent from the body**, and to be **present with the Lord**.

Jude 1:24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

- The **body** of every believer **who died in Christ** since the resurrection & ascension of Jesus, forward, will be resurrected in the soon coming **Rapture**
 - **John 14:3**
 - **I Thess 4:13-18**
 - **1 Cor. 15:50-53**

- Those of us **alive on earth at the Rapture** will have our **physical bodies transformed** to immortal, heavenly, incorruptible bodies
- The **bodies of Old Testament saints** will be **physically resurrected** to immortal, incorruptible bodies at that intersection **between the end of the Tribulation (Time of Jacob's Trouble) and the start of the Millennium**, the 1,000-year physical reign of Christ, the Messiah on earth.
 - **Daniel 12:1-2**
 - **Isaiah 26:19**
 - **Ezek 37:13-14**

Amir Tsarfati, Behold Israel ministry video "[Who Goes Where?](#)"

- Describes our **natural sinful condition**
- Describes **salvation from sin & its punishment**, through the Cross of Christ
- Distinguishes between **God-defined people groups**
 - The **Jewish people & God's Abraham Accords** (His Covenant)
 - The **new testament Church of Jews & Gentiles "in Christ"**
 - The **tribulation Saints**
 - The **unrepentant unbelievers**
- At **minute 58**, Amir shows a **chart** of Who Goes Where
- with **supporting Scriptures**
 - **where the spirits of a people goes at death**
 - **when Christ will resurrect their bodies**
 - **whose body is resurrected or changed** alive in the **Rapture**
 - **whose body will be resurrected** when Christ returns **at the end of the Time of Jacobs Trouble (the Tribulation)**
 - **whose body will be resurrected for final White Throne judgement**, to go into the lake of fire (federal penitentiary) of eternal suffering (time is no more)

So, the question is . . .

- **Are you going to take your chances**, knowing the fearful eternity awaiting those who reject God's costly-to-Him, free-to-us salvation?
- **The Gospel of salvation and safety is**
 - Jesus **suffered, died, was buried, took that good news to Paradise** for a 3-day celebration with the Old Testament saints, **rose again, was seen of** well over 500 witnesses, and in His resurrected body **ascended to** heaven.
 - **His promise is** to very soon **catch up His believers** into heaven before His promised 7-year wrath on earth dwellers who, like this rich man, take care of their earthly self while declining God's saving grace.
 - **His promise is** to after that **return physically** to earth, for a 1,000-year reign physically on this earth
 - **His promise is** that He will **judge the living and the dead**
 - **His promise** to those who obey and follow Him, **is to reward** them with everlasting life of all good things, in fellowship with God, on a **newly restored earth**, where forever there will be no sin, no harm, no sickness, no disease, no death.

- Psalms 9:17** The **wicked** shall be turned into **hell**, and all the nations that forget God.
- Isaiah 5:14** Therefore **hell** has enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoices, **shall descend into it**.
- Isaiah 14:9** **Hell from beneath** is moved for you to meet you at your coming: it stirs up the dead for you, even all the chief ones of the earth; it has raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations.
- Ezekiel 31:16** I made the nations to shake at the sound of his fall, when I cast him **down to hell** with them that **descend into the pit**: and all the trees of Eden, the choice and best of Lebanon, all that drink water, shall be comforted **in the nether parts of the earth**.
- Ezekiel 31:17** They also **went down into hell** with him unto them that be slain with the sword; and they that were his arm, that dwelt under his shadow in the midst of the heathen.
- Ezekiel 32:21** The strong among the mighty shall speak to him **out of the midst of hell** with them that help him: **they are gone down**, they lie uncircumcised, slain by the sword.
- Ezekiel 32:27** And they shall not lie with the mighty that are fallen of the uncircumcised, which are gone **down to hell** with their weapons of war: and they have laid their swords under their heads, but their iniquities shall be upon their bones, though they were the terror of the mighty in the land of the living.
- Amos 9:2** Though they **dig into hell**, from there shall My hand take them; though they climb **up to heaven**, from there will I bring them down:
- Matt. 5:22** But I say unto you, that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whoever shall say, You fool, shall be in danger of **hell fire**.
- Luke 10:15** And you, **Capernaum**, which art exalted to heaven, **shall be thrust down to hell**.