

BASIC BIBLE TEACHING



Where Do We
Go
When We Die?

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The Bible teaches that when we die, we really are DEAD, and we do not go anywhere, other than the grave.

The majority remain in the grave forever.

Those who understand the plan and purpose of God, as revealed in the Bible, remain in the grave until the resurrection. The resurrection from the dead will take place when Christ returns from heaven.

- **The body of man is man.**

Genesis 2:7 (KJV)... God formed man of the dust of the ground...

1 Corinthians 15:47 (KJV) The first man is of the earth, earthy...

Genesis 18:27 (KJV)... Abraham answered... I... which am but dust and ashes:

Psalms 103:14 (KJV)... he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.

Genesis 3:19 (KJV)... dust thou art , and unto dust shalt thou return.

If the body of a man *is* man, it follows that when the body dies, the man dies, and consequently, contrary to popular belief, the man has no conscious existence after death.

- **At death, the man returns to dust and the spirit (life-force) by which he lived, returns to God.**

Ecclesiastes 12:7 Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.

- **The spirit (life-force) is not the man, but the invisible energy or power of God by which all creatures; man, animals, birds, fish etc., live.**

Acts 17:25 (KJV)... he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;

Job 12:10 (KJV) In whose hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind.

Ecclesiastes 3:19 (KJV)... that which befalleth the sons of men befalleth beasts... yea, they have all one breath...

- **When God takes back his spirit we die.**

Job 34:14-15 (KJV)... if he gather unto himself his spirit and his breath; 15 All flesh shall perish together, and man shall turn again unto dust.

The return of the spirit to God at death, is not the return of the conscious man, but the return of the

spirit or life-force which belongs to God.

Jesus Christ did not ascend to heaven as a conscious 'spirit' at his death. He ascended to heaven bodily, following his resurrection from the dead to immortality.

- **No one, except Christ, has gone to heaven.**

John 3:13 (KJV)... no man hath ascended up to heaven...

Acts 2:34 (KJV)... David is not ascended into the heavens...

Psalms 115:16 (KJV) The heaven, even the heavens, are the Lord's: but the earth hath he given to the children of men.

If David has not ascended to heaven, there is no basis for the belief that others do.

- **The dead have not yet entered into a state of reward.**

Hebrews 11:13 (KJV) These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them...

- **They will not receive their reward without us.**

Hebrews 11:39 (KJV)... these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: 40 God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

- **The reward is not given until after resurrection and judgment.**

Revelation 11:18 (KJV)... thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldst give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great...

If the dead are not in a state of reward, the popular doctrine, of the righteous going to heaven when they die, cannot be true.

- **The dead are unconscious.**

Ecclesiastes 9:5-6 (KJV)... the dead know not any thing, 6... their love, and their hatred, and their envy, is now perished...

Psalms 6:5 (KJV)... in death there is no remembrance of thee: in the grave who shall give thee thanks?

Psalms 115:17 (KJV) The dead praise not the Lord, neither any that go down into silence.

Psalms 146:4 (KJV) His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish.

Isaiah 38:18 (KJV)... the grave cannot praise thee, death can not celebrate thee...

If the dead are unconscious, they cannot be enjoying heaven, or suffering in hell, as popular theology would have us believe.

- **The dead are to be judged and rewarded at the resurrection, when Christ returns to the earth.**

Luke 14:14 (KJV)... thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.

Matthew 16:27 (KJV)... 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 4:1 (KJV)... the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

Jesus says:

John 5:28 (KJV)... the hour is coming, in the 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 life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation (condemnation).

This agrees with the prophecy of Daniel:

Daniel 12:2 (KJV)... many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

If the dead are not judged until Christ returns, the doctrine that we go to our reward at death must be false.

- **The reward of the righteous, besides a change of nature from mortal to immortal, is to inherit the earth.**

Matthew 5:5 (KJV) Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

Psalms 37:9 (KJV)... those that wait upon the Lord... shall inherit the earth... 11... the meek shall inherit the earth;

Psalms 37:22 (KJV)... such as be blessed of him shall inherit the earth...

Proverbs 11:31 (KJV)... the righteous shall be recompensed in the earth...

Psalms 2:7 (KJV)... Thou art my Son... 8 Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.

Revelation 5:10 (KJV)... we shall reign on the earth.

The Bible teaches that the reward of the righteous is immortal inheritance of the earth. The commonly held belief, that we go to our reward in heaven, is not supported by the Bible. Belief in doctrines which are not found in the Bible is a hindrance to salvation.

Matthew 15:9 (KJV)... in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

The Bible teaches that:

WHEN WE DIE WE GO TO THE GRAVE

and without RESURRECTION

we PERISH FOREVER.