

## 1. DOES ANYONE KNOW WHAT HAPPENS AT DEATH?

1 Thessalonians 4:13; Job 38:17

The Bible says: But I do not want you to be \_\_\_\_\_, brethren, concerning those who have \_\_\_\_\_ [died], lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. (1 Thes. 4:13) Have the gates of \_\_\_\_\_ been revealed to you? (Job 38:17)



Note: We are born into a world of death. As a result, we are slaves to our “fear of death” (Heb. 2:15). While we all eventually die, death remains a mystery to most. Some believe that we cease to exist, we are reincarnated, our spirit lives on as a ghost, we go straight to heaven, hell, or purgatory, or concoct some other theory. The good news is, we don’t have to guess about what happens after death. The Bible tells us exactly what happens, offering us hope beyond the grave because the One who made us can see beyond the gates of death.

## 2. HOW CAN WE KNOW FOR CERTAIN WHAT HAPPENS AFTER A PERSON DIES?

Genesis 2:7

The Bible says: And the Lord God formed man of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the \_\_\_\_\_ of life; and man became a \_\_\_\_\_. (Gen. 2:7)

Note: The mystery of death can be solved in the origin of life. The believer recognizes that when God formed man of the dust and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, man became a living being, or as the King James version says, “a living soul.” The Bible refers to life as a soul. Dust plus breath equals soul. When God removes our breath, our soul dies and we return to the dust. Psalms 104:29 confirms this, stating, “You take away their breath, they die and return to their dust” (Ps. 104:29).

## 3. DOESN'T OUR SPIRIT CONTINUE TO LIVE EVEN AFTER THE BODY DIES?

Ecclesiastes 12:7; Job 27:3

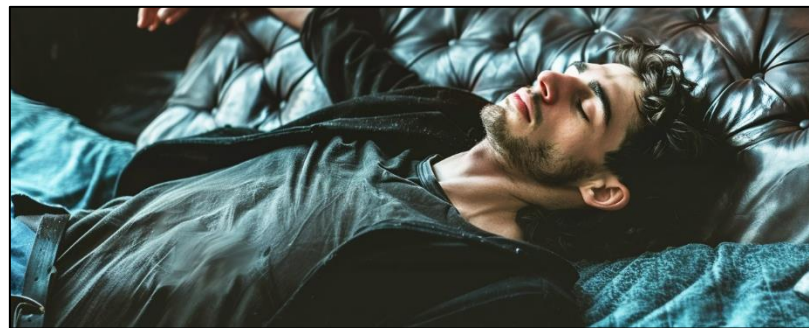
The Bible says: Then the \_\_\_\_\_ will return to the earth as it was, and the \_\_\_\_\_ will return to God who gave it. (Eccl. 12:7) As long as my breath is in me, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of God in my \_\_\_\_\_. (Job 27:3)

Note: Some use the verse that says our spirit returns to God at death to claim that our spirit keeps living after the body dies, but a proper reading clears up this misconception. The word ‘spirit’ is taken from the Greek word, ‘pneuma,’ which means breath. That’s why the King James version of Job 27:3 says “the spirit of God is in my nostrils,” while the newer translation says “the breath of God is in my nostrils.” This spirit is “the breath of life” (Gen. 2:7). The spirit that returns to God is the breath of life. (See Ps. 104:29)

## 4. IS THERE ANY CONSCIOUSNESS AFTER WE DIE?

Ecclesiastes 9:5, 6, 10; Isaiah 26:14

The Bible says: The dead know \_\_\_\_\_...for the memory of them is \_\_\_\_\_. Also their love, their hatred, and their envy have now perished...There is no...knowledge or wisdom in the grave. (Eccl. 9:5,6, 10) You...made all their \_\_\_\_\_ to perish. (Isa. 26:14)



Note: In spite of what is predominantly taught and believed, the Bible says there are no thoughts, wisdom, or knowledge in the grave. The moment we die our thoughts and brain activity stops. The Bible tells us that the dead know nothing, and that even their memory is gone. It is like when you turn off a light switch, cutting off the source. When we die, we are cut off from the source of life and all our thoughts stop. That’s why David said, “in death there is no remembrance of You” (Ps. 6:5)

## 5. WHERE ARE ALL THE PEOPLE WHO DIED?

Acts 2:29, 34; Job 14:21

The Bible says: David...is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day...For David did \_\_\_\_\_ into the heavens. (Acts 2:29, 34) His sons come to honor, and he does \_\_\_\_\_ it; They are brought low, and he does not perceive it. (Job 14:21)



Note: Outside of some special exceptions of those who God took to heaven in advance (See 2 Kings 2:11; Jude 1:9), all those who died throughout history are resting in the grave, waiting for the resurrection. The Bible confirms that even David, a man after God’s own heart, is not in heaven, but is still in resting unconscious in the grave, like many of our loved ones. While we may go to the visit the grave where our loved ones are resting, the Bible says, they do not know we are there, but are unconscious of their surroundings.

## 6. WHAT DOES THE BIBLE COMPARE DEATH TO?

John 11:11, 14; 1 Thessalonians 4:13

The Bible says: Our friend Lazarus \_\_\_\_\_, but I go that I may wake him up...Lazarus is dead. (John 11:11, 14) I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have \_\_\_\_\_, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. (1 Thess. 4:13)

Note: The Bible has consistently compared death to sleep, while comparing the resurrection to waking up from the sleep of death, when God will finally declare, “Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead” (Eph. 5:14). Death is compared to sleep because the experience is simply like a sleep without dreams, where the body and mind are laid to rest from the labors of this life until the resurrection (Rev. 14:13). This is why the Bible describes the grave and death as “darkness” and “silence” (Job 17:13; Ps. 115:17). Our next conscious moment will be being raised in the resurrection.



## 7. HOW DO PEOPLE COMMUNICATE WITH THE DEAD IF THE SPIRIT DIES AND THE DEAD ARE ASLEEP IN THE GRAVE?

Leviticus 19:31; Revelation 16:14; 2 Corinthians 11:14

The Bible says: Give no regard to \_\_\_\_\_ and familiar \_\_\_\_\_; do not seek after them, to be defiled by them. (Lev. 19:31). For they are spirits of \_\_\_\_\_, performing signs. (Rev. 16:14) For Satan himself \_\_\_\_\_ himself into an angel of light. (2 Cor. 11:14)

Note: If, as the Bible says, when we die our spirits do not keep living, then those who think they are communicating with dead loved ones are actually communicating with the devil and spirits of demons, and the near-death experiences that many sincere people have in which they go to heaven or hell are not actually from God. They are deception delusions of the devil. That is why the Bible has consistently condemned any interaction with mediums, spiritists, and those who claim to communicate with the dead.

## 8. DOESN'T THE BIBLE SAY OUR SOUL IS IMMORTAL?

1 Timothy 6:15, 16; 1 Corinthians 15:53; 2 Corinthians 5:4

The Bible says: The King of kings and Lord of lords, who \_\_\_\_\_ has immortality. (1 Tim. 6:15, 16) This \_\_\_\_\_ must put on immortality. (1 Cor. 15:53) Mortality may be swallowed up by \_\_\_\_\_. (2 Cor. 5:4)



Note: While the idea that the soul is immortal has become popular among many Christians, this idea is not found in the Bible. The Bible consistently refers to people as mortal, and says that God is the only One with immortality. Still, God offers the gift of immortality freely to anyone who accepts Christ (See John 3:16). This gift of eternal life will be given when Jesus returns and raises up all those who have accepted Him. At that time, we will exchange our mortal bodies for immortality, and death will never again have a hold on us.

## 9. WILL I EVER SEE MY LOVED ONES AGAIN?

John 5:28; 1 Peter 1:3; John 11:23

The Bible says: The hour is coming in which all who are in the \_\_\_\_\_ will hear His voice. (John 5:28) His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ from the dead. (1 Pet. 1:3) Your brother will \_\_\_\_\_. (John 11:23)



Note: While we all die, everyone will one day rise again in the resurrection. The Bible consistently holds before us hope of the resurrection. The resurrection of Christ sealed the promise that we too will one day be raised from the dead (See 1 Cor. 15:20). Even for those who did not profess Christ, no one knows the final thoughts before death (See Luke 23:39-43). Some may follow the promptings of the Spirit without realizing it (See Rom. 2:14, 15). So, if you have lost loved ones, don't lose hope. Trust God and make sure you get to heaven.

## 10. WILL DEATH ITSELF EVER COME TO AN END?

Revelation 20:14; 21:4; 1 Corinthians 15:54

The Bible says: Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the \_\_\_\_\_ death. (Rev. 20:14) There shall be \_\_\_\_\_ death. (Rev. 21:4) Then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in \_\_\_\_\_." (1 Cor. 15:54)

Note: The day is soon coming when there will be no more death. While it may seem hard to comprehend from earth, where death has such a stronghold, Christ has defeated death. The cross was the deathblow to death itself. Now it's only a matter of time before death is destroyed. After the final fires at the end of the world do their work, death and hell will be thrown into the lake of fire. That means death will finally die! After that, "there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying, and there shall be no more pain" (Rev. 21:4).

# MYSTERY OF DEATH SOLVED

