

# What Happens Upon Death

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*And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. John 8:32*

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As we begin the study it is the writers' intent not to be prejudiced against anyone for what they choose to believe, but to help individuals break free from the bondage of error and sin by following the biblical mandate found in Ephesians 5:11

As we begin our journey through the scriptures let's take a look at the very first instance of human life and his creation.

**Genesis 2:7** And the LORD God **formed man [of] the dust of the ground**, and **breathed into his nostrils the breath of life**; and **man became a living soul**.

Here in the book of Genesis is the formula for life!

**Dust of the ground + the breath of life = A living soul**

Each of these ingredients is vital to the sustaining of life.

Before we continue with our study, let's look at two of the most prominent characters in the bible, and what the scripture says about them.

## God

**Romans 3:4** "God is true"

**Titus 1:2** "Cannot lie"

**Psalms 89:34** "words unalterable"

## Satan

**John 8:44** "Murderer, a liar, abide not in truth"

**Luke 4:2** "tempter"

**Revelation 12:9** "deceives the whole world"

Now let's go back to the Garden of Eden where we have the first mention of sin and disobedience.

**Genesis 2:16** And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: **[17]** But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: **for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die**.

Here we have a command given directly from the lips of God to Adam giving him certain guidelines how to conduct themselves in God's garden [**Gen. 2:8**] pronouncing the aftermath if not followed. If Adam did not obey God's council the consequence would lead to death for the holy pair in Eden. {See **Romans 5:17**}.

Notice what God said in **Genesis 2:17**, now let's compare this with the statement from the serpent and what he says.

In **Genesis 3:4** we have the serpent tempting Eve [**2 Cor. 11:3**] to disobey God's commandment not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. He tells Eve that she would **not die!**

Now who the serpent that's conversing with Eve? The Bible has all the answers we need in this here life that we have! The scriptures tell us that the serpent is Satan in **Revelation 12:9** and **20:2**

Now God has said if Adam and Eve sinned they would die. But Satan said they would not. Who do you think is lying here? Remember what the scriptures say about God in **Hebrews 6:18** and about Satan in **John 8:44**. Now that we are sure that God is truthful and Satan is a liar let's look at what happens when someone dies.

In **Genesis 3:19** God tells Adam of the result of their refusal to obey Him. He would die and his body would return to dust. **Ecclesiastes 12:7** also repeats that same procedure with the additional information of what happens to the spirit (breath) that God loans us. In **Job 27:3** **the spirit is identified as the breath** of our being which is one of the ingredients necessary to sustain life[**Gen.2:7**].

Let us remember the formula that God used to create life in the beginning.

**Dust of the ground + the breath of life = A living soul [Gen. 2:7]**

If one of these vital ingredients is taken away life cannot exist.

**Dust of the ground - the breath of life = no living soul or**

**Breath of life- Dust of the ground = no living soul**

**James 2:26** tells us the same as what's illustrated above

When the breath of life is separated from the body, what condition does the bible say we are in?

**Ecclesiastes 12:7**

**Ecclesiastes 9:5, 6, 10**

**Job 7:9, 10** "come up no more"

**Job 14:10, 12, 14**

**Psalms 88:5**

**Psalms 115:17**

Many honest and sincere Christians have been led to believe that when someone dies the body is buried and their soul is immediately taken to heaven (or hell). But the evidence from the bible (**Ezekiel 18:4,20**) does not teach this as we will by God's grace prove from the scriptures.

Next lets get a bible definition for a soul.

**Genesis 12:5**

**Genesis 46:15-27**

**Exodus 1:5**

**Exodus 31:14**

**Leviticus 5:1-5**

**Leviticus 7:21-27**

**Acts 2:38-47**

**1 Peter 3:20**

The above scriptures show u clearly that souls are equivalent to people or individuals.

Let us now look at some prominent characters in the bible and what happened when they died.

king David

king Solomon

king Hezekiah

**1 Kings 2:1-10**

**1 Kings 11:43**

**2 Kings 20:21**

Notice all of these kings have the testimony of the scriptures saying they died and were not taken to heaven but were buried with their fathers.

We have the testimony of the bible that David who in his time of strict fidelity to God was a man that was near to the heart of God **[Acts 13:22]** was still in his own grave at time of the Pentecostal outpouring at least one thousand years later in **Acts 2:29**.

So why do many persons teach and believe something that is not substantiated by the scriptures? One of the answers can be found in **Matthew 13:25**. Because men are not willing to study the scriptures for themselves as did those described in **Acts 17:11** Satan has been permitted to insinuate his hellish lies into the church and this one of the reasons why we have so many different sects in Christianity because the bible says in **Amos 3:3**. Jesus also gives us the end result of the course that all are sure to reap if we don't repent from error and choose "the way, the truth and the life" in **Matthew 12:25**.

### *What Is Spiritualism*

*Spiritualism is a belief system or religion*, postulating the belief that spirits of the dead residing in the spirit world have both the ability and the inclination to communicate with the living. Anyone may receive spirit messages, but formal communication sessions (séances) are held by "mediums", who can then provide information about the afterlife. {source: **Wikipedia**}

**Belief that the souls of the dead can make contact with the living**, usually through a medium or during abnormal mental states such as trances. The basis of spiritualism is the conviction that spirit is the essence of life and that it lives on after the body dies. A medium is a person sensitive to vibrations from the spirit world, who may hold meetings known as séances in order to seek messages from spirits. A "control" is a spirit that gives messages to the human medium, who in turn gives them to other people. Spirits are also thought to manifest themselves through such means as rapping or levitating objects. Some spiritualists claim powers of paranormal healing. Scientific study of spiritualist phenomena has been the focus of the Society for Psychical Research, founded in Britain in 1882. {source: **Encyclopedia Britannica Concise**}

### *What does the bible teach about this practice?*

#### Familiar spirit

Strong's Number: H 0178

Definition:

necromancer, one who evokes the dead

ghost, spirit of a dead one

practice of necromancy

one that has a familiar spirit

#### Wizard

Strong's Number: H 03049

Definition:

a knower, one who has a familiar spirit a

familiar spirit, soothsayer,

necromancer

#### Witch

Strong's Number: H 03784

Definition:

To practice witchcraft or sorcery, use witchcraft sorcerer, sorceress

God's testimony about this group of people:

**Leviticus 19:31; 20:6; Deuteronomy 18:10-13; Isaiah 8:19, Leviticus 20:27**

Now let us look at a few instances where these practices were taken up in the bible to see if it is approved by God.

**1 Samuel 28:1-14** In the scriptures mentioned Saul is the leader of Israel who was chosen by God {**1 Sam.9:15-17**}. Had he wholly followed the Lord, the Lord would have blessed him {**"them that honour me I will honour 1Sam.2:20"**}. But sadly he was rejected as king of Israel {**1Sam. 13:9-14; 15:22, 23**}, because of his repeated failure to obey the Lord. As the sure result of his rebellion God had no choice but to separate from him {**Isaiah 59:2**} and leave him to "the fruit of his own ways" {**Proverbs 1:22-33**}. Saul now chooses to result to spiritualism to receive council.

**1 Chronicles 10:13** "So Saul died for his transgression which he committed against the LORD, [even] against the word of the LORD, which he kept not, and also for asking [counsel] of [one that had] a familiar spirit, to inquire [of it]; **10:14** And inquired not of the LORD: therefore he slew him, and turned the kingdom unto David the son of Jesse. "

### *Other examples*

Manasseh

**2 Chron.33:1-10**

Pharaoh

**Gen.41:1-8**

Nebuchadnezzar

**Daniel 2:1-4**

Perhaps you have been led to believe that when someone dies they immediately go to heaven. We cannot believe this and also claim Jesus Christ as our savior. He has promised in **John 14:1-3** that he would come back the second time to take us with him where he is. Also that when he comes the second time, there would be a resurrection {**John 5:28, 29**} from the dead {graves}.

The belief that when we die and go straight to heaven in contrast with the biblical doctrine of the resurrection at Jesus Christ's second coming cannot harmonize with each other and therefore brings confusion to one's mind which places us in a condition described as Babylon in **Revelation 14:8** and **18:2,3**. God has allowed this study to come to your attention because he loves and is calling you to come unto him {**Mat.11:28**} that you might be saved.

**John 16:6** But because I have said these things unto you, sorrow hath filled your heart. **16:7**

Nevertheless I tell you the truth;

**Galatians 4:16** Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?

My appeal to all

**Deuteronomy 30:19** I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, [that] I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

**30:20** That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, [and] that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he [is] thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the LORD swore unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.

**God Bless**

