

WHAT REALLY HAPPENS WHEN WE DIE

Philippians 1:21

This statement just may be the greatest test of our faith as believers, particularly as the years pass by or as our bodies begin to wear down.

What does it mean... “to live is Christ?”... and how can dying be better?

The fact that we will someday die is inevitable. (See Hebrews 9:27)

... Please know these diagrams are just to help us visualize the habitation for the soul both here on earth and after death comes. These boxes and circles have their limits. There are in no way intended to put boundaries around God or His plans.

Before death comes, there are only 4 categories of life that man can exist in here on earth:

1. Innocence
2. Sin
3. Church
4. Apostasy

A word about Hades:

1. It is the dwelling place of the dead, from all ages since Adam.
2. It is in the invisible universe, the spirit-world.
3. Here are dis-embodied souls/spirits or as Paul calls it “unclothed”, which is unnatural.
4. Only two parts of Hades—a heavenly Paradise of comfort and a flaming Torment
5. It is referred to as the “Intermediate State of the Dead.”
6. There is a separation in Hades by a great “gulf” between the righteous dead and the unsaved dead.
7. Upon death then, in actuality, man’s final destiny is decided. Those winding up in torment have no second chance at making it to heaven.

But now let’s focus on the **WE**... where do WE go when we die? Let’s focus on Paradise:

1- Here in the heavenly Paradise, our spirits are conscious, very much alive.

- a. Luke 16:19-31
- b. Luke 23:43
- c. Acts 2:17

2- Here in this heavenly Paradise, our spirits are in a perfect, sinless state.

- a. Hebrews 12:23

3- Here in this heavenly Paradise, we awaken in a beautiful, secure and holy place.

- a. 1st Thessalonians 4:13-18

4- Yet this is NOT the final place... here we await Jesus’ return when God will clothe us in the new, immortal, Christ-like body for the rest of eternity.

- a. 1st John 3:2
- b. 2nd Corinthians 5:6-10

The angels will be there. The saints will be there. All our saved loved ones will be there. AND JESUS will be there. ***What a day that will be!***

March 20, 2022 Evening Service

