

## **Concerning Death**

Since the beginning of time people have wondered what happens to a person after death. Where do they go? Can they communicate with us once they have departed? The Biblical truth about death is that a person is dead when they die. They cannot hear, know or feel anything once they are dead. They do not praise God in heaven or are burning in a hell beneath the earth. They are in a dreamless sleep waiting for the day of resurrection.

## **How Man was Created**

Understanding How God created man will aid us in understanding what happens to a person when they die. Death is the opposite of creation.

**1. God made man out of Dust and Breath:**

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.

**2. Man became a living soul – He does not have a Living soul:**

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 (being)**.

**Note: Dust + Breath = Living Soul or being.**

**In the same way: Dust – breath = dead soul or dead being.**

God created the first human being with the Breath of life and from the dust from the earth. God lovingly formed man out of the dust of the earth and then breathed into that lifeless clay and man became a human being.

**3. At death the breath returns to God:**

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

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

**Note:** it the breath – spirit that returns to God. It is not a disembodied soul. The spirit in the context of death is breath. The Hebrew word for spirit and breath here is the same. Ruach, which means a blast of air.

**4. Breath and spirit are the same thing in the context of death:**

Job 27:3 All the while my **breath** is in me, and the **spirit** of God is in my nostrils;

Note: The word breath and spirit are used interchangeably in the Bible. It is the same word. It has the same meaning when we speak of death.

**5. Souls – beings – People –can die:**

Ezekiel 18:20 The soul that sinneth, it shall die.

**Note:** The Bible makes it clear - souls will die. The idea of the immortal soul, and that the soul doesn't die was imported from Greek mythology. The pagans – idol worshipers – believe that the person never died and that they simply changed into another invisible life form. Greeks, Romans, Egyptians all believed this. This lie came from the Devil himself who told Eve that if she eat of the forbidden fruit that she would not die.

**6. God warned Adam that if they eat of the forbidden fruit they would surely die.**

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.

**7. The Devil lied and told eve that she will not die if she disobeyed God by eating the forbidden fruit.**

Ge 3:4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

**Note:** Eve chose to believe a lie. She disbelieved God. Adam and Even eventually died. God did not promise that they would fully die at the moment they disobeyed but rather they would begin to die. From that moment on they were banded from eating of the tree of life. Their bodies began to age to the point of death.

**8. The Dead Know Nothing:**

Ecclesiastics 9:5 For the living know that they shall die: but the **dead know not anything**, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten.

**Note:** The dead are dead. They don't know anything. Their mind is no longer working. There is nothing physically, emotionally, or spiritually happening with them. They no longer exist other than in the memory of those who loved them.

**9. The dead praise not the Lord.**

Palms 115:17 The **dead praise not the LORD**, neither any that go down into silence.

**Note:** The dead are not in heaven praising the Lord.

**10. The dead's thoughts perish.**

Palms 146:4 His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; **in that very day his thoughts perish.**

**11. The grave is the dead's house.**

Job 17:13 If I wait, the grave *is* mine house: I have made my bed in the darkness.

**12. David is in his grave till this day.** Acts 2:29 Men *and* brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is **both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day.**

Acts 2:34 For **David is not ascended into the heavens:** but he saith himself, The LORD

said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand,

Note: David the servant of God is not in heaven but in the tomb where they laid him.

13. **The dead don't visit their former home.** Job 14:21.

Job 7:10 He shall return no more to his house, neither shall his place know him anymore.

**Note:** The dead don't come back to haunt your house or to spook you. They no longer exist. If anyone is visited by someone who they think is dead – it is not really them -it is the Devil playing tricks on you.

14. **The Devil is able to transform his outward appearance to look like an angel of light.**

2 Corinthians 11:14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

Note: if the Satan is able to transform himself into an angel of light – he can surely appear as one of you dead loved ones.

15. **Death is described as a sleep.** Job 14;12; Palms 13:3; **Palms 76:6; Daniel 12:2; John 11:12,13; Acts. 13:36; 1 Corinthians. 15:51;**

Job 7:21 And why dost thou not pardon my transgression, and take away mine iniquity? for now shall I **sleep in the dust**; and thou shalt seek me in the morning, but I *shall* not *be*.

16. **Jesus Described Death as a sleep:**

John 11:11 These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, Our friend **Lazarus sleepeth**; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep. John 11:14 Then said Jesus unto them plainly, **Lazarus is dead.**

**Note:** Death is considered a sleep. It is a dreamless sleep. It is a sleep because God will one day wake us up. Some will be awoken for an everlasting reward and others for judgment.

17. **Jesus is pained by our death:**

John 11:35 **Jesus wept. (when he came to Lazarus tomb)**

36 Then said the Jews, Behold how he loved him!

38 Jesus therefore **again groaning** in himself cometh to the grave. It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it.

**Note:** Our life and relationship with God means very much to Him. He created us to life forever and not to die in this world. The result of sin is death and suffering. That is something God never planned for any one of us, but sin entered the world and all of us have sinned we suffer the pain of death. Jesus wept at the tomb of Lazarus His Friend because He loved Him very much. His tears represent how God feels about all those who die. Even though God was planning to resurrect Lazarus, Jesus still felt the pains of separation – His love is real.

18. **Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life:**

John 11:21 Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.

22 But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee.

23 Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again.

24 Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in **the resurrection at the last day.**

25 Jesus said unto her, **I am the resurrection, and the life:** he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

19. **The Righteous Dead will rise at the Second Coming of Jesus.** 1 Thessalonians 4:16.

1 Thessalonians 4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

20. **We receive immortality (not dying) at the second coming when Jesus comes again:**

1 Corinthians 15:52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and **this mortal must put on immortality.**

54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this **mortal shall have put on immortality,** then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

55 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

21. **The Wicked will be raised at the resurrection of damnation.**

John 5:29 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.**

22. **Do you understand that the dead are unconscious and waiting to be resurrected by the Lord at His call. And if you die you want to be among the righteous dead that will go to heaven when Jesus comes again?**

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