



# **Between Death and Resurrection**

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# What happens between death and resurrection?

- ? **Soul sleep:** the body decays, and the person remains unconscious and unaware of anything until Jesus returns and raises the dead.
- ★ **Soul in heaven:** the body decays, and the person (soul/spirit) goes to heaven, enjoys conscious awareness of the Lord, and relishes blessings until the resurrection.
- ★ **Soul sleep is unbiblical. Scripture teaches that the soul goes to be with Christ.**

## **Better off dead**

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. (Philippians 1:21-24)

## **Away from the body, at home with the Lord**

Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. We live by faith, not by sight. We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. (2 Cor 5:6-9)

# Instantly in Paradise

- The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. (Luke 16:22)
- “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.” (Luke 23:43)
- “Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.” “Blessed indeed,” says the Spirit, “that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!” (Rev 14:13)

## **Conscious, communicating souls**

I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne. They cried out with a loud voice, “O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?” Then they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brothers should be complete, who were to be killed as they themselves had been. (Rev 6:9-11)

# Visit to paradise

I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven. Whether it was in the body or out of the body I do not know--God knows. And I know that this man--whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, but God knows--was caught up to paradise. He heard inexpressible things, things that man is not permitted to tell. (2 Cor 12:3-4)

# **Not worth comparing**

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. (Rom 8:18)

Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal. (2 Cor 4:16-18)

## **Light momentary affliction?**

Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my own countrymen, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false brothers. I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked. (2 Cor 11:24-28).

# What happens when a believer dies?

- Angels escort you to heaven. (Luke 16:9)
- Souls of fellow believers and angels rejoice with you.
- The Lord reviews your life with you, and he calms you and sings over you.

The LORD your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing. (Zeph 3:17)

# **Better off dead, but glad to be alive.**

- So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. (2 Corinthians 5:9)
- For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. (Philippians 1:21-22)