

# HEAVENS..LAKE OF FIRE..WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DIE?

The big question is "What happens when we die", but in order to answer that question, I must first explain some things about the Heavens.

## WHERE ARE THEY?

Although most people believe that there is a Heaven, few people understand what Heaven entails. Most people have been seriously misled in regards to what the place called Heaven is all about. In the following article I will try to describe what Heaven is as per our Bible, and what the Holy Spirit has revealed to me.

I must explain that in the universe, there are three distinct separate places described as heavens according to our Bible. These three will exist until Yeshua returns in the clouds 3 1/2 years into the tribulation. Once the saints are removed from earth, these three will still exist till the end of the Book. After the saints are removed (Exodus Part Two) from planet earth, the two final Heavens will be revealed. They are described as the "New Heaven on the New Earth", and the "New Jerusalem Heaven" which is separate from the newly formed earth. Those ELECT who "DID AS YESHUA DID" will take up residence in the New Jerusalem. Though heaven on earth will be a beautiful place, it will not in any way compare to the New Jerusalem.

There are three heavens talked about in our Holy Scriptures.

**1)** The first heaven is what is commonly called Hades, which is divided in two. The souls and spirits of the saved are on the one side, and the souls and spirits of the unsaved are on the other. You might call it a staging point until Yeshua returns in the clouds.

**2)** The second heaven is the New Heaven that is described in the first part of **Rev. 21:1-2** *"Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the heavenly expanses (first heaven) and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer [any] sea."*(correction made). When the earth turns into the "lake of fire", there comes a new Heaven and a New Jerusalem.

**3)** The third heaven is beyond what we can see. This is where the New Jerusalem is, where Yahveh and Yeshua exist. **2Cor. 12:2** *"I know a man in Messiah who fourteen years ago whether in the body I do not know, or out of the body I do not know, Yahveh knows such a man was caught up to the third heaven"*. Paul was actually talking about himself in this verse, his own experience. Paul was taken up in the spirit (similar to John when he wrote the book of Revelation) to the New Jerusalem. **John 14:2-3** *"In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you"*. Wishful thinkers often use this verse to establish that all saints will have a special place in Heaven. This verse is describing the New Jerusalem. Only the elect Believers will enter here. **Rev. 19:11** *"And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it [is] called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war."*

Please note: The word "heaven", "heavens", and "heavenly", when used in our Bible, can also be describing the "skies above us", "the heavenly expanse" we see when we look up. Heaven and water are the exact same words (She'meim..shem), in Hebrew.

**The context must be kept intact when coming across these scriptures.**

Heaven is definitely "up," the bible says Yeshua came down from heaven, it also says He ascended into heaven. **John 6:38** *"For I have come down from heaven, not to*

do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. " **John 6:51** *I am the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread also which I will give for the life of the world is My flesh.*" **Acts 1:9** *And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.*

In **Eph. 4:10** *"He who descended is the very one ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe"*. The words, "all the heavens," here, means more than one.

In the parable of the "talents" left with three slaves in Matt. 25:14-30 Yeshua made it clear that all Believers are given some talents, what we do with these talents will determine where we go and what we receive in which Heaven.

Astronomers agree that there is a great empty space in the north, in the nebula of the great constellation of Orion. Many believe that there is a heavenly cavern there so gigantic that the mind cannot comprehend it. Astronomers agree that this big hole, approx. 16 trillion 740 billion miles across, (compared to the diameter around the earth's orbit being 186 million miles), is where heaven is. This huge opening is 90,000 times the size of the earth's orbital diameter. In other words there could be 30 solar systems like ours (including the sun) in the opening of this great hole in space. When astronomers view this area some say there seems to be something spectacular there, a great awe and supernatural presence. **Job 26:7** *"He stretches out the north over empty space And hangs the earth on nothing.*

## ABRAHAM'S BOSOM (SHEOL)

Abraham's Bosom was the name of the place where the souls and spirits of the dead went at the time of the Old Testament. Abraham's bosom is a synonym for "life hereafter". It was the place (staging area) where all souls and spirits went after death, prior to Yeshua's resurrection. The Believers souls and spirits couldn't go to Hades because their sins were only "covered", not taken away, until Yeshua died on the stake. After Yeshua died he descended into Abraham's bosom where He picked up all those departed and then ascended into Hades with them. (Luke 16:22-23, 2Cor. 12, and Eph. 5:8). When Yeshua ascended into Heaven, He went into Abraham's Bosom and removed all the souls and spirits of those who were resting there, and took them to the new staging place called Hades.

When Yeshua was talking to Nicodemus He explained that no man (other than Yeshua), had yet ascended to heaven. They were all in Abraham's bosom at that time.

Job presents us with some unusual thoughts about Sheol (Abraham's Bosom), in **Job 14:10-14** *"But man dies and lies prostrate. Man expires, and where is he? {As} water evaporates from the sea, And a river becomes parched and dried up, So man lies down and does not rise. Until the heavens be no more, He will not awake nor be aroused out of his sleep. "Oh that Thou wouldst hide me in Sheol, That Thou wouldst conceal me until Thy wrath returns {to Thee,} That Thou wouldst set a limit for me and remember me! "If a man dies, will he live {again?} All the days of my struggle I will wait, Until my change comes."*

## HADES

Hades is the place where, (since Calvary) all the souls and spirits of dead people go

immediately after death. It is also referred to as the first Heaven. You might say it is a staging area, until Yeshua comes back in the clouds. The main separation there is between the souls and spirits of saved people, as compared to the unsaved. The angel of Hades manages the place Hades.

I would like to make a clarification regarding Hell and the lake of fire. Hades is the intermediate state (place) a persons spirit and soul go to after death. Hades is divided in two, one side for the saved, and one side for unbelievers. The lake of fire is commonly referred to as Gehenna in the Greek. Gehenna is a term that was derived from the burning garbage pits located outside Jerusalem. Messiah symbolically referred to Gehenna as eternal torment and separation from Yahveh. Always remember that everything spiritual Yeshua points out to us first in the physical. Yeshua is using Gehenna as a physical example of what will happen spiritually.

Revelation 20:11 indicates that death and Hades will be thrown into the lake of fire. The fact that Hades is thrown into the lake of fire proves that they are two different places. Hell, as a place of torment, is just as much a reality as Heaven, but people do not want to hear or talk about Hell. Most unbelievers live in a semi-quasi denial about the existence of hell. They also think that if there is a Hell, then it is only reserved for people like Hitler and Charles Manson. I have often wondered when Yahveh planned to have earth become the lake of fire, did He plan it after the fall of man, or was it part of His original creation? Yahveh may have built in the earth the ability to become the lake of fire as an eternal punishment before sin even entered the world.

**How do you respond to this question, "How can a loving Yahveh send a person to hell?"** The answer to this question is related to your position of free will. We all have free will. A person sends themselves to Hell by rejecting Messiah, it's that simple. I do not think our simple little minds can even comprehend two concepts like eternity and Hell. We have the right to choose, Yah will never go against our will. We choose to follow Him or go to hell.

**What is the criteria for judgment at the great white throne?** Judgment will be based on what they have done, their deeds. What they had done was ultimately reject or accept Messiah and the free gift of salvation. Revelation 20:12 (old 20:15) says those who's names are not written in the Book of Life will be cast into the lake of fire. Their deeds confirm which way they decided to go.

## **ON THE SAVED SIDE OF HADES**

- One section of the saved side of Hades contains all those who have been born again.
- A second area is where the souls and spirits of unborn children are. This includes all fetuses that were created (killed) by the use of birth control, stillborn babies and all aborted babies. (Remember, the moment blood is formed in the womb, a spirit and soul are formed, a person). (Zech. 8:5)
- There is another section for the souls and spirits of alters (insidors) that accepted Yeshua as their Messiah. To understand this properly one needs to understand what MPD (DID) is, multiple personality disorder, dissociative identity disorder. This is a very common spiritual survival technique provided for us by Adonai when we are confronted with serious trauma and or terror.

- There is no communication between the saved side of Hades and earth, other than through Yahveh. There is a great gulf in between. (Luke 16:19-26)
- When in heaven, we will not be bothered by the thoughts of lost loved ones, family and friends. Adonai will not allow us to feel that type of discomfort. When the great prophet Isaiah spoke of the last days and the new earth the Holy Spirit had revealed to Him things that would occur in the new kingdom of Hashem. **Isa. 65:17** *"For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; **And the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.**"* **Isa. 65:19** *"I will also rejoice in Jerusalem, and be glad in My people; **And there will no longer be heard in her The voice of weeping and the sound of crying.**"* Then John is told what it will be like in the new world. **Rev. 21:4** *"and He shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there shall **no longer be {any} death; there shall no longer be {any} mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.**"*

## ON THE UNSAVED SIDE OF HADES

- On the unsaved side of Hades all the souls and spirits of the secular people are in a state of torment. A stagnant state where time stands still. Here, the souls and spirits wait for judgment day, so they can formally be cast into the lake of fire with Satan and his fallen angels.

## THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT (Rev. 20:11-15)

On judgement day we will be judged by Yeshua according to our level of moral knowledge and according to the morals of that time period in which we died (John 5:22-23, 26-27).

Each person will be judged according to the measure of moral light and understanding made available to him. Those who have the full knowledge of Yahveh's moral standards revealed to them through the law of Moses will be judged by that law. But those who did not have the fuller revelation of the law of Moses will not be judged by that law, but in accordance with the general revelation of Yahveh granted to the human race as a whole, through the wonders of creation. **Luke 12:48** *"For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; **and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more**".* Those who receive special revelation through Yahveh's word will be judged by a higher standard of moral knowledge. (Matt. 11:20-24)

## LAKE OF FIRE

The lake of fire will be the earth after Yah finishes dealing with the people on earth, after the millennial reign and Satan's short period. The earth has built in it a mechanism to burn for eternity. When Dad created the earth, He must have designed it so that from its innermost, there will come fire and brimstone to burn for eternity. Those who don't have their names written in the lambs book of life, Satan, and all his secret agents, will end up together for eternity. That's a long time. (Isa. 24:20b)

The earth will be turned into a burning mass. **2Pet. 3:10** *"Then the heavens will pass away with a terrible noise and everything in them will disappear **in a fire and the earth and everything on it will be destroyed**"* **Zeph. 3:8** *"All the **earth will be devoured by the fire of my jealousy**"*

**Hebr. 1:10-11** *"You Yahveh in the beginning created the earth and with your own hands*

*you made the heavens. **They will disappear, but you will remain**"*

**Where is the eternal lake of fire?** The earth as we know it will become a fiery planet for eternity. This is the lake of fire spoken of throughout our Bible. After all of humanity has been judged and the saints have been sent to their appropriate place, the unbelievers will be left on the earth to burn for eternity. Satan will be bound forever in the Abyss on the eternally burning earth.

**How many books are there?**

There are at least three that are noted. The "Lambs Book Of Life" is the main book with the names of all Believers in it. Then we have multiple books (at least two) that contain our deeds. (Dan. 7:10, 12:1 and Rev. 21:27)

**Rev. 20:13** (new 20:10) *And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, **every one of them according to their deeds.*** **Rev. 20:14** (new 20:11) *And **death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire.** This is the second death, the lake of fire.* **Rev. 20:15** (new 20:12) *And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.*

## HEAVEN ON THE NEW EARTH AND THE NEW JERUSALEM COMPARED

Most Believers have no idea what heaven on the new earth will be like. I will do my best to describe what has been revealed to me.

First of all, remember, there are two heavens available for eternity. **The lesser heaven (Kingdom) will be on the New Earth. The greater of course will be the New Jerusalem.** The two are not comparable. The New Jerusalem is far superior to the heaven on earth.

No one can say absolutely who is saved and who isn't, but putting it bluntly, those "born again" Believers who truly invited Yeshua (even if they ignorantly used the wrong name of Jesus) into their heart verbally, and in faith were obedient to His Word, will abide in the new earth heaven. This will take place as long as they were babes when they did so. Some of those (you might say typical Christians), who honestly think they love Yahveh and Yeshua but never did what He said to do in His word, may be there, but the vast majority of all so-called Christians will not. Some of them, because of Yah's grace, get into heaven by the skin of their teeth. Every case of course is individual.

The others are what the Bible calls, "the elect". The elect will go in to the New Jerusalem. The following verse has caused much confusion throughout Christendom because the pastors, leaders, and preachers have not properly understood it. This verse is one example of why many clergy will never see the gates of the New Jerusalem. **Matt. 5:17-20** *"Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill. "For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished. **"Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others [to do] the same, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches [them], he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. "For I say to you that unless your righteousness surpasses [that] of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven."*** In these verses, it talks clearly about "LEAST IN THE KINGDOM OF

HEAVEN", compared to, "GREAT IN THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN". Many clergy have failed this test and will never see the pearly gates of New Jerusalem because they have failed to lead people in the truth. This has happened mostly because they themselves don't know the truth. For lay people this may be considered excusable, for those who claim to be shepherds (and get paid for it), much is expected, but little is given.

Malachi states it well. **Mal. 2:7-9** ***"For the lips of a priest should preserve knowledge, and men should seek instruction from his mouth; for he is the messenger of Yahveh of hosts. "But as for you, you have turned aside from the way; you have caused many to stumble by the instruction; you have corrupted the covenant of Levi," says Yahveh of hosts. "So I also have made you despised and abased before all the people, just as you are not keeping My ways but are showing partiality in the instruction."*** It is simply unacceptable for clergy to lead their sheep into confusion, which most have done. "From those who have been given much, much is expected".

Any ways, now that you are beginning to understand the difference between the two heavens, I shall explain how the heavens compare. The most simple way to compare the two heavens would be like comparing an eight inch mono black and white TV to a flat screen 61 inch HD digital 3D color picture on a stereo television. If you take all the beauty of heaven on earth and magnify it in every way, you will get some idea of how they compare. The splendour of the New Jerusalem cannot be effectively described in any language known to mankind. I will attempt to do it as best I can.

- The citizens in heaven will all be clothed in white robes.
- The mansion's on a hill that most saints have heard about are in the New Jerusalem only.
- There are houses, structures there in the earthly heaven. There is no need however for shelter, because there is no weather in heaven. It is a very warm temperature all the time.
- There are no shadows in heaven because Yah's glory is everywhere.
- There are no meeting places such as churches in heaven. The Temple of Yahveh is in the New Jerusalem only.
- Those on the new earth will not be in the direct presence of the Most High, as many assume.
- There will be no oceans, or bodies of water on earth or in the New Jerusalem, other than the river of the living water of the Holy Spirit with tributaries everywhere. This clear water feels like satin slipping through your fingers when it is poured over your hands.
- People in heaven will look similar to what they looked like on earth, except their features will be glorified. They will have spiritual/celestial type bodies that will be as recognizable as on earth as they were before the end of time on earth. On earth we have physical bodies, but in heaven we will have "terrestrial", "celestial" (spiritual) bodies. We will be able to walk through objects, like Yeshua did, in our spiritual bodies. (1Cor. 15:5, 40 & 44)
- Regardless of what age one was when they died, there will only be two noticeable age groups in either heaven. Those under the age of accountability and those over that age of 13. All will look glorious and pure, with no spots or blemishes.
- There is no TIME in heaven. Yah is TIME. The only reason time exists is when one

is away from Yah. He is like the center hub of a wheel. Time only exists when you get away from the center.

- People will eat the twelve fruits of the trees of life.
- People will drink wine made by Yah Himself.
- Flowers, trees, grass, etc., will exist in a physical state. You will be able to feel and touch them, but they will be incredibly beautiful in their essence, color and fragrance. I would best describe it as "ELECTRIC COLORS". Perfect in every way.
- There are trolley/bus type vehicles on a type of rail, that will transport people rapidly wherever they want to go. You might call it a light transit rail type system without tracks.
- There will be no sin possible in heaven.
- There will be no diseases of any kind in heaven, although there may be slight variations in regards to how we feel.
- All the great holy men and women of the Biblical stories that most are familiar with, will exist in the New Jerusalem only. They will be able to visit with those on earth at their will, but will not live there.
- Alters/insidors, will exist, each one in their own body form, as they depicted themselves when they were in the body of the host person on the old earth.
- Aborted babies and those who died because of birth control, will take on the features of the male and female partners who's seed they came from.
- All those children under the age of thirteen who died, will look as if they were grown up.
- Angels will be everywhere to help us with whatever our heart desires.
- We will dance, eat, and celebrate with the angels.
- We will not have any memories of our past life when we are in Heaven.
- The Torah will be our guide in heaven, as it was supposed to be, but wasn't in most cases, on earth. The Torah was then the "mark/target" to aim for, and will continue to be our target of perfection. The Torah will be on our heart, automatically followed.
- The Book of Revelation clearly talks about us being judged by our deeds (Rev.). In heaven we will have seniority according to our deeds on earth. "We were to store up our treasures in heaven, the good book said." That's why few will make it into the New Jerusalem. When Yeshua spoke of the "gate to heaven being narrow", He was referring to the New Jerusalem. We will have received from one to six crowns before we entered heaven, according to our holiness, and deeds, on earth. Our status in heaven will be the result of our works on earth.

## THE NEW JERUSALEM (Rev. 21 and 22)

The New Jerusalem is in the shape of a cube, 1,400 miles cubed. The walls are broad and high, with twelve gates guarded by twelve angels and the names of the twelve tribes of Israel are written on the gates. There are three gates on each side. The walls of the city (216 ft. thick) have 12 foundations (layers of precious stones and jewels). They are; jasper, sapphire, agate, emerald, onyx, carnelian, chrysolite, beryl, topaz, chrysoprase, jacinth and amethyst. The 12 gates are made of pearls, each gate from a single pearl. The main street is pure gold as clear as glass. There is a temple in the city. There is no moon or sun, the glory of Yahveh illuminates the city. There will be no night, and the gates will never close. Nothing evil will be allowed to enter, no one who practices

shameful idolatry, and dishonesty, but only those elect whose names are written in the Lambs Book Of Life. The main street has a clear, pure river down the center and on each side there will be trees of life bearing twelve different fruits.

**What is the significance of the pearly gates?** Heaven is entered through suffering, through redemption, through blood, and the agony of the stake. A PEARL is a beautiful jewel that is formed by the SUFFERING, caused by the irritation of a wound, of a little animal. Without the WOUND, the jewel would never have been formed. We, as Believers, are the JEWELS on the crown of the KING OF KINGS AND MASTER OF MASTERS. We suffered persecution to get into the New Jerusalem, that is why we enter heaven through gates of pearl!

Many people get confused about the passage in the book of John. **John 14:1-2** *"Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in Yahveh, believe also in Me. **"In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. This is referring to the NEW JERUSALEM ONLY.***

**The "New Jerusalem" as per Revelation 21 and 22 will hover above the earth for 1000 years after Yeshua comes back, until the devil is destroyed in the earth and it becomes the lake of fire. A new earth (with no oceans) will appear, and the new heaven (New Jerusalem) will hover above the new earth for eternity.**

At the time of the millennial reign the elect saints will live in the New Jerusalem, which will hover above the earth. The secular people will live on the earth. These people will live in poverty on the earth. They will suffer greatly because they refuse to accept Yeshua. They will be abundant. Their life on earth will be horrible.

## **INTERESTING NOTES ABOUT THE HEAVENS AND THINGS ASSOCIATED WITH THEM**

- Yeshua was the first one to go to Heaven, that's one of the reasons why He is called the "First Fruit". **1Cor. 15:20** *"But now Messiah has been raised from the dead, the **first fruits** of those who are asleep."* **John 3:13** *"And no one has ascended into heaven, but **He who descended from heaven, {even} the Son of Man.**"*
- The ELECT will be allowed to have animals if we so desire in the New Jerusalem Heaven. The animals in heaven will be like the original ones Yah created in the Garden Of Eden, before they became unclean.
- We will communicate telepathically in Heaven. (Luke 8:17)
- Adonai tells us that all "souls" belong to Him. **Ezek. 18:4** *"Behold, **all souls are Mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is Mine. The soul who sins will die.**"*
- When innocent people and children die we fail to understand why this happens. In **Isa. 57:1-2** it explains *"The righteous man perishes and no man takes it to heart and devout men are taken away while **no one understands. For the righteous man is taken away from evil. He enters into peace. They rest in their beds"***
- There is no recognition of marriage in heaven so it doesn't matter how many husbands or wives one had on earth. No marriage will take place in heaven. (Mark 12:25)
- Neither flesh nor blood (our old nature), can go to heaven 1Cor. 15:50
- There are three sets of books in heaven. One is the "Book Of Life" which contains the names of all people who are born again and remain true, and the others contain

everything that everyone has ever said and done.

- The phrase "seventh heaven" should not be used by Believer's; it comes from the Koran (Quoran).
- People in Heaven will not feel bad about their friends and relatives because they won't know that they are in hell. There can be no grief or sorrow in heaven, because they know that Yahveh has been totally fair to everyone and that everyone has had the same opportunity to believe and be saved. (1John 3:2, and Rev. 21:4)
- **2Pet. 3:12** "**You should look forward to that day and hurry it along, the day when Yahveh will set the heavens on fire and the elements will melt away in the flames**". But we are looking forward to the new heavens and new earth He has promised, a world where everyone is right with Yahveh.
- Yeshua spoke twice as much about hell than heaven in the Renewed Testament.
- John Newton (hymn song writer) once said he expects to see three things in heaven; 1. people he didn't think he would see. 2. to not see people he expected to see. 3. to find himself there.
- In the end, if we are in Heaven, we will be as humans were created originally in the garden. We will be both male and female. We will not have both male and female parts, but we will be like at the beginning of time. Individuals will be noticeably male or female, but won't have reproductive organs. That is why it says there will be no need for marriage or companionship in Heaven. **Matt. 22:30** "**For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.**" In Hebrew "woman" means "out of man". Adam means "from the earth". In the Garden of Eden when Adam was made in the image of Yah, Eve was in Adam. When Yah created man he had both sexes in him. When Yah made woman, He took a rib out of Adam.
- There is a void between the two heavens that only those in the New Jerusalem can penetrate, with Yahveh's permission.
- All citizens will be able to speak and comprehend (communicate), in all languages known to mankind if they desire to do so.
- There will be no further need to speak in tongues in heaven.
- The "Kingdom Of Yahveh," the Kingdom Of Heaven," and the "Kingdom," mentioned in the bible, all mean the same thing. The "Kingdom Of Yahveh" is mentioned over 70 times in the Renewed Testament, but the "Kingdom Of Heaven" is only used in the Gospel of Matthew.

## WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU GET TO THE NEW EARTHLY HEAVEN?

When a Believer goes to his or her eternal resting place, he or she will receive as many as six crowns for their head. These crowns will be presented according to what you did (your deeds), and how well you did it. The six crowns are:

Crown of righteousness (2Tim. 4:8)

Crown of life, for enduring trials, martyrs crown (James 1:12)

Crown of glory, elders crown (1Pet. 5:2-4)

Crown of faithfulness, winners crown (Rev. 2:10)

Crown of exaltation, victors crown (1Ths. 2:19)

Crown to master our old nature, soul winners crown (1Cor. 9:25)

## WHAT IS DEATH?...WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DIE?

Ezekiel tells us that Yahveh doesn't want anyone to die. **Ezek. 18:32** *"For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies," declares Yahveh Elohim. "Therefore, repent and live."*

I define death as the absence of life. Like black is the absence of light, death is the absence of life.

The number one tool of Satan is to cause death. His ultimate goal is for all of us to die. When Yeshua came and resurrected, He took Satan's number one weapon and removed it for those who are born again. Death has no power over someone who is born again because we are not of this world. Our Kingdom is above, death cannot destroy us no-matter what happens.

**Gen. 2:16b-17** says, *"You may freely eat from every tree in the garden except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. You are not to eat from it, because on the day you eat from it, it will become certain that you will die."* Yahveh in His Divine omniscience ultimately knew that mankind would disobey and would die spiritually, morally, and physically. **Gen. 3:19** says, *"You will eat bread by the sweat of your forehead till you return to the ground, for you were taken out of it: you are dust, and you will return to dust."* Death is part of the cycle of life; everything returns back to its original state. Mankind has denied and tried to allude death, but has never succeeded.

The Torah speaks of death in a unique way. **Gen. 25:8** says, *"Then Avraham breathed his last, dying at a ripe old age, an old man full of years; and he was gathered to his people."* (CJB) Death was viewed as a transition of being "gathered to your people." The process of this transition was when one breathed one's last breath. **Gen. 35:28-29** says, *"Yitz'chaak (Isaac) lived to be 180 years old. Then he breathed his last, died and was gathered to his people..."* **Gen. 49:33** also says, *"When Ya'akov (Jacob) had finished charging his sons, he drew his legs up into the bed, breathed his last and was gathered to his people."* (CJB) The B'rit Hadashah (Renewed Testament) also addresses the topic of death and dying. **Hebr. 9:27** says, *"Just as human beings have to die once, but after this comes judgment."* It is appointed unto man to die. Death is the unavoidable. Paul says in **Phil. 1:21** *"For to me, life is the Messiah, and death is gain."* Whatever we do, weather we live or die, we do it unto YHVH (Rom. 14:8). Our hope as Believers in Messiah is in the fact that we will be raised/resurrected from the dead. **1Cor. 15:54-55** says, *"When what decays puts on imperishability and what is mortal puts on immortality, then this passage in the Tanakh will be fulfilled: 'Death is swallowed up in victory.' and 'Death where is your victory? Death, where is your sting?'"*

The Tenakh, or "Old Testament" as most call it, doesn't really define any doctrine of an afterlife, rather it hints at such a reality throughout the body of it's text.

Some Jews in both the 1st century as well as today do not believe in an afterlife. Most gentiles (goyim) do believe that there is an existence beyond that of this flesh. In the time of the 1st century, (when Yeshua, walked the earth), those who believed in an afterlife held to the thought that after you departed from this life, you were gathered to your fathers in a place known as the Bosom of Abraham or Gan Eden, (Paradise). This belief is similar to and may have been influenced by the ancient Greeks who held a similar belief. Who influenced who I don't know, but Jewish thought was not immune from

Hellenistic philosophy and neither was being a saint.

Let's have a look at what Paul said happens when we die. **2Cor. 5:1-2** *For we know that if **the earthly tent which is our house is torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.** 2 For indeed in this house we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven;*" Here we see Paul talking about what happens when Believers and followers of Yeshua die. He is using a tent as symbolic of our earthly body. When we die our earthly (temporary) tent disappears, and we move on towards our permanent heavenly house (building), which will be for eternity. As long as we dwell on earth everything is temporary, in the end we will live eternally in His house not made with hands. The whole idea of the **Feast of Sukkot** is that we use a temporary structure to cover ourselves during the feast. This booth, tabernacle, human tent, is symbolic of our temporary home here on earth.

Many people have been confused by the scripture in Luke 23:43 where it appears the two thieves crucified with Yeshua go directly to Heaven. **Luke 23:43** *And He said to him, "Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me **in Paradise.**"* The comma is in the wrong place in this verse. Another example of a bad translation. If you put the comma after the word "today" it all makes sense. It should read as follows: *"Truly I say to you today, you shall be with Me in Paradise."* Because of this error, many have used this verse to back up the foolish theory that we go to Heaven the moment we die. This is not scriptural.

## WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DIE?

When a "born again" person, or a child under the age of 13 (age of accountability), dies, the "DEATH ANGEL" comes and escorts the soul and spirit of that individual to Hades. The death angel is accompanied by many divine angels, who guide the soul and spirit through a brilliantly lit wormhole (tunnel) directly to Hades. At the end of the tunnel is the brilliance (shekhinah... glory) of the saved side of Hades. There, they remain until Yeshua comes back to earth in the clouds. When this happens, the soul and spirit will be accompanied with their newly formed spiritual body. We will look very similar to how we look now, except the bodies of His "born again" people will be glorified. We will immediately receive a white robe of righteousness.

I personally believe that when I shed this mortal body, I shall be ushered to Hades until Yeshua comes back in the clouds, then into the presence of The Holy One, blessed is He, where I hope to hear those famous words... "Well done thou good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of your Father."

When a "unsaved" person, dies, the "DEATH ANGEL" comes and escorts the soul and spirit of that individual to the torment side of Hades. They will experience going through a black tunnel to Hades. There will be no divine angels escorting them.

The last fallen angel that will be thrown into the lake of fire is the angel of death. Rev. 20:11 (old 20:14) And death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. (1Cor. 15:24-26)

DASYD Ministry Jerry Hennig (Nov 23/16)