

Sabbath Workshop

10/27/2007

Life After Life

“It is appointed to man once to die, then after that, the judgement.” (Hebrews 9:27)

The First Death: The first death is the death we are all familiar with. It involves the separation of our spirit from the physical coat of our body (our flesh) causing death to our flesh. Man is eternal and never truly dies completely. Our flesh may perish, but our spirit lives on.

Hebrews 9:27 tells us that each person has an appointment with death. However, there is a chance that you may miss this appointment. **1 Corinthians 15:51** states “Behold, I show you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed.” That word sleep in the Greek has dual meaning. It can mean to sleep or to die. We know that this Scripture is referencing death. So, Yahweh tells us here that we won’t all die the first death, but we WILL ALL BE CHANGED whether we die the first death or not.

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 15

What Happens During This Time of “Sleeping”?

Between Two Deaths or Between Death & Eternal Life

Have you ever had an unusual dream? While you are dreaming you can still smell, taste, see, and hear. All of your physical senses are active and working - yet your physical body lies still. The fact that you can dream while your physical body is sleeping means that you can continue to “live” even though your body lies unresponsive. This illustrates how the Scripture describes the first death. Although your physical body is dead, your spirit remains wide awake. Your spirit never slumbers or sleeps - ever, even while you are alive. It is our physical flesh coat that tires out and needs to be regenerated.

Scripture Reading Psalm 121:1-4

Yahweh is Spirit and He created us in His likeness. Our flesh coat came as a result of sin. Remember Adam and Eve mourned and wailed over the fact that they now had “animal flesh” and needed to depend upon food and water for survival? It is because they were originally Spirit beings clothed with light as a garment, just as Yahweh is.

**** Midrash Point **** One must become a Jew inwardly for Salvation. The reason why Scripture emphasizes that point is because your flesh coat is not very significant when it comes to spiritual matters. If your spirit has not converted and fused to the Spirit of

Yahweh, then you have completely missed the boat. It doesn't matter what your flesh coat looks like, the end destination of your flesh is ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

**** Side Note**** Yahweh rewarding Himself with a Sabbath was simply that - a reward for completing His work. The Sabbath was made for man. It is created for our benefit. Father didn't NEED a Sabbath.

Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 3:17-18

Back to the question, what happens between the two deaths or between death and eternal life? To clarify, we are talking about after your physical body dies before the rapture and the judgment. Let's see what happened to two men in Scripture whose flesh coat perished on earth.

Scripture Reading: Luke 16:19-31

These men were physically dead, yet they were able to taste, touch, hear, smell, and carry on a conversation with Abraham who had been dead for years!

Noteworthy Scripture Readings:

Luke 20:27-38

Isaiah: 26:19-21

2 Corinthians 5:1-11

The Bosom Of Abraham Vs. Hell & Sheol (The Place Of The Dead)

“But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who after the killing of the body, has power to throw you into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear Him.” (Luke 12:5)

2 Peter (Kepha) 2:1-11.

Notice in the Scriptures version of the Bible, the word Tartaros is used. This is the original word used in the Greek. The majority of other translations use the word Hell. The definition of Tartaros is as follows:

The name of the subterranean region, doleful and dark, regarded by the ancient Greeks as the abode of the wicked dead, where they suffer punishment for their evil deeds; it answers to Gehenna of the Jews to thrust down to Tartarus, to hold captive in Tartarus

The word itself means the deepest abyss of hell.

Hell and the lake of fire are two entirely different things. We have been robbed of the proper and true names in modern translations - so much so that it has misconstrued the true definition of hell. Hell is where the unrighteous dead immediately go after death. The word Hebrew word Sheol and the Greek word Gehenna is commonly translated as hell in contemporary Scriptures. Tartaros being the deepest part of hell. Sheol or

Gehenna is a temporary place of punishment and imprisonment for the wicked after death. This is where the rich man went after he died. After the judgment, both death and hell will be thrown into the eternal lake of fire and brimstone forever.

Illustrations of Hell in The Book of Enoch

Enoch 10:13-15: To Gabriel also Yahweh said, go to the biters, to the reprobates, to the children of fornication; and destroy the children of fornication, the offspring of the Watchers, from among men; bring them forth, and excite them one against another. Let them perish by mutual slaughter; for length of days shall not be theirs... And when all their sons shall be slain, when they shall see the perdition of their beloved bind them for seventy generations underneath the earth, even to the day of judgment, and of consummation until the judgment, the effect of which will last forever be completed.

Then shall they be taken away into the lowest depths of the fire in torments; and in confinement shall they be shut up forever.

Enoch 21: Then I made a circuit to a place in which nothing was completed. And there I beheld neither the tremendous workmanship of an exalted heaven, nor of an established earth, but a desolate spot, prepared, and terrific.

There too I beheld seven stars of heaven bound in it together like great mountains and like blazing fire. I exclaimed for what species of crime have they been bound, and why have they been removed to this place? Then Uriel, one of the set apart angels who was with me, and who conducted me, answered: Enoch wherefore dost thou ask, wherefore reason with thyself, and anxiously inquire? These are those of the stars which have transgressed the commandment of the most High Elohim; and are here bound, until the infinite number of the days of their crimes be completed.

From thence I afterwards passed on to another terrific place; Where I beheld the operating of a great fire blazing and glittering in the midst of which there was a division. Columns of fire struggled together to the end of they abyss, and deep was their descent. But neither its measurements nor magnitude was I able to discover; neither could I perceive its origin. Then I exclaimed, how terrible is this place and how difficult to explore! Uriel, one of the set apart angels who was with me, answered and said; Enoch, why art thou alarmed and amazed at this terrific place, at the sight of this place of suffering? This, he said is the prison of the angels; and here they are kept forever.

Illustrations of Abraham's Bosom in The Book of Enoch

Enoch 9:10-13: And now, behold the souls of those who are dead, cry out. And complain even to the gate of heaven. Their groaning ascends; nor can they escape from the unrighteousness which is committed on the earth.

Enoch 22: From thence I proceeded to another spot, where I saw on the west a great and lofty mountain a strong rock, and four delightful places. Internally it was deep, capacious, and very smooth, as smooth as if it had been rolled over: it was both deep and

dark to behold. Then Raphael, one of the set apart angels who were with me, answered and said, These are the delightful places where the spirits, the souls of the dead will be collected all the souls of the sons of men.

These places in which they dwell shall they occupy until the day of judgment and until their appointed period. Their appointed period will be long, even until the great judgment. And I saw the spirits of the sons of men who were dead; and their voices reached to heaven while they were accusing.

Then I inquired of Raphael, and angel who was with me and said, whose spirit is that, the voice of which reaches to heaven and accuses?

He answered saying, This is the spirit of Abel who was slain by Cain his brother; and who will accuse that brother until his seed be destroyed from the face of the earth; Until his seed perish from the seed of the human race.

At that time therefore I inquired respecting him and respecting the general judgment saying, Why is one separated from another? He answered, three separations have been made between the spirits of the dead and thus have the spirits of the righteous been separated. Namely by a chasm, by water, and by light above it.

And in the same way likewise are sinners separated when they die and are buried in the earth; judgment not overtaking them in their lifetime. Here their souls are separated. Moreover, abundant is their suffering until the time of the great judgment, the castigation, and the torment of those who externally execrate, whose souls are punished and bound there forever.

And thus has it been from the beginning of the world. Thus has there existed a separation between the souls of those who utter complaints, and of those who watch for their destruction to slaughter them in the day of sinners.

A receptacle of this sort has been formed for the souls of unrighteous men, and of sinners; of those who have completed crime, and those associated with the impious whom they resemble. Their souls shall not be annihilated in the day of judgment, neither shall they arise from this place.

Then I blessed Yahweh.

