

Unit 8: General Eschatology

Unit Introduction



These days it seems that everyone is talking about the end times: if it's not the Mayan calendars, it's talk about the Middle East. Everyone is interested in knowing, "What is going to happen?" There is a fundamental need in man that longs to know his future and have control over it.

But thousands of years ago, God spelled out in His word the answers to all of these questions: what happens when I die, where will I go, what will happen to my body, what does the future hold.

In this unit we will begin looking at Eschatology, or the study of end things. This unit will look at death, heaven & hell, and the return of Christ. The following unit will cover what happens after the rapture.

Unit Outline:

Lesson 18: Death, Heaven, and Hell

Lesson 19: The Return of Jesus

Lesson 18: Death, Heaven, and Hell

Lesson Introduction

In this lesson we will begin by looking at what happens to us after we die.

We're going to begin starting to look at the study of the end times, the last days. It's called eschatology. It's basically to understanding of the end times. So what is death? Well, we know death is the penalty for sin. We've already learned that. Why does someone die? Because of sin. Death is foreign to the original creation. But Creation didn't last that long, perfect in that way. And death did enter into humanity when that fruit was eaten by Adam and Eve, what happened was Adam died spiritually at that second. That's what God had said. Don't eat it. You'll die. Death has several components. We have physical death. By the way, Adam started to die at that moment physically. Okay, he still lived several hundred years. They lived a lot longer back then because of the atmospheric conditions. And today we have genetic issues and problems because we're so far from the original Adam and the effects and causes of sin. So he begins to die physically. He died spiritually at that moment. And death became a part of the world. That wasn't God's plan. That wasn't what God wanted. God knew it. God had planned for it before the foundations of the world. He planned for His own Son to die, but that wasn't how it was supposed to be in the beginning. Adam's position as head of Creation affected all of Creation so that now because of them we need to deal with spiritual death. We need to deal with spiritual death. And the third component is the second death. We need to deal with that. What are we going to do about these three forms of death? Spiritual, physical, and the second death? Well, we will look at these things as we go through the study of the end times. What happens after we die? What happens after the Lord takes those that are saved at the Rapture? What happens to our bodies? And we'll talk about that

Lesson Outline:

Topic 1: Physical Death

Spiritual Death

Topic 2: The Bodily Resurrection

The Nature of the Resurrection

Topic 3: Timing of the Resurrection

The Stages of the First Resurrection

Third and Fourth Stages

Topic 4: The Intermediate State

Topic 5: Sheol and Hades

Topic 1: Physical Death

Physical death. Death is not a cessation of being. In other words, when you die, you don't cease to exist. We were created eternal beings. At the moment of creation, which would be conception, when that soul and spirit were put into that life, that body that was growing in the womb, there was life, and that life would be eternal, whether it is in Heaven or Hell. But we know there is such a thing as death. But the death doesn't mean that the soul and spirit are going to die, but the body is going to die. The spiritual death is just the matter that we're going to be separated from God. Isn't that what death is? Death is separation from God. (Job 14:14) So death in this verse is a question. "If a man die, shall he live again?"

Rhetorical. The answer, of course, is yes. There's been a universal belief in life after death. The pagans in Africa, the pagans in South America believe in an afterlife. The Egyptians had a whole book for their journey after death. All the pyramids and all the stuff they had put into the tombs of the Pharaohs were to help them in the afterlife. They had a belief in the afterlife. Birds have an instinct to fly south. We have an instinct that we know about life after death. We know that there is such a thing. (1 Peter 1:3-4) And Philippians—I love this verse—chapter 1:23, Paul was basically saying I'm in a bind here. Okay, here's Paul's dilemma (Philippians 1:23) "I have a desire to depart, but I also know that there's a lot to do here." His dilemma was there's a lot of people that still need to hear the gospel. Man, I'd love to go to Heaven. He believed in the afterlife. He believed his afterlife would be in Heaven because of not his faith in himself or what he's doing, but his faith in Christ. (2 Corinthians 5:8) There is also reservations for the ungodly, the unsaved. By the way, there's godly and ungodly. You're not godly because you live a certain way. You're godly because of your faith in the One that can save you, the Righteous One, Jesus. So the ungodly are those that have not put their faith in Christ. And they remain dead in their sins and lost. (2 Peter 2:9) Luke 16, we're going to refer to this several times because this really gives us a glimpse of the afterlife. Luke 16 is not a parable, but some people have thought that it was. The reason I know it's not is because parables don't have proper names. This has a proper name, Lazarus. The rich man and Lazarus is the story in Luke 16. You can read that sometime. But we know from that story that they weren't unconscious. They were alert. They were dead—they were dead physically, but yet they were still conscious. Revelation chapter 6, in [verses] 9 and 10, it settles us that souls were reasoning with God. they were pleading their case that they would be vindicated, that their deaths would be paid. The ungodly would be paid for killing them. Souls that are asleep do not reason with God. So in other words, we know that there isn't such a thing as soul sleep, or cessation to exist, or reincarnation. The Bible tells us that there is no such thing as those things. Would soul sleep be gain? Would we read Philippians 1:21 to say (Philippians 1:21) . . . Would we say "to soul sleep is gain"? No. That's not what it says. It says for me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. In other words, when I'm alive, I can serve Him on this earth. When I die, I'll be with Him. It's great, either way. It's great.

Assignment:

- Memorize Philippians 1:23
- Memorize 2 Corinthians 5:8

QUESTION 1

At death we do not _____ to exist.

QUESTION 2

Death is the separation of the body from the _____ and spirit.

QUESTION 3

Luke 16 tells us that though the rich man and Lazarus were physically dead, they were _____.

QUESTION 4

For the believer in Christ, to die can be truly _____.

Spiritual Death

Death, again, is separation. And physical death is separation of the soul and spirit from the body. Spiritual death is separation from God, and that separation from God results in the second death, as I referred to already. The second death. The second death is the final eternal separation from God. If you've had two births, you only have to face one death, physical death, unless the Rapture comes. Two births, one physically You have one birth. Now you need a second birth, which is the spiritual birth. Born again, John 3. Nicodemus. How are you born? How is a man born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb, and be born? No. It's a spiritual birth. It's when you believe in Him. You trust in Him, you have a second birth. You're born again. You have two births, you're only going to face the first death, a physical death. You won't face the second death, eternal separation from God in Hell. And that's a wonderful thing. John 3:16. Eternal life is union with God's eternal life, and that's what we know about eternity, the afterlife for the saved. You are a soul and a spirit possessing a body. What's really us is the soul and the spirit, and I can't see the real you. I can only see your "house," okay. And that's how we can think of it. . . . When we leave this house as a believer, we have another, okay. And we see in Scripture that there is, although our body stays here now, there's a temporary body. We'll see why we believe that in a second. But look in (2 Corinthians 5:1), Skip down to verse 16, (2 Corinthians 5:16). So it's this idea of this eternal building of God and how we're going to leave this one behind, and we will get to that other one. But this body's going to catch up to you. Now that's hard to understand because of decomposition, decay, the body turns to dust—but we came from dust. But God will be able to reconstitute all those molecules and remake your body, and it will be a glorified body. I don't know what that glorified body is exactly going to be, but we do know that from Scripture, and we'll see that in a moment. But when we die, if we die before the Rapture, our body stays here. I know many Christians that have died. Their body is there in the casket, and we go and put that casket in the ground. So what happens? What happens? Well, 2 Peter further helps us understand this in chapter 1:13 Peter was told that he would not live to a ripe old age, and he, in fact, did die a martyr's death, according to tradition. And he was saying it here. He's saying, "I'm just going to put off this old garment," and the older you get, the more tattered and worn-out that garment is. And we're ready for a replacement. We're ready for a new model And that's what we'll go through eternity in. So Peter was going to put off this tabernacle. So think of it this way. We have a brain. the brain has memory. And we have a body. The body continues to change cells. Do you know your body replaces itself? But there's something deeper and more mysterious there, and that's our soul and spirit that is eternal. But our bodies will be remade.

QUESTION 5

_____ death is separation from God.

QUESTION 6

If you are born once, you will die _____.

QUESTION 7

The second death is the final _____ from God.

Topic 2: The Bodily Resurrection

Here's how we know that. Number 3, the bodily resurrection. This was anticipated in the Old Testament in Daniel chapter 12, we read, and the first three verses . . . (Daniel 12:1-3) There's going to be trouble such as there's never been, and never since there was a nation even to that same time So there's a resurrection here, isn't there? According to the Old Testament, there's a resurrection that goes to Heaven; resurrection of the body to Hell. So there's a resurrection both ways. (Daniel 12:3) Job also spoke of the bodily resurrection. We read in chapter 19 of Job. So the Old Testament anticipated this bodily resurrection. They knew about it. They talked about it in other places. Also, of course, in the New Testament, we find it all over the place, 1 Corinthians 15, and we will be returning to this place several times. But 1 Corinthians 15:20 . . . Those that slept, again, that's the word that was used for "died," okay. Those that sleep in Jesus. Those that have died in Christ, okay. That word slept. So Jesus, that He rose from the dead, that's why the resurrection's so important, by the way. That guarantees us a resurrection, some to everlasting life, some to everlasting torment. But He was the firstfruit, okay, because He rose again, now there's going to be many, many that rise again bodily. (1 Corinthians 15:21-22) You see, every person will be resurrected, because Christ is the firstfruit of the resurrection. Again, some to everlasting life, those that have put their faith in Him, and those that have rejected that, to everlasting torment. (1 Corinthians 15:23) . . . Alright, the New Testament also talks about this resurrection, the bodily resurrection. And later on in 1 Corinthians 15:44-49 the last Adam is called a quickening spirit. The first Adam is Adam. The last Adam is Christ. And Christ is called a "quickening spirit," or a spirit that makes alive. He's the One that will make the bodies alive because He rose again. (John 5:28), Again, those that have done good are those that have believed in Christ. So the resurrection of the dead—over and over and over, and over. Several other places. (1 Thessalonians 4:13 (1 Thessalonians 4:14 This is talking about the return of Christ for the Church, right before this time of tribulation. (1 Thessalonians 4:15-16 Why? Why are the dead going to go first? Well, some people have suggested it's because they're six feet down and they need to come up first. And then, well maybe that's true. I don't know, but we're all going to go up together, so that makes sense to me.

QUESTION 8

The _____ of the dead is not only a New Testament teaching.

QUESTION 9

Daniel 12 tells us that there are 2 resurrections: one to _____ and the other to _____.

QUESTION 10

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is important because it _____ us a resurrection.

QUESTION 11

Those who have placed their faith in Christ will be _____ to everlasting life.

The Nature of the Resurrection

And then the dead in Christ shall rise first (v.17) . . . So what are we to do with this doctrine of the Rapture? We're to comfort one another with these words. That is a bodily resurrection. Those that have died in Christ will bodily resurrect at that time. We who are alive and remain when He returns won't have

to face physical death. We'll be translated like a couple were in the Old Testament. And I believe at that point, that moment, we'll receive that new body that's glorified. And it will be remade, reconstituted, best in every way. And I know we're all longing for that, young and old. I hope that you're longing for that day. Oh, it's going to be great. So this is the resurrection of the body. What is the nature of the resurrection? In other words, what are we talking about here? Well, we know that it's going to be bodily, as Christ's resurrection was bodily. Some people teach it's not a bodily resurrection. Christ didn't rise from the dead. His body didn't rise from the dead. Yes it did! His body was missing. They saw Him. They were able to do what? They were able to touch Him. You don't touch a spirit. You touch a body. Now He had different qualities than our body. I don't know the last time you tried to walk through a wall, it hurts. Christ just appeared in the room. He was able to walk through walls. He was able to eat. It said He had flesh and bone, okay. It didn't say flesh and blood, by the way. Flesh and bone. We'll talk about that more in a second. Let's look again at this story of Lazarus and the rich man. Luke 16, look at 22. And by the way, this will tell us that there's a[n] intermediate form of body that we receive before we get our resurrection body, our permanent, glorified, resurrection body. If you die now there is going to be an intermediate, temporary body, and this must be what happened to both the rich man and the beggar, Lazarus, okay. Remember some of the things I said that we can do with our body? See, hear, speak? Okay, now they're both dead. Their bodies are still on the earth. Their soul and spirit is in a temporary place. Okay, it's called sheol, or Hades, depending on Old or New Testament Greek or Hebrew. (Luke 16:22) But we got to get some glimpse at the nature of the resurrection. This is the temporary, but I'm sure the permanent, glorified body that we'll have for all eternity will have these features as well. We'll be recognizable in Heaven. We can recognize Christ. We'll be probably able to recognize each other. And so we find these things from here. Again, the resurrected glory, we could look at that up in Luke 24:39, He had flesh and bone. He just said, "Okay, touch me. Here's my scars. Touch my hands. The scar in my side." Okay, that's a body. That's a physical body after the resurrection. That's the same that we'll have. 1 Corinthians 15:50 says that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom, okay. That's why we'll have to have this glorified body. It'll be flesh and bone, but not flesh and blood. (Philippians 3:20) This body is vile. It's decrepit. how does all of this happen? Well, it says that, in 1 Corinthians 15:52, we shall be changed in a twinkling of an eye. How fast is a twinkling of an eye? A blink is pretty fast. A twinkle is a lot faster. I didn't do the math, but I know it's fast, okay. That's how quickly our body will be changed in fashion like unto His glorified body.

QUESTION 12

The nature of our resurrection will be _____, as Christ's was bodily.

QUESTION 13

Christ's resurrected body consisted of flesh and _____.

QUESTION 14

We will have a glorified body, because flesh and blood cannot _____ the kingdom.

Topic 3: Timing of the Resurrection

The timing of the Resurrection is not all the same time. Now let's go back to 1 Corinthians 15 and let's look at some verses there, and we'll start. Let's start at verse 22, (1 Corinthians 15:22). You're going to

notice something. . . . Remember how I said when the fruit was eaten, he started to die physically. At that moment, he died spiritually cause he sinned. When sin entered the world, so did death. Sin equals death, okay. So he started to die, he died spiritually at that moment. Since we're all related to Adam, we all have inherited that wonderful trait from him. We all are dying. The moment we're born, we're dying, okay. (1 Corinthians 15:22) So if you're in Christ, you're saved, you're going to be made alive. Your spirit is the moment you're saved. And your body will be made alive or resurrected after death. And we will see that soon. Okay, but listen to this. Verse 23 (1 Corinthians 15:23) . . . Does that seem to indicate that there is a rank or a timing to the resurrection? There is. The Bible actually talks about the first and second resurrection. The first resurrection [is] for the saved; the second resurrection [is] for the lost. The first resurrection happens in stages, in order, okay. Every man according to his order or rank, kind of like the military. There's going to be a rank according to when we rise, when our bodies rise again, okay. Now, let's learn about the first and second resurrection. Revelation 20, and look at verse 5, (Revelation 20:5). What's the second death? The second death is the eternal lake of fire, okay. And if you've been born again, you've had two births, physical, born of a woman. We know, have you had the second birth, born of the Spirit? Born of water, born of the Spirit. Water, I think, is John 3 is born of a woman, water birth, and then born of the Spirit, the second birth. If you have two births, you have one death. The physical death, but not the spiritual death, okay. So you'll be part of this first, your body will be part of this first resurrection. Alright. (Revelation 20:5) So the first resurrection includes Christ. He is the firstfruits. Okay, go back to 1 Corinthians 15, and we'll back up a little to verse 20, (1 Corinthians 15:20) . . . What does it say? . . . What does that mean? That means the first fruit that's ready to be picked at harvest time. Okay, the very first, and it's very important. That's a very important part of the crop. There was a feast to celebrate the firstfruits, and there was a great offering brought to the temple, the first fruits But He's the firstfruit. What does that mean? "Of them that slept?" What is slept? It's dead. So those that have died, Jesus is the firstfruit of those that slept in Christ. For since by man came death . . . (1 Corinthians 15:21). So Adam ate of the fruit—death. Jesus never sinned, yet died—life for all those that believe. Okay, so that's, He's the first. He's the firstfruits. The firstfruit is the pledge that the rest is coming. That's firstfruits. Okay, we take the first of the harvest, and that is an indicator that there's more coming, right? The rest of the harvest. So what's the rest of the harvest of those that are asleep? Those that are in Christ, or have believed in Messiah in the Old Testament. Well, that firstfruit, Christ rising means that we're going to rise. He was, let's say, "picked" as a firstfruit, and all those that are in Him will also rise again because of Him.

QUESTION 15

There are _____resurrections that will take place.

QUESTION 16

The first resurrection will take place in _____.

QUESTION 17

The _____is the pledge that the rest is coming.

QUESTION 18

Christ _____ from the dead means that those who are in Him will rise also.

The Stages of the First Resurrection

The first resurrection, there's stages. The second stage of the first resurrection I think is found in Matthew 27. Now this is a really interesting passage of Scripture. Something happened. It's only one of the Gospels when Christ arose, we read about this in verse 52. (Matthew 27:52) Okay, the saints, this was at the resurrection of Christ, so was pre-church. These are Old Testament saints. When He arose, there were some people that their bodies came out of the ground, and they were alive. And they walked around, okay. Now wasn't the resurrection of Christ astounding to the world in and of itself? But now there's other people that are alive. Those that have put their faith in the coming Messiah, the coming Christ. In verse 53 Now is that the resurrection of the Old Testament saints, all of them? I don't think it is, because there's a future resurrection that we'll talk about in a moment, of Old Testament saints. By the way, we'll talk about the New Testament saints' resurrection. I think you all know what that is, what stage that is. But this is, Christ is the firstfruit, this is the second time we see bodies coming out of the grave. Now the exception[s] to that are Lazarus, that friend of Christ, arose at Christ's command, those that He rose. Now here's a question, Did Lazarus have to die again? I've always thought that he did, but if it's appointed unto man once to die, that'd be terrible to make old Lazarus come out of the grave and then he dies again. I don't know the answer to that, but maybe after he had showed himself around awhile, the religious Jews were very upset about this, and that precipitated, "Hey, we've got to get rid of this Jesus," precipitated His death. Maybe he was translated. Maybe he was kind of Raptured. It doesn't say that anywhere. That's just my thoughts, I don't know. But here we have, I don't think these people had to die again. I hope. I think these were kind of a firstfruits of the Old Testament saints, a handful, I don't know how many, that showed the power of His resurrection. Maybe a certain circumference from where He rose. Those bodies came up, like they couldn't stay down. I don't know, but this is very interesting, and I think this is the second stage of the first resurrection. The third stage, the body of Christ, alright. You all know the verse? (1 Thessalonians 4:16) We talked about that last time, but let me read the verses again. (1 Thessalonians 4:13-14) What does this mean? Well they know their soul and spirit is with God presently now in Heaven, but their body is here. So when does the body join back up into the soul and spirit? It sounds like this is the time for the body of Christ. (1 Thessalonians 4:15) . In other words, this indicates that the body will rise just moments before we, those that are alive and remain when He comes, will rise up together. And at that moment, we will ever be with the Lord. The soul and spirit of the Church, the body of Christ, that have died will be joined with, the soul and spirit joined with the body at that time. So this is the third stage. You and me are to be part of it. If you're saved, this is the Church Age. That's our resurrection. That's when our body comes out of the ground. And whatever, you say, "Well isn't it, if the body's been in the ground awhile, isn't it just dust?" Yeah, but if He can make us from the dust of the ground—Eve was made out of man, so we're all dirt. Alright, we're all a bunch of dust. He can regather those molecules and remake our body. You say, "What will that look like? Will we be recognizable?" Sure, we'll be recognizable. We'll know each other

QUESTION 19

At Christ's resurrection, some Old Testament saints were also _____.

QUESTION 20

This was the _____ stage of the first resurrection.

QUESTION 21

The third stage of the first resurrection pertains to _____.

Third and Fourth Stages

This is the third stage, the body of Christ. So the first is Christ, the Firstfruits. The second is whatever happened there at His resurrection. Maybe a handful or firstfruits of the Old Testament saints would rise, and rose again at that time. Whether they died or not, I don't know, but their body did rise from the grave at that time. The third stage is the body of Christ. The dead in Christ will rise first. We'll join them. And the Old Testament saints are not in Christ. That's why I don't believe that they'll rise at this time. We are in Christ. We have had the baptism of the Holy Spirit, baptized into the body of Christ. We are in Him. So I think the Old Testament saints, although their soul and spirit is in Heaven, their bodies still reside on the earth after the Rapture. Okay, the fourth, the fourth stage of the first resurrection. It seems to be Daniel 12 gives us this. So let's look at (Daniel 12:1) Now this is talking about what people? This is talking about Daniel's people. Who are Daniel's people? The Jew. The Jew has had more trouble than any people group that has ever existed. They had more trouble, more persecution, more people hate them, despise them, lie about them, kill them—and even today, much of the world hates the Jew. But this is going to be worse than anything that's ever happened to this day. This is a time of trouble. And they'll be delivered, everyone that shall be written in the book. In other words, those that have accepted the Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ. (Daniel 12:2 This sounds to me like a bodily resurrection, and this has to happen after or near the end of the real bad time for the Jews. What do we call that? It's called the Tribulation. So at the end of the Tribulation . . . So there we see, I believe, the fourth stage. The Old Testament and the Tribulation saints, I believe their bodies will rise at that time. And that is sometime after the Tribulation. And then we see the last resurrection is the second resurrection. Okay, all of that before was the first resurrection, four stages. Now we see the second resurrection, and by the way, this is the bad part, okay. When those that are the bodies are resurrected of the lost, they will stand before the soul and spirit rejoined with them. They will stand before the judgment of the Great White Throne. And if their name is not found in the Lamb's Book of Life, which it won't be, they will be condemned to eternal Hell, the everlasting lake of fire, which is the end of the 1,000 year reign.

QUESTION 22

Only those who have been baptized into the Body of Christ are part of the _____ stage.

QUESTION 23

The fourth stage of the first resurrection pertains to the _____ Old Testament saints and the _____ saints.

QUESTION 24

The last resurrection pertains only to the _____.

Topic 4: The Intermediate State

now let's talk about the intermediate state . This doctrine's important. The intermediate state in other words is, so what happens if someone dies right now, if they're saved? Their body is here, their soul and spirit isn't. They're instantly with the Lord. But what's that like, okay? What's happening? Well, there's an error that is taught by Adventists and Jehovah Witnesses and others that teach what I've called, "soul sleep." It's the idea that during the period between the death and the bodily resurrection, the soul remains in a state of unconsciousness, just like you would be if you were knocked out. You're just kind of there.

You don't remember much. This is what is happening during the time that your body dies, and your body is resurrected. Well this isn't biblical. This view, by the way, believes that man is not body and soul, but rather just one entity, which is not a biblical concept, either. So what happens to the state of mankind between death and the resurrection? Well, we've already learned that death is the separation of the soul and spirit from the body. In Luke 16, we see an example of two people dying. One dies in faith; the rich man dies in his sins. He has not put his trust in the coming Messiah. Lazarus, the beggar, has. Okay. So now what happens to them? Their bodies are still here. There's a great feast. The rich man is living the lavish life. He has the best. He's eating the best of the food at his table, and the poor man is begging with the dogs. Quite a contrast there. There's quite a contrast in the next scene of that parable—not parable—you can't say parable, because it's not, it has proper names. But in the story that Christ told of real people, what would be the next part of that scene? Well, it'd be the funeral. We hear about it in the text, but what did the rich man have a lavish funeral? Probably the best casket money could buy. You know, a very distinguished, important pallbearer, and a nice hearse and a nice limousine, pulled by horses, I guess. But no, there'd be quite a contrast. Then the poor man's just kind of thrown into a poor man's grave. No one cares. No one knows. Big difference, contrast, between that scene. The next scene is in what's called Hades, okay. There is two compartments, and then there's a gulf between the two. So there's three sections that we see here. The one compartment is Hades Torment, or Hades Torture, and that is a temporary Hell, if you would. Okay, Hades and Sheol. We'll talk about that in a moment. But then there's another compartment, which is called Abraham's Bosom, or Paradise. We call it Hades Paradise or Abraham's Bosom. A temporary Heaven for the soul and spirit awaiting their body. This is the intermediate state, at least in Old Testament times. The rich man had feelings. The soul is where your feelings come from. The rich man had reason, if you read that story in Luke 16, which is found in the Spirit. So both were functional. There wasn't such a thing as "soul sleep" in that example of Scripture. Again, Paul equates being absent from the body, present with the Lord. So the intermediate state is a state of awareness. There might be a temporary body. I don't know that part of it, but you still , just like you exist today. You just don't have the outward shell. And by the way, since Christ was raised to be seated at the right hand of God in heavenly realms, believers can expect to enter His presence in Heaven upon death, and that's a wonderful promise. So soul sleep is not true. We will be with the Lord, those that are saved in the intermediate state.

QUESTION 25

The intermediate state is a state of _____.

QUESTION 26

In Luke 16, the rich man had _____, which come from the soul.

QUESTION 27

In Luke 16, the rich man had _____, which comes from the spirit.

Topic 5: Sheol and Hades

Now let's talk about point 7, Sheol and Hell. Hades is Greek, you'll find that in the New Testament. Sheol is Hebrew, you'll find that in the Old Testament. They're the same thing. In Acts 2:27, it quotes Psalm 16:10 and Acts 2:27, it's Hades. In Psalm 16:10, it's Sheol. So it's the same place. Two different languages, same place. Sheol, Hell, or Hades. Sometimes you'll see the word Hell in place of Sheol. And

that doesn't mean eternal lake of fire, Hell, but that means this temporary place where we see the rich man and Lazarus going to. These are the names of the place for departed spirits of men. This is not the grave. This is not the ground. This is definitely a place, okay. Lazarus and the rich man, it's a place where they went. Sheol and Hades before the cross. All went to the same place. Sheol, it says, was somewhere inside the earth, and it had two compartments. It had a great gulf between. Again, Luke 16. Now it says in Psalm 16:10 this was a prediction, (Psalm 16:10). There has been an error, a mistake, in the interpretation of what's called the Apostles' Creed, that He descends into Hell. In other words, when Jesus died, He had to go to Hell for three days to pay for the sins of the world. No. He did not go to Hell. He went to lead captivity captive. He went to go get those that were saved, the soul and spirit, out of Abraham's Bosom, Hades Paradise, and take them to Heaven. And that's where they are today. And we see that in (Ephesians 4:8). So today, if someone were to die in Christ, they would go instantly to Heaven. Heaven, where's that? Well, paradise is called the Third Heaven. There's a dimension, a spiritual realm that we cannot see. The first Heaven is the atmosphere, the clouds, the air. The second Heaven, according to the Bible, is the stars and the heavenly bodies. The third Heaven then is perhaps beyond that. So the soul and spirit, instantly with the Lord. Perhaps a temporary body at that time, but that soul and spirit will be rejoined with their body that you were given here, the body that God gave you—you're fearfully and wonderfully made—glorified, without sin, without death, without cancer, without heart disease, without any of these ailments that we face but it will be great. Recognizable? I think so. We'll all have great abilities I think. But most of all, the most important thing above all of that is that we'll be with the Lord. And He'll be there in His physical body for all eternity. The only imperfections in Heaven, by the way, will be His scars. I don't think we'll have scars if you have scars. I have a few. Most scars I think will be gone. But I think the Lord's scars will be there for all eternity to remind us of God's great sacrifice on the cross.

QUESTION 28

Sheol and Hades mean the same thing, just in different _____.

QUESTION 29

Before the Cross, a person would go to one of two _____ in Hades.

QUESTION 30

Today, the soul and spirit of the believer go straight to _____, instantly with the Lord