



Lk 16:22-23 So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. ...

1. Today, post resurrection of Jesus, believers go immediately to heaven:

2 Cor 5:8 We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

2. Unbelievers go immediately to hell

Lk 16:22-25 .. The rich man also died and was buried.
²³ And being in torments in hell (Hades),

Mt 10:28 And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Rev 20:13 Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works.

3. Salvation is only through the shed blood and resurrection of Christ

Jn 1:29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Acts 4:12 Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

4. How were the O.T. saints saved?

Heb 10:4 For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins.

Heb 11:13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

5. God is not the God of the dead

Ex 3:14 And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

Mt 22:32 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living."

6. Deceased believers are resting

Rev 6:9-11 ... I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held. ¹⁰ And they cried with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" ¹¹ Then a white robe was given to each of them; and it was said to them that they should rest a little while longer,

14:13 Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."

Resting does not necessarily mean sleeping:

Ps 37:7, Is 41:31, Heb 4:9-10

7. Sleeping refers to the body, not the soul

Acts 7:59-60 And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on God and saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not charge them with this sin." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

1 Thess 4:14,16 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. ... ¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

1 Cor 11:30, 15:6

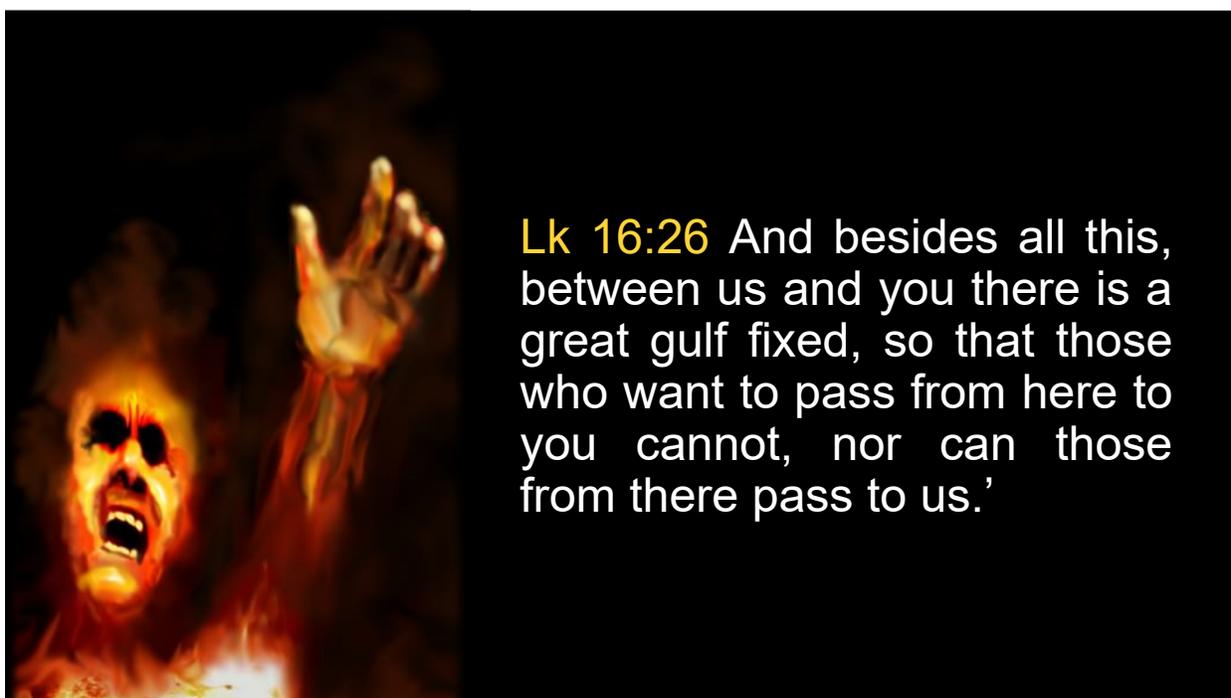
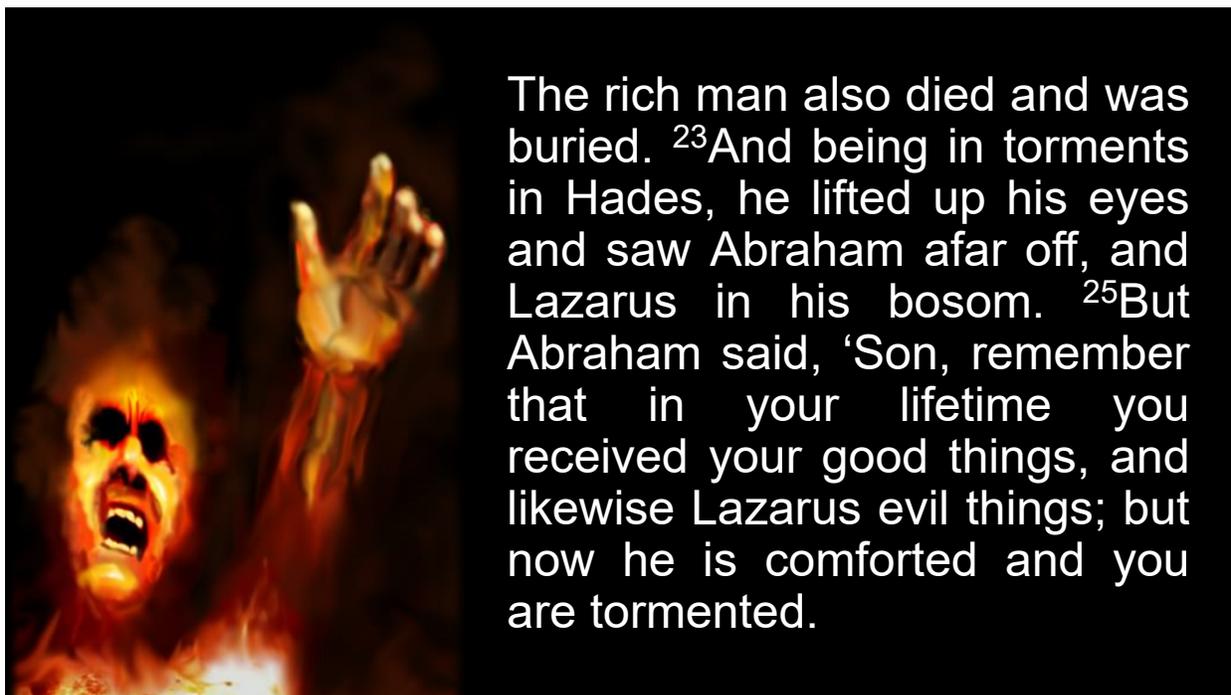
8. The dead are conscious

Lk 16 – Abraham, Lazarus, & the rich man

Rev 6:9-11 – the souls under the altar in heaven are conscious

9. Where did people go before the resurrection of Jesus?

- **Sheol** (O.T.) = grave & soul
- **Hades** (N.T.) = grave & soul
- **Gehenna** = Lake of Fire – the final destination of the lost (Rev 20:11-15)



10. Where is hades?

Sam 28:11-19

Mt 12:40 For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

Acts 2:27 For You will not leave my soul in Hades, nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.

Rev 5:13 And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, ...

11. Where did Jesus go when He died?

- He had not ascended to heaven before the resurrection:

Jn 20:17 Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father;

- He descended to paradise:

Lk 23:42-43 Then he said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." ⁴³ And Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."

1 Pet 3:18-20 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, ¹⁹ by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.

Eph 4:8-10 Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men." ⁹ (Now this, "He ascended"—what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)

- After He was resurrected, many of the saints were resurrected:

Mt 27:52-53 and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; ⁵³ and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many.

12. Paradise is now in heaven

- **Heaven is on high:** Deut 10:14, 1 Kings 8:27

2 Cor 12:4 such a one was caught up to the third heaven. ...
⁴ how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.

Rev 2:7 ... To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God.”