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of FlipPamphlet-formatted educational publications.
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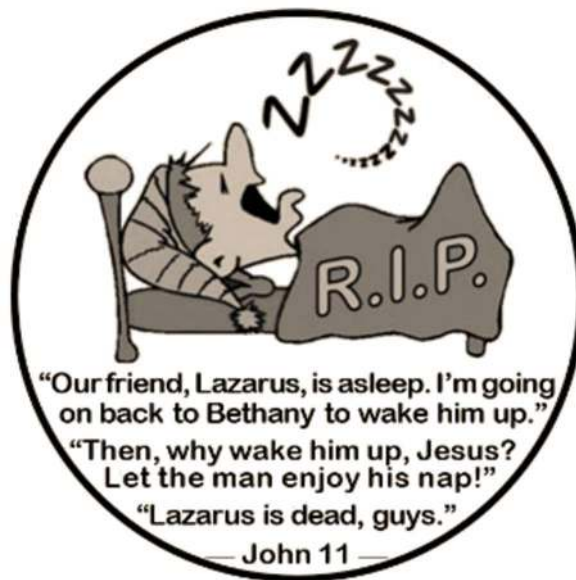
“Our Friend, Lazarus, is Asleep”—

Here’s the essence of that fascinating dialog at John 11:11-14—

“Our friend, Lazarus, is asleep. I’m going over to Bethany to wake him up.”

“Why wake him up, Lord? Let the man enjoy his nap!”

“Lazarus is dead, guys.” (You’ll want to read all of chapter 11.)



Why didn’t He just tell them Lazarus was dead? **Is it possible that He knew that they had matured enough to start learning the truth about where people REALLY go when they die?** There’s not even the slightest implication that Lazarus spent those four days “in Heaven,” you know. The Old Testament uses the phrase, “**...slept with his fathers**” to describe what we call death. That’s beyond fairly consistent from version-to-version of the Bible.

Jesus became the PROTOTYPE of all who experience physical death from the 1st Century on, per 1 Corinthians 15:20. He also became the prototype for our future Resurrection, per verse 23 in that same chapter.

Please make a note—

When Jesus “gave up the ghost,” He didn’t go to Heaven. Where’d He go? He answered that question, Himself, at Matthew 12:40. You may want to stop and read that now. He didn’t go to Heaven upon His resurrection, either; not until another 40 days later! Those two experiences are the respective PROTOTYPES for our own future deaths and resurrections. It is almost certain that you’ve always heard something very different. The sincere folk whom I’ve loved and respected taught me something very different, too. What drove me to question it? That’d be this: Life is the ultimate IQ test; I’m certain of it.

“When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child,
I thought as a child: but when I became a man,
I put away childish things.”

1 Corinthians 13:11

Where did Jesus go after He died on Calvary?
Not to Heaven. Instead, He spent three
days and nights somewhere else.
He didn’t take a trip to Heaven
on His resurrection, either.
He didn’t go there until
forty full days later.



“Firstfruits” refers to the 1st example of others who are to follow. Jesus is also called *the firstborn from among the dead*. You can find that at Colossians 1:18 and Revelation 1:5. “Firstborn” is the KJV word that came from the Greek word, *prōtotos*. We get our word “**prototype**” from it. Jesus is clearly the prototype for our own future Resurrection. He is the first to die and rise again, never to die again.

We who serve Him can anticipate the sequences that He experienced upon His death and the same sequences as upon His resurrection. Only because we are to receive those other-dimensional bodies upon our own twinkling-of-an-eye **change** (1 Corinthians 15:52) will we be able to survive the catastrophic events that will yield the new heavens and the new earth. Our current flesh-and-blood bodies would not be able to withstand the heat!



Pertinent Rudimentary Information—

“Hell,” as it’s depicted in English versions of the Bible and from pulpits around the globe doesn’t exist. Why? Because the original languages make it very clear that there are three distinctly different places that are mistranslated as “Hell.” Those are “the grave,” “the lake of fire and brimstone” and “the bottomless pit.”

“The Grave” = **Sheol/Hades**

“The Grave” is very simply defined as “the abode of the dead.”

“The Lake of Fire” = **Gehenna** (See our FlipPamplet, *Outer Darkness*.)

Per Revelation 20:10, “The Lake of Fire” is a place of torment and destruction.

“The Bottomless Pit” = **Tartaroo**

“The Abyss (Pit)” is the prison of those no-belly-button guys, the Nephilim (See Genesis 6:1-4.), who “left their first estate,” per Jude 1:6. Our Link1™ Bible Research Team’s consensus is that Sheol/Hades and Tartaroo are both physically located in the heart of the earth, but separated by a great divide. (Remember the parable of the rich man and Lazarus?)

A Better Place?—

The dead are truly asleep and fully unconscious. That makes the cliché, “Rest in Peace” more apropos than most folk who repeat it realize! But what about Sheol/Hades? Is it “a better place?” If the state of being completely free from the cares of the living is a good thing, one might legitimately conclude that it’s “a better place.” It certainly isn’t Heaven though. Sorry.

“But...but...but what about that second thief on the cross adjacent to Our Lord at Calvary?” one asks, “Didn’t Jesus promise him that they’d be together “in paradise” that very day?” That story is at Luke 23:39-43—

Thief: “Remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

Jesus: “Truly, I say unto you today: You shall be with me in Paradise.”

Yes; I know that doesn't agree with what people whom you've loved and respected have likely taught you. Nor is it what I learned about it from my favorite mentors. There are two verifiable reasons why what they taught us about it is totally untrustworthy—

- ① Jesus didn't go to Paradise/Heaven that day. See Matthew 12:40 to confirm that He went somewhere else 'til His resurrection. He didn't even go to Paradise/Heaven upon His resurrection...stayed right here for another 40 days! What's called the transfiguration is when He was caught up in a cloud to return to the Father, who had sent Him.
- ② The New Testament Greek language had no punctuation. Before adding punctuation, the translators neglected to cross-reference the scriptures to learn what Jesus *really* said to that repentant thief.

“In religion and politics, people's
beliefs and convictions are in almost
every case gotten at second hand,
and without examination.”

More Scriptural Confirmation—

- ✓ “For in death there is no remembrance of thee: in the grave who shall give thee thanks?” —Psalm 6:5
- ✓ “The dead praise not the LORD, neither any that go down into silence.” —Psalm 115:17
- ✓ “For the grave cannot praise thee, death can not celebrate thee: they that go down into the pit cannot hope for thy truth. The living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day: the father to the children shall make known thy truth.” —Isaiah 38:18,19

- ✓ “For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten. Also their love, and their hatred, and their envy, is now perished; neither have they any more a portion for ever in any thing that is done under the sun.” —Ecclesiastes 9:5,6
- ✓ “Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.” —Ecclesiastes 9:10
- ✓ “But man dieth, and wasteth away: yea, man giveth up the ghost, and where is he? As the waters fail from the sea, and the flood decayeth and drieth up: So man lieth down, and riseth not: till the heavens be no more, they shall not awake, nor be raised out of their sleep. O that thou wouldest hide me in the grave, that thou wouldest keep me secret, until thy wrath be past, that thou wouldest appoint me a set time, and remember me! If a man die, shall he live again? all the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come. Thou shalt call, and I will answer thee: thou wilt have a desire to the work of thine hands.” —Job 14:10-15
- ✓ “And the LORD said unto Moses, Behold, thou shalt sleep with thy fathers; and this people will rise up, and go a whoring after the gods of the strangers of the land, whither they go to be among them, and will forsake me, and break my covenant which I have made with them.” —Deuteronomy 31:16
- ✓ “He said unto them, Give place: for the maid is not dead, but sleepeth. And they laughed him to scorn.” —Matthew 9:24
- ✓ “And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.” —Acts 7:60
- ✓ “Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.” —1Thessalonians 5:10

Those Who Sleep Will Be Resurrected in Physical Bodies—

- ✓ “And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.” —Daniel 12:2
- ✓ “Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the grave shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.” —John 5:28
- ✓ “And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.” —Acts 24:15

Are There Human Beings In Heaven?—

- ✓ “And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.” —John 3:13
- ✓ “No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.” —John 1:18
- ✓ “Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? who hath gathered the wind in his fists? who hath bound the waters in a garment? who hath established all the ends of the earth? what is his name, and what is his son’s name, if thou canst tell?” —Proverbs 30:4
- ✓ “Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day.... For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand.” —Acts 2:29,34

Proving All Things, Holding Fast To **Original Truth**™ —1 Thessalonians, 5:21



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To be absent from the body is...

If you completed that sentence with “...to be present with the Lord,” you completed it just like the vast majority of church folk would.

That’s a shame, of course, because the scriptures don’t say that.

Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord...We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

— 2 Corinthians 5:6,8 —

“**Willing to be** absent from the body and present with the Lord” is substantially different from “To be absent from the body **is to be** present with the Lord.”

We’re told of just one Judgment Day...apparently after the Millennium.

That is the time when Our Lord will decide who’ll go to Heaven, who’ll be cast into outer darkness and who’ll go to Hell.

Does every good person go to Heaven when he dies?

Will all the *extra good* people get raptured away?

Can either be possible without Judgment?

So who will reign with Christ for a thousand years?

See Revelation 20:4 for the surprising answer.



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