

Series: "HEAVEN, HELL & THE END OF THE WORLD"
Part 1: "THE INTERMEDIATE STATE"
Crossroads Community Church
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What is the Intermediate State?

- **It refers to the condition of people between their bodily _____ and bodily _____**

²⁸ *Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell.* Matthew 10:28 (NIV)

- **One day, our bodies will be resurrected and _____ with our souls**

- See: 1 Corinthians 15:35-40; 1 Corinthians 15:51-53; Acts 24:14-15, 1 Thessalonians 4:14-17

²⁸ *Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice ²⁹ and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.* John 5:28-29 (ESV)

So what happens at the moment of death?

- **The souls of believers immediately enter the _____ of God**

⁴³ *Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."* Luke 23:43 (NIV)

⁶ *Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord... ..⁸ We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord.* 2 Corinthians 5:6 & 8 (NIV)

²¹ *For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. ²² If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! ²³ I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far;*

Philippians 1:21-23 (NIV)

- **The souls of unbelievers immediately experience the _____ of God**

¹⁹ *"There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. ²⁰ At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores ²¹ and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.*

²² *"The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.'*

Luke 16:19-24 (NIV)

What about soul sleep?

- **Soul sleep is the belief that the soul, during the period between death and resurrection goes into a state of _____ existence**

- **"Sleep" is clearly a _____ intended to depict the temporary nature of death for Christians**

¹¹ *After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up." ¹² His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better." ¹³ Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep. ¹⁴ So then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead..."*

John 11:11-14 (NIV)

- See: Matthew 9:24; Acts 7:60; Acts 13:36; 1 Thessalonians 5:9-10

