

Shalom {{firstName}},

**Psalms**  
**Psalm 49:15,16(14,15) – Part 8**

**Psalm 49:15 Like sheep they are destined for Sheol. Death will be their shepherd and the upright will rule over them in the morning. Their image will decay in Sheol—far from its lofty place. 16 But God redeems my soul from the power of Sheol—for He receives me. Selah**

I'm quoting these two verses together because they go from the last "Selah" to this "Selah," forming a complete thought. Who are the "they" who are destined for Sheol (actually mentioned twice in these two verses)? It might help if we are clear about what "Sheol" is. It is variously translated as "hell, the grave, and the pit." It is also used as the Hebrew name for Hades, the world of the dead. But let's be clear, it is not a playground.

The first two mentions of Sheol are by Jacob. First to describe the level of grief he is feeling as he is mourning the apparent death of his beloved son, Joseph. Then later, Jacob describes what he will feel if Benjamin is not returned to him. Following that, Moses prophesies the destruction of Korach moments before the ground opens up to swallow Korach and his associates. Then, also in the Torah, Moses is summing up his summation when he once again prophesies (speaking on behalf of God)...

**Deuteronomy 32:22 For fire has ignited in My nostrils—it will burn to Sheol beneath, devour the earth and her produce, and scorch the foundations of mountains.**

So God calls this realm of the dead a place of fire that will "scorch the foundations of mountains." How is it that Jacob, our righteous ancestor says of himself (twice) that his own destiny is there? There was no such alternative before Yeshua went to the cross. John testified after Yeshua's resurrection in Jerusalem...

**Acts 4:12 There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved!"**

Yet, even before there was such a reality, there was exactly this promise....

**Psalm 49:16 But God redeems my soul from the power of Sheol—for He receives me. Selah.** Yes and amen. Let's deal with this again tomorrow. Shalom shalom.

Daily Bread, reading plan by Lars Enarson (<https://www.thewatchman.org/>)

Thu 19-Mar-2026 1st of Nisan, 5786 Rosh Chodesh Nissan

Le 4:1-26, Nu 28:11-15 Isa 24 Pr 17 Ac 16 (Rev 10)