

# Where do people go after they die?

## 1. When a person dies, that's not the end yet.

- . And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment. (Hebrews 9:27 ESV)

## 2. For those who don't believe in the Lord Jesus, their problem of sins has not yet been solved. If they die, their bodies may be buried nicely, but their spirits will not have any rest.

- . The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. (Luke 16:22-23 ESV)

## 3. Instead, their spirits will be taken to Sheol, which is where they stay to wait for the judgement. After the judgement, sadly, they will be sentenced to hell.

- . And in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.' (Luke 16:23-24 ESV)
- . And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. (Revelation 20:13 ESV)

## 4. Hell is a place for the fallen angels and men who didn't repent. There, they'll experience eternal pains and sufferings in hell.

- . Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire. (Revelation 20:14-15 ESV)
- . But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire. (Matthew 5:22 ESV)

- . For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to chains of gloomy darkness to be kept until the judgment. (2 Peter 2:4 ESV)

5. **It's very different for those who believe in the Lord. They're the ones who have accepted the Lord Jesus as their Saviour. After they die, their bodies may be buried like others, but their spirits will be taken to heaven to be with the Lord.**

- . I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. (It's far better to be with the Lord) (Philippians 1:23)
- . And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." (Act 7:59 ESV)

6. **In heaven, they'll see the Heavenly Father, the Lord Jesus and many good angels.**
7. **They'll also see the old saints and their late family members who had believed in the Lord.**
8. **They will have fellowship and gatherings. And they'll enjoy the presence of God and the guidance of the Lord.**

- . But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. (Hebrews 12:22-24 ESV)
- . And He said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise." (Luke 23:43 ESV)
- . And he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. (2 Corinthians 12:4 ESV)

9. **When the work of the church on earth is done, the Lord Himself will come and receive all those who believe in Him to meet Him in the clouds.**

- . But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the

Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. (1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 ESV)

- . For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. (1 Corinthians 13:12 ESV)

**10. The Lord will give the glorious bodies to all believers, no matter they are dead or still alive. This glorious body is like the Lord's resurrected body!**

- . Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when He appears we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him as He is. (1 John 3:2 ESV)
- . So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven. I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written. (1 Corinthians 15:42-54 ESV)

**11. All the believers will meet the Lord face to face in the clouds. Wow! We'll see the Lord with our own eyes. How wonderful it will be!**

- . But according to His promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by Him without spot or blemish, and at peace. (2 Peter 3:13-14 ESV)

**12. With our glorious bodies, we won't get sick, or get old. We won't have any limitations at all. There will be no more death. You and I will be very amazed when we experience it!**

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**13. The Lord will lead us to fly across the universe to reach our heavenly home.**

- . In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. (John 14:2-3 ESV)

**14. And we'll joyfully live in love with the Lord forever!**

. Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that You have given me because You loved me before the foundation of the world. (John 17:24 ESV)