

THE TRUTH AFFIRMED—Resurrection Of The Dead

The Children of the Patriarchs

Luke 20:34-36 “They which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, *and the resurrection from the dead*, neither marry, nor are given in marriage: *Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels*; and are the children of God, being *the children of the resurrection*. Now *that the dead are raised*, even Moses shewed at the bush, when he calleth the Lord *the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob*. For he is not a *God of the dead, but of the living: for all live unto him.*”

David, King of Israel

Acts 13:34-37 “Wherefore he saith also in another psalm, Thou shalt not suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. *For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep, and was laid unto his fathers, and saw corruption*: But he, whom God raised again, saw no corruption.”

The Resurrection Of The Dead

Acts 2:29-35 “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.* Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; *He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption. This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.* Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear. *For David is not ascended into the heavens:* but he saith himself, The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, Until I make thy foes thy footstool.” **Where was David?**

1Kings 2:10 “So David *slept with his fathers,* and was buried in the city of David”

Heaven: Not the Promise of the Faithful

John 3:11-15 “Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness. If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things? *And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.* And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.” **NIV “No one has ever gone into heaven except...”**

John 8:20-22 “These words spake Jesus in the treasury, as he taught in the temple: and no man laid hands on him; for his hour was not yet come. Then said Jesus again unto them, I go my way, and ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sins: *whither I go, ye cannot come.* Then said the Jews, Will he kill himself? because he saith, Whither I go, ye cannot come.” (John 13:31-33)

State of the Dead: Asleep in the Grave

John 11:11-14, 39-44 “These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, *Our friend Lazarus sleepeth*; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep. Then said his disciples, Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well. *Howbeit Jesus spake of his death*: but they thought that he had spoken of taking of rest in sleep. Then said Jesus unto them plainly, *Lazarus is dead*...Jesus said, Take ye away the stone. Martha, the sister of him that was dead, saith unto him, Lord, by this time he stinketh: *for he hath been dead four days*. Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God? Then they took away the stone from the place *where the dead was laid*...And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. *And he that was dead came forth*, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go.”

State of the Dead: Asleep in the Grave

1 Kings 15:7-8 “Now the rest of the acts of Abijam, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?...*And Abijam slept with his fathers; and they buried him in the city of David*” (ABIJAM WAS AN EVIL KING)

1 Kings 15:23-24 “*And Asa slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father:* and Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his stead.” (ASA WAS A RIGHTEOUS KING)

1Ki 2:10 *So David slept with his fathers*

1Ki 11:43 *And Solomon slept with his fathers*

1Ki 14:20 Jeroboam...*slept with his fathers*

1Ki 14:31 *And Rehoboam slept with his fathers*

1Ki 16:6 *So Baasha slept with his fathers*

1Ki 16:28 *So Omri slept with his fathers*

1Ki 22:40 *So Ahab slept with his fathers...*

Evil or Upright, all kings are said to have “slept” with their fathers

State of the Dead: Asleep in the Grave

1 Cor. 15:6, 18, 20, 51 “After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, *but some are fallen asleep...Then they also which are fallen asleep* in Christ are perished...But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits *of them that slept*...Behold, I shew you a mystery; *We shall not all sleep*, but we shall all be changed.”

2 Pet. 3:4 “And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? *for since the fathers fell asleep*, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.”

Luke 8:52 “And all wept, and bewailed her: but he said, *Weep not; she is not dead, but sleepeth.*” (*Job 7:21; Psa. 13:3; Jer. 51:39-40, 57*).

Mat 27:52 “And the graves were opened; and *many bodies of the saints which slept arose*” (i.e. Death of Christ: symbol of his Covering)

State of the Dead: Asleep in the Grave

Martin Luther

Leader of the Protestant Reformation:



“For just as one who falls asleep and reaches morning unexpectedly when he awakes, without knowing what has happened to him, so we shall suddenly rise on the last day without knowing how we have come into death and through death. We shall sleep, until He comes and knocks on the little grave and says, Doctor Martin, get up! Then I shall rise in a moment and be happy with Him forever.” *Conditionalist Faith, vol. 2, pp. 74, 75.*

Acts 7:57-60 “Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, And cast him out of the city, and stoned him...And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. 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.*”

The Spirit: The Sustaining Breath Of Life

Ecclesiastes 12:7—*“Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.”*

Job 27:3-4 *“All the while my breath is in me, and the spirit of God is in my nostrils; My lips shall not speak wickedness, nor my tongue utter deceit.”* * *Breath and Spirit often the same Hebrew word*

Gen 6:17 *“And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and every thing that is in the earth shall die.”*

Jos 11:10-11 *“And Joshua...smote all the souls that were therein with the edge of the sword, utterly destroying them: there was not any left to breathe: and he burnt Hazor with fire.”*

Psa 146:1-4 *“Put not your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help. His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish.”* (sleep: no thought)

Gen 3:19 “In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: *for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.*”

The Living Soul: Out of Dust

Gen 2:7 “And the LORD God *formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.*” (NIV “living being” breath required for soul or life)

1 Kings 2:1-2 “Now the days of David drew nigh that he should die; and he charged Solomon his son, *saying, I go the way of all the earth:* be thou strong therefore, and shew thyself a man”

Jos 23:14 “And, behold, *this day I (Joshua) am going the way of all the earth:* and ye know in all your hearts and in all your souls, that not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spake concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing hath failed thereof.”

Christ the First to Rise from the Dead

Col. 1:18-19 “And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, *the firstborn from the dead*; that in all things he might have the preeminence. For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell”

1 Cor. 15:20-23 “But *now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept*. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: *Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ’s at his coming.*”

Acts 26:22-23 “I (Paul) continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come: *That Christ should suffer, and that he should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the Gentiles.*”

Christ the First to Rise from the Dead

Rev 1:5-6 “And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, *and the first begotten of the dead*, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.”

Rom 8:29-30 “For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, *that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.*”

Resurrection of the Physical Body

Luke 24:39-43 “Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for *a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have. And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet...* And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb. And he took it, and did eat before them.”

Resurrection of the Body

1 Cor. 15:35, 40-50 “But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come?...*There are also celestial bodies (heavenly), and bodies terrestrial (earthly)...So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:* It is sown in dishonour; 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. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.* And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual...As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. *And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.*”

Resurrection of the Body

Isa 26:19 “Thy *dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise*. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and *the earth shall cast out the dead.*”

Job 19:26 “And though after *my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh* shall I see God:”

Phi 3:20-21 “For our conversation is in heaven; *from whence also we look for the Saviour*, the Lord Jesus Christ: *Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body*”

2 Cor 5:1-10 “For we know that *if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God*, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be *clothed upon with our house which is from heaven...For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body*, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”

Judgment Only at Christ's Return

Dan 12:2-3 “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. And they that be wise *shall shine as the brightness of the firmament*” (celestial: heavenly body)

1 The. 4:13-18 “But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning *them which are asleep*, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, *even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him*. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that *we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep*. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven *with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first*: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord” (air: political status—clouds: saints)

Judgment not at Moment of Death

2 Tim 4:1 “I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, *who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom*; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.”

Rev 11:16-18 “And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, *and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.*”

John 11:23-25 “Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again. Martha saith unto him, *I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.* Jesus said unto her, *I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live*”

State of the Dead: Asleep in the Grave

John 5:24-29 “For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man. *Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves 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 6:39-40 “I should lose nothing, *but should raise it up again at the last day.* And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: *and I will raise him up at the last day*”

Acts 17:30-32 “He *hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness* by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, *in that he hath raised him from the dead*”

Reward at Christ's Return

Col 3:1-4 “If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and *your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.*”

1 Pet 5:3-4 “Neither as being lords over God’s heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. And *when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.*”

2 Tim 4:8 “There is *laid up for me a crown of righteousness*, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me *at that day*: and not to me only, *but unto all them also that love his appearing.*”

Mat 25:31-33 “*When the Son of man shall come in his glory*, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory...*And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.*”

The Reward of the Faithful

1 John 2:28-29 *“When he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming”*

1 John 3:1-3 *“Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.”*

Rev 22:10-12 *“And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand. He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.”*

Our Crown Reserved With Christ

1 Pet 1:3-7 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, *reserved in heaven for you*, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation *ready to be revealed in the last time*. Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, *might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ*”

Heb 11:32-40 “And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, *received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.*”

True Teaching: The Resurrection Of The Dead

Acts 17:18 “Then certain philosophers of the Epicureans, and of the Stoicks, encountered him. And some said, What will this babbler say? other some, He seemeth to be a setter forth of strange gods: *because he preached unto them Jesus, and the resurrection.*”

Acts 23:6 “But when Paul perceived that the one part were Sadducees, and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, Men and brethren, I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee: *of the hope and resurrection of the dead I am called in question.*”

Acts 24:14-15 “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 24:21 “*Touching the resurrection of the dead I am called in question by you this day.*”

True Teaching: The Resurrection Of The Dead

Phi. 3:10-11 “That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; *If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.*”

2 Tim. 2:15-18 “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness. And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus; *Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some.*”

Rev 20:6 “*Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection:* on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.”

False Doctrine: “Immortal Soul”

Phrase Never Appears In The Bible

Gen. 3:2-4 “And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. *And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die*”

Gen 3:17-19 “And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, *till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.*”

False Doctrine: “Immortal Soul”

Gen 3:22-24 “And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and *now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever:* Therefore the LORD God *sent him forth from the garden of Eden,* to till the ground from whence he was taken. So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, *to keep the way of the tree of life.*” (Only faithful partake of Tree of Life—Rev 22:14)

Encyclopedia Americana (Article on Immortality): “The views of the Greeks, and especially the views of Plato, have had a profound and incalculable influence on Christian thought.”—Vol. 14

Souls Born—“bare unto Jacob, even sixteen souls”—Gen. 46:18

“Joseph...born unto him in Egypt, were two souls”—Gen. 46:27

“souls that came out of the loins of Jacob were seventy souls”—Exo. 1:5

False Doctrine: Immortal Soul

Souls are People—

“In the days of Noah...eight souls are saved by water”—1Pet. 3:20

“all in the ship were threescore and sixteen souls”—Acts 27:37

Souls Sin—

“If a soul shall sin through ignorance”—Lev. 4:2

“for the sin of my soul”—Mic. 6:7

“the soul that sinneth it shall die”—Eze. 18:4

(“the wages of sin is death”—Rom 6:23)

Souls Die—

“the soul that sinneth it shall die”—Eze. 18:20

“he spareth not their soul from death”—Psa. 78:50

“my soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death”—Mat. 26:38

“shall save a soul from death”—Jam. 5:20

“none can keep alive his own soul”—Psa. 22:29

“he hath poured out his soul unto death”—Isa. 53:12

False Doctrine: Immortal Soul

Souls Destroyed—

“they smote all the souls...with the edge of the sword”—Jos. 11:11

“every soul which will not hear that prophet shall be destroyed”—

Acts 3:23

“able to destroy both soul and body”—Mat. 10:28

International Standard Bible Encyclopedia: “SOUL has various shades of meaning in the Old Testament, which may be summarized as follows: soul, living, being, life, self, person, desire, appetite, emotion, and passion. *Nephesh or Soul can only denote the individual life with a material organization or body.*”

Parkhurst’s Hebrew Lexicon notes: “As a noun, nephesh hath been *supposed* to signify the spiritual part of a man, or what we commonly call his soul. I must, for myself, confess *that I can find no passage where it hath undoubtedly this meaning.*”

False Doctrine: Immortal Soul

The *Catholic* pamphlet **Some Bible Beliefs Have To Be Wrong** admits: “Thus, *whereas the Bible does not, it is true, speak of the immortality of the human soul—a concept which it does not have in our sense of the word*—it does speak of the immortality of the human person. And in our language, this means the immortality of the human soul.” *page 10*

December 19, 1513, **Pope Leo X (1513-1521)** issued a Papal Bull (*Apostolici Regimis*) condemning all who challenged the church teaching concerning the immortality of the soul—“*we do condemn and reprobate all who assert that the intelligent soul is mortal.*” The Bull also decreed: “*all who adhere to the like erroneous assertions shall be shunned and punished as heretics.*” (H. J. Schroeder, *Disciplinary Decrees of the General Councils*, 1937, pp. 483, 487).

Like Plato's *Phaedo*, Aristotle wrote *De Anima*, or “*On the Soul.*”

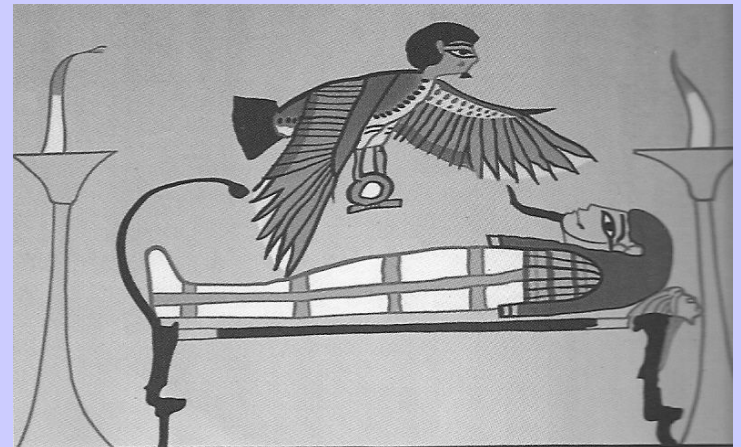
The Protestant Challenge

Pietro Pomponatius wrote a book challenging the Catholic Church's teaching, entitled: *"Treatise on the Immortality of the Soul"* (1516). The result: he was haled before the Inquisition and his book publicly burned in Venice.

1520 Martin Luther published Defence of 41 of his propositions (*Proposition 27*)—"I permit the Pope to establish articles of faith for himself and for his own faithful—such are: That the bread and wine are transubstantiated in the sacrament; that the essence of God neither generates nor is generated; *that the soul is the substantial form of the human body*; that he (the pope) is emperor of the world and king of heaven, and earthly god; *that the soul is immortal*; and all these endless monstrosities in the Roman dunghill of decretals—in order that such as his faith is, such may be his gospel, such also his faithful, and such his church..."—Martin Luther, Article 27, Luther's Works, vol. 7, pp. 131, 132 (Dec. 1, 1520)

Martin Luther (1493-1546) wrote: “A man who lies asleep is much like one who is dead. Therefore the ancient sages said, ‘Sleep is the brother of Death.’ So, also, death and life are pictured and signified in the revolutions and transformations of day and night, and of all creatures. Sleep is verily a death, and equally death is a sleep. Our death is nothing but a night’s sleep. In sleep all weariness passes away, and we rise again in the morning joyous, fresh and strong. So at the last day shall we arise from our graves as if we had only slept a night, be fresh and strong, bathe our eyes, and all weakness, corruption, and dishonour shall vanish from us forever” —*Tischreden, Vol. 1, page 193*

EGYPT: The *ba*, or personality of the dead person hovers over the mummy. It appears as a bird. Its job is to help the dead body rejoin its spirit, or *ka*, so it can live in the next world—*The Encyclopedia of the Ancient World, pg. 100*



William Tyndale (1484-1536)—

*An Answer to Sir Thomas More's Dialogue
(Parker's 1850 reprint, bk. 4, ch. 4, pp. 180-181)*



“The true faith putteth the resurrection, which we be warned to look for every hour. The heathen philosophers, denying that, did put that the souls did ever live. And the pope joineth the spiritual doctrine of Christ and the fleshly doctrine of philosophers together; things so contrary that they cannot agree, no more than the Spirit and the flesh do in a Christian man. And because the fleshly-minded pope consenteth unto heathen doctrine, therefore he corrupteth the Scripture to stablish it.”

John Frith (1503-1533), “Notwithstanding, let me grant it him that some are already in hell and some in heaven, which thing he shall never be able to prove by the Scriptures, yea, and which plainly destroy the resurrection, and taketh away the arguments wherewith Christ and Paul do prove that we shall rise.” *An Answer to John Fisher, A Disputacyon of Purgatorie (1530)*

Hell—Purgatory—The Grave

William Tyndale “And ye, in putting them (the souls) in heaven, hell, and purgatory, destroy the arguments wherewith Christ and Paul prove the resurrection...And then what cause is there of the resurrection?” —*An Answer to Sir Thomas More's Dialogue* (Parker's 1850 reprint, bk. 4, ch. 4, pp. 180)

Acts 2: 25-36 “For David speaketh concerning him...*Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell (NIV the grave), neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.* Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance. 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...*He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell (NIV the grave), neither his flesh did see corruption.* This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.” (hades: same word)

Hell—Purgatory—The Grave

Isa. 14:11 “Thy pomp is brought down to *the grave*, and the noise of thy viols: the worm is spread under thee, and the worms cover thee.” (*sheol*: same word as “hell” in the same chapter)

Isa. 14:15 “Yet thou shalt be brought down *to hell*, to the sides of the pit.”

Jonah 1:17-2:2 “Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. *And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.* Then Jonah prayed unto the LORD his God *out of the fish's belly*, And said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the LORD, and he heard me; *out of the belly of hell* (NIV the grave) cried I, and thou heardest my voice.”

“So when...this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? *O grave (hades)*, where is thy victory?” —1Cor. 15:50-55

Fiery Hell—Valley of Hinnom

Jeremiah 32:35 “And they built the high places of Baal, which are in the *Valley of the son of Hinnom*, to cause their sons and their daughters *to pass through the fire* unto Molech”

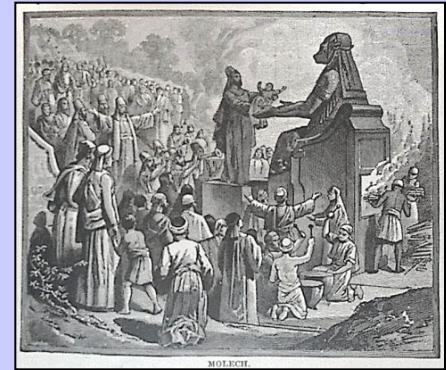
Jeremiah 7:30-31 “The children of Judah have done evil in my sight ...they have built the high places of Tophet, which is in the *Valley of the son of Hinnom*, to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire; which I commanded them not, neither came it into my heart.”

FUNK AND WAGNALLS ENCYCLOPEDIA, pg 3926—“*Gehenna (Gr. Geena; Heb. Ge Hinnom)*, the *Valley of Hinnom* near Jerusalem where Solomon built ‘an high place’ for Moloch, according to 1Kings 11:70. Because some of the Israelites are supposed to have sacrificed their children to Moloch there, the valley came to be regarded as a place of abomination. In a later period it was made a place for dumping refuse, and perpetual fires were maintained to prevent pestilence. *Consequently, in the New Testament Gehenna became synonymous with hell.*”

Fiery Hell—Valley of Hinnom

2 Kings 17:16-17 “And they left all the commandments of the LORD their God, and made them molten images, even two calves, and made a grove, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served Baal. *And they caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire, and used divination and enchantments*” (2Kin. 16:3-4)

An artist's depiction of children being offered in fire to Molech in the Valley of Hinnom.



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—“*Much confusion and misunderstanding has been caused through the early translators of the Bible persistently rendering the Hebrew ‘sheol’ and the Greek ‘hades’ and ‘Gehenna’ by the word ‘hell.’* The simple transliteration of these words by the translators of the Revised Edition of the Bible has not sufficed to appreciably clear up this confusion and misconception.”

Hell Fire—Metaphor for Judgment

Mat. 5:21-22 “Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be *in danger of the judgment*: But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be *in danger of the judgment*: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be *in danger of hell fire (GeHenna)*.”

An artist's draft depiction of the Valley of Hinnom or Gehenna, outside of Jerusalem. Translated ‘hell fire’ in the New Testament.



Mark 9:43-44 “And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go *into hell, into the fire (Gehenna) that never shall be quenched*: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.”

Fire—Judgment—Trial

These references emphasize “judgment” and “fire.” The one is a representation of the other (see: Zep. 3:8; Lam. 2:3-4; Nah. 1:1-6; Isa. 31:9...etc.). Egypt, for example, is styled the “iron furnace,” representing oppression and trial (Deu. 4:20; 1Kin. 8:51; Jer. 11:4).

Jude 7 “Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, *suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.*”

Heb. 6:1-2 “Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, *and of eternal judgment.*”

*** This shows the judgment has eternal consequences.**

Eternal Judgment—Trial

Heb. 9:11-12 “But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, *having obtained eternal redemption for us.*”

2The. 1:9-10 “Who shall be *punished with everlasting destruction* from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.”

- **Unquenchable fire represents the heat of judgment.**

Jer. 17:27 “If ye will not hearken unto me to hallow the sabbath day...at the gates of Jerusalem on the sabbath day; *then will I kindle a fire in the gates thereof, and it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem, and it shall not be quenched.*”

Heaven, Hell and Metaphors

Mat. 11:20-24 “Then began he to upbraid the cities wherein most of his mighty works were done, because they repented not: Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon *at the day of judgment*, than for you. And thou, *Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell (hades)*: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. But I say unto you, That it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom *in the day of judgment*, than for thee.”

*** Heaven and Hell are used perpetually as metaphors (Isa 14:12-15)**