

Death of Man: Where Does the Soul Go?

1. What happened to the souls of Old Testament Believers when they died?

- a. They went to heaven.
- b. They went to a temporary place called Sheol.
- c. They went to Hell until Jesus was crucified.
- d. They stay with the body until Jesus returns.

2. What happens to the souls of non-Christians when they die?

- a. They go to purgatory.
- b. They go to heaven.
- c. They go to Hell.
- d. They go to Hades.
- e. Both c and d.

3. What happens to the souls of Christians when they die?

- a. They go to purgatory.
- b. They go to heaven.
- c. They go to Hell.
- d. They go to Hades.

Death of Man: Where Does the Soul Go? Teacher Notes

Teacher note: Quizzes cover a lot of material. Take the time to help the student learn the biblical answer to each question and have fun along the way (i.e. you can be a game show host!). Use the online version of the quiz as well!

To learn more about these questions, consider these references:

1. What happens to the spirit or soul when people die?
(www.Helpmewithbiblestudy.org/7Humans/DeathWhatHappensSpiritWhenPeopleDie.aspx)
2. What and Where is Sheol?
(www.Helpmewithbiblestudy.org/7Humans/DeathWhatWhereIsSheol.aspx)
3. The Intermediate State: Purgatory... Does it exist?
(www.Helpmewithbiblestudy.org/7Humans/DeathPurgatory.aspx)
4. The Intermediate State: Soul Sleep... Does it exist?
(www.Helpmewithbiblestudy.org/7Humans/DeathSoulSleep.aspx)
5. Understanding 1 Peter 3:18-20... When Jesus was crucified, did He go to Hell?
(www.Helpmewithbiblestudy.org/7Humans/DeathUnderstanding1Peter3_18.aspx)

1. What happened to the souls of Old Testament Believers when they died?

a. They went to heaven.

Correct! The answer is "a"!

Little is said about what happens to the souls of Believers who died before Christ; however, the biblical evidence indicates that Believers will be brought into the presence of God at some point and consciously (2 Kings 2:11; Ps 17:15).

b. They went to a temporary place called Sheol.

Sorry, that is incorrect. It appears that the body goes to Sheol (the grave) but not the soul.

c. They went to Hell until Jesus was crucified.

Sorry, that is incorrect. There appears to be no biblical evidence for this view.

d. They stay with the body until Jesus returns.

Sorry, that is incorrect. It appears that at death, the soul and body are separated and enter into God's presence.

In this example, Moses, who died some 1400 years earlier, is seen talking to Jesus.

So Moses the servant of the Lord died there in the land of Moab, in accordance with the word of the Lord. And He buried him in the valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor; but no one knows his burial place to this day. (Deut 34:5-6)

"And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with him." (Matt 17:3)

2. What happens to the souls of non-Christians when they die?

a. They go to purgatory.

Sorry, that is incorrect. While this concept is not found in the Bible, purgatory, according to Roman Catholics, is a place for Believers.

b. They go to heaven.

Sorry, that is incorrect. This answer is clearly erroneous.

"Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way where I am going. Thomas said to Him, 'Lord, we do not know where You are going, how do we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.'" (John 14:1-6)

c. They go to Hell.

Sorry, that is incorrect. This answer is true; however, there is another correct answer!

d. They go to Hades.

Sorry, that is incorrect. This answer is true; its meaning is equivalent to Hell!

Since "c" and "d" are correct, the correct answer to this question is "e."

e. Both c and d.

Correct! The answer is "e"!

The biblical evidence indicates that the soul of a non-Christian goes temporarily to Hades. After the resurrection and judgment before the Great White Throne, the resurrected non-Christian is cast into Hell (also known as the Lake of Fire).

3. What happens to the souls of Christians when they die?

a. They go to purgatory.

Sorry, that is incorrect. Purgatory is a human construct and not found in the Bible.

b. They go to heaven.

Correct! The answer is "b"!

They go immediately to heaven and into the presence of the Jesus Christ.

"And he was saying, 'Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!' And He said to him, 'Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise.'" (Luke 23:42-43)

c. They go to Hell.

Sorry, that is incorrect. New Testament evidence argues strongly against this concept.

This example shows Old Testament Believers before Jesus has been crucified.

"Six days later Jesus took with Him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up on a high mountain by themselves. And He was transfigured before them; and His face shone like the sun, and His garments became as white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him. Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, I will make three tabernacles here, one for You, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' While he was still speaking, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and behold, a voice out of the cloud said, 'This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to Him!' When the disciples heard this, they fell face down to the ground and were terrified." (Matt 17:1-6)

d. They go to Hades.

Sorry, that is incorrect. Because Hades is essentially equivalent to Hell, answer "d" is the same as "c," and the explanation in "c" applies to this option as well.