

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER WE DIE?

Jehovah's Witnesses:

Saved: be baptized as JW and earn everlasting life by door-to-door work. Salvation is limited to 144,000 "anointed ones" (that # is already reached).

After Death: The 144,000 live as spirits in heaven. The "great crowd" (the rest of the righteous) live on earth and must obey God perfectly for 1,000 years or be annihilated.

Mormons (Latter Day Saints):

Saved: resurrected by grace but saved by works, including faithfulness to church leaders, Mormon baptism, tithing, ordination, marriage and secret temple rituals.

After Death: No eternal life without Mormon membership. Nearly everyone goes to 1 of 3 heavenly "kingdoms", some achieve godhood, while apostates and murders go to outer darkness.

New Age:

Saved: Can tap into supernatural power through meditation, self-awareness, and "spirit guides"

After Death: Human reincarnations occur until person reaches oneness with God. No eternal life as a resurrected person. No literal heaven or hell.

Islam:

Saved: Humans are basically good but fallible. Good and bad deeds determine eternal destiny in paradise or hell. Allah may tip the scales for good behavior.

After Death: Fear of eternal torment is a theme of the Qur'an. Paradise includes a garden populates with maidens designed by Allah to provide sexual pleasures to righteous men.

Buddhism:

Saved: Goal is nirvana, to eliminate all desires or cravings and therefore escape suffering. The Eightfold Path is a system to free Buddhists from desiring anything.

After Death: Reincarnation. People do not have their own individuals souls or spirits, but one's desires and feelings may be reincarnated into another person.

Source: Rose Publishing, *Christianity, Cults, and Religions*

John 11:23 (NIV) *Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."* ²⁴ *Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."* ²⁵ *Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection*

and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die;²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?”²⁷ “Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.”

John 11:40 (NIV) *Then Jesus said, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?”*

John 11:43 (NIV) *When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, “Take off the grave clothes and let him go.”*

Philippians 1:23 (NIV) *I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far.*

2 Corinthians 5:6 (NIV) *Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord.⁷ For we live by faith, not by sight.⁸ We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord.⁹ So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it.¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.*

3 Things Happen at Death

1). Our Physical Bodies Die

Genesis 3:19 (NIV) *By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.”*

2). Our Souls Live On.

PURGATORY=Is a place that a Christian’s soul goes to after death to be cleansed of the sins that had not been fully satisfied during life.

What’s the problem with that?

Jesus died to pay the penalty for ALL OUR SINS.

1 Corinthians 15:52 (NLT) *It will happen in a moment, in the blink of an eye, when the last trumpet is blown. For when the trumpet sounds, those who have died will be raised to live forever. And we who are living will also be transformed.⁵³ For our dying bodies must be transformed into bodies that will never die; our mortal bodies must be transformed into immortal bodies.⁵⁴ Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die, this Scripture will be fulfilled: “Death is swallowed up in victory.⁵⁵ O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?”*

3). We Will All Face Judgment.

Revelation 20:11 (NIV) *Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. The earth and the heavens fled from his presence, and there was no place for them.* ¹² *And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books.* ¹³ *The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what they had done.* ¹⁴ *Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death.* ¹⁵ *Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.*

If God allowed sin into heaven, what would heaven be like?

How does this affect YOU?