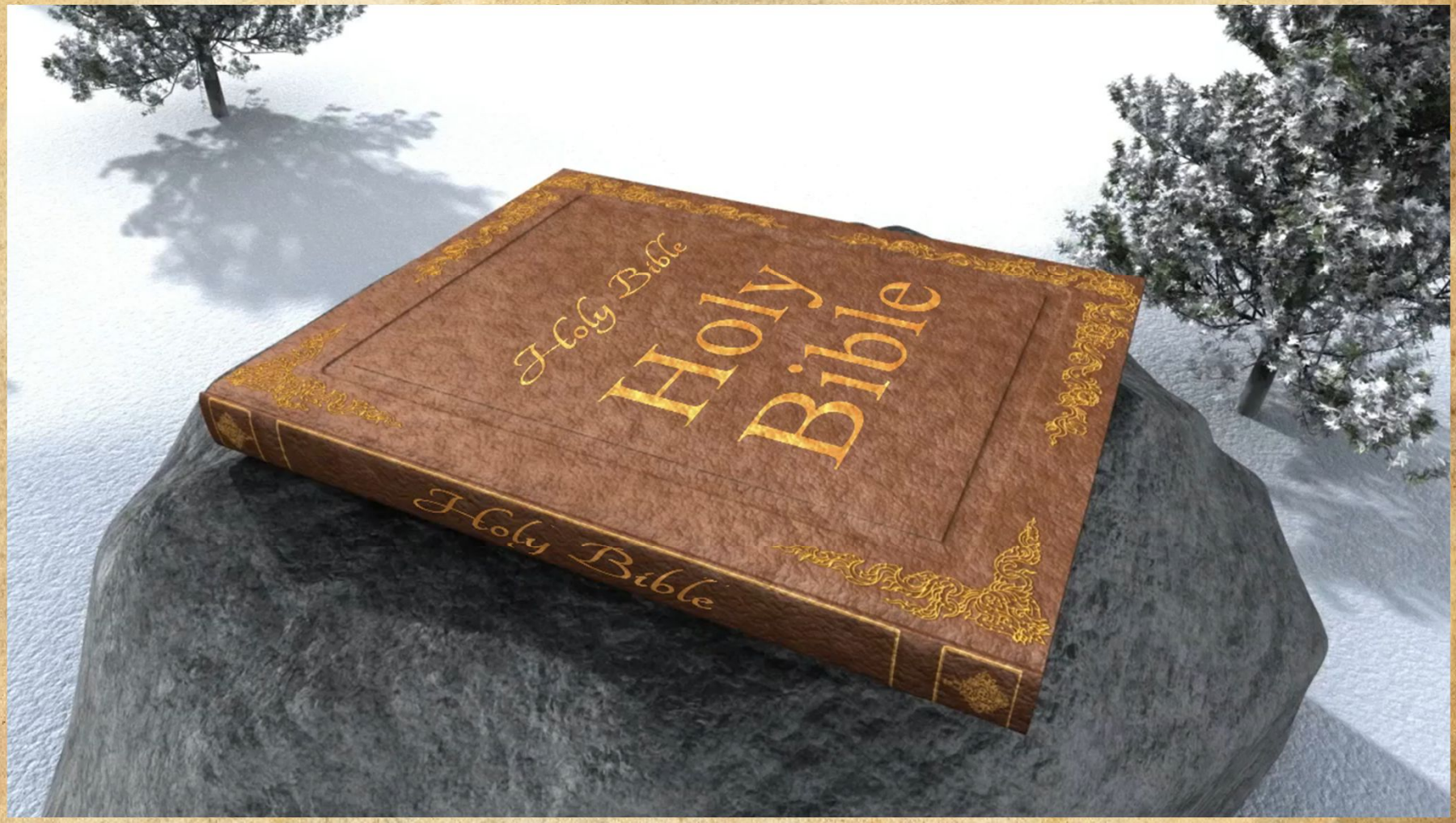
# Heaven & Hell


Holy Bible
Holy Bible
Holy Bible

# The Life We Have & the Certainty of *Death*

***(Unless we are Raptured)***

# Can We Predict When We Will Die?

- **Luke 21:34-36: Jesus said…**
  - ✓ *34 "Be on guard, so that your hearts will not be weighted down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of life, and that day will not come on you suddenly like a trap; 35 for it will come upon all those who dwell on the face of all the earth. 36 "But keep on the alert at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are about to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."*

# Can We Predict When We Will Die?

- **What can cause our death?**
  - ✓ Natural causes
  - ✓ Accidents
  - ✓ Violent acts
  - ✓ Pandemics
  - ✓ Famines
  - ✓ The “End Times” Tribulation

# The Life We Have & the Certainty of *Death*

***(Unless we are Raptured)***


VideoScribe

# *Fantasy or Fact?*

- **From Where Did the Idea of a *Heaven* & *Hell* Originate?**
  - ✓ Word-of-mouth?
  - ✓ Newspapers?
  - ✓ Nightly News?
  - ✓ School?
  - ✓ Religion?
  - ✓ God – Creator and Benefactor of all things?

# *If God Created…*

- **Why?**
  - ✓ God's creation was initially perfect
  - ✓ Man was created in God's image for communion/relationship with Him
  - ✓ God provided man with free will
  - ✓ Man disobeyed God in the Garden *
  - ✓ God's righteousness requires punishing sin
  - ✓ God punished Adam & Eve
    - ➢ Death, blood sacrifice, redemption
      - (* Innocence)

# Prelude to this Study

- **God**…*(cont'd)*
  - ✓ Mankind's sinful ways continued & worsened
  - ✓ Cain murdered his own brother, Abel *
  - ✓ God sent a deluge (Noah & the flood)
  - ✓ Mankind tried to compete with God
  - ✓ God scattered mankind (Tower of Babel)**
  - ✓ God found another (Abraham) to establish a nation of people (Israel) to use to glorify Him in all the world

(* Conscience ** Civil Government)


10

# Prelude to this Study

- **God**…*(cont'd)*
  - ✓ God made an unconditional covenant to Abraham & His descendants thru *Isaac*
    - ➢ Land
    - ➢ Descendants, one = Davidic lineage
    - ➢ A New Covenant = Salvation through Christ
  - ✓ Abraham got tired of waiting on God for Sarah to give him a son…*
    - ➢ So, Hagar gave him ***Ishmael***

◦ (* Promise)

# Prelude to this Study

- **God**…*(cont'd)*
  - ✓ However, as promised, <u>God did give Abraham a son through Sarah</u>…his name was…
    - ➢ ***Isaac*** and his descendants are the Jews *(Israelites, the Jewish Nation)*
      - ❑ These are God's chosen people
      - ❑ The people thru whom God will be glorified

# Prelude to this Study

- **God**…*(cont'd)*
  - ✓ ***Ishmael's*** descendants, on the other hand are all the people of the Arab World
    - ➢ It is from his lineage where *<u>Islam</u>* was born
      - ❑ Genesis 16:12
        - *"He will be a wild donkey of a man; his hand will be against everyone and everyone 's hand against him, and he will live in hostility toward all his brothers."*

# Prelude to this Study

- **God**…*(cont'd)*
  - ✓ Isaac married Rebekah and they had twin boys, ***Esau*** and ***Jacob***
    - ➢ Though first-born, ***Esau*** sold his birthright to ***Jacob***
      - ❑ ***Esau*** lived off the desert (a *Bedouin)*
      - ❑ ***Esau*** marred a daughter of ***Ishmael***
      - ❑ From ***Esau's*** seed, came the ***Edomites***

# Prelude to this Study

- **God**…*(cont'd)*
  - ✓ ***Jacob*** had four wives and collectively, they had 12 sons
    - ➢ From their seeds, the 12 Tribes of Israel grew during their 400 year stay in Egypt
      - ❑ Eventually, Egypt felt threatened by the them
      - ❑ The Egyptians enslaved them
      - ❑ God sent his servants, Moses and Aaron to rescue them

# Prelude to this Study

- **God**…*(cont'd)*
  - ✓ Moses led the Israelites towards the ***Promised Land*** (remember the Abrahamic Covenant)
    - ❑ They regularly complained about their conditions
    - ❑ At Mt. Sinai, God gave them 10 Commandants *
    - ❑ On their initial approach to their inheritance, they refused to believe God would protect them
    - ❑ For this revolt, they spent an additional 400 years wandering in the desert

( * Mosiac Law)

# Prelude to this Study

- **God**…*(cont'd)*
  - ✓ After the lengthy wilderness wandering, the Israelites were led into the **Promised Land** (Abrahamic Covenant) by Joshua
    - ➢ Unfortunately, the Israelites began worshipping the gods of the Canaanites
    - ➢ The Israelites continued in disobedience to God
    - ➢ At their request, they were reluctantly given kings to rule them

# Prelude to this Study

- **God**…*(cont'd)*
  - ✓ They fought internally, split into two kingdoms
  - ✓ God sent prophets…
    - ➢ They prophesized *short-term events* that came true
    - ➢ They prophesized *longer-term events* that came true
      - The Northern Kingdom was taken by the Assyrians
      - The Southern Kingdom was taken by the Babylonians
      - **Jesus, our Messiah**, came to earth & made atonement for our sins
    - ➢ **They prophesized *"END-TIME" events* that will come about**

# Prelude to this Study

- **God**…*(cont'd)*
  - ✓ God sent prophets…*(cont'd)*
    - ➢ Unfortunately, many…
      - Refuse to believe in a Sovereign God
      - Do not believe Jesus is the Messiah
      - Do not believe Jesus is *the only way* to Heaven
      - Fail to understand the history of the human race
      - Fail to understand timing is of the essence
      - Luke 19:1-10 *(Zaccheus)*

# So, Why This Study?

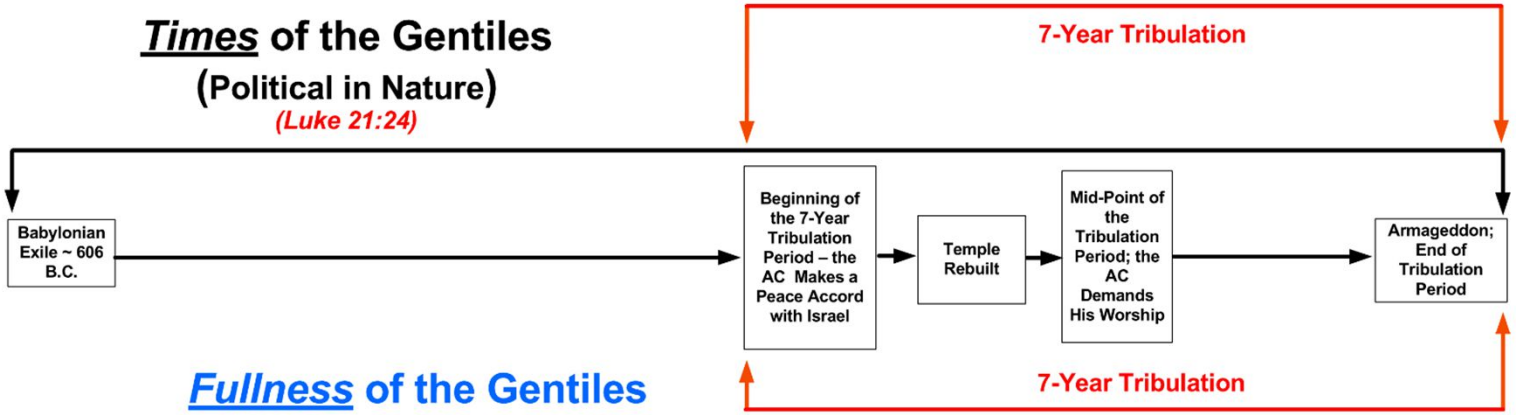
- ✓ Sometime our earthly life <u>will</u> come to an end
- ✓ Prophecy tells us that at some point, there will be an end to the world (i.e., the earth) as we now know it, **<u>because of Man's rebellion against God</u>**.
  - ➢ The circumstances that will prevail at the "end times" will be so horrific that mankind will be on the brink of total annihilation *(Matthew 24:21-22)*.
  - ➢ According to *<u>Zechariah 13:8</u>*, only 1/3 of the Jews at the time of Christ's 2nd Advent will survive the Tribulation Period.

# So, Why This Study?

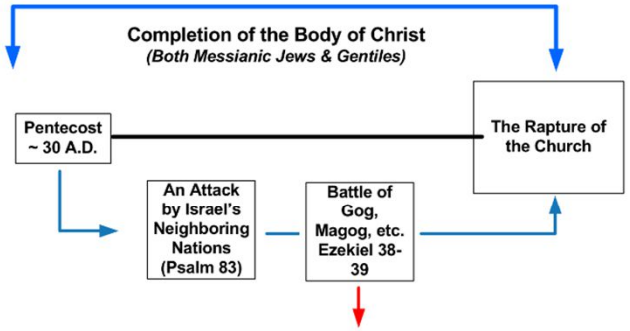
- ✓ **Timing is Everything…*Plan* for your future**
- ✓ ***Recognize* the Signs that Warn Us…**
  - Economic and political entities/systems will fail
  - There will be famines, plagues, wild beasts who attack and devour people
  - There will be earthquakes
  - The sun and moon will shine no more
  - Stars will fall from the sky
  - Mountains and islands will disappear
- ✓ God's plan is to remove His people (i.e., both Jew and Gentile believers) from the earth prior to these "End Times" (7-Year Tribulation). *

**(* Pre-Tribulation Dispensational Millennialism)**

## *Times* of the Gentiles
### (Political in Nature)
*(Luke 21:24)*




## *Fullness* of the Gentiles
### (Spiritual in Nature – The Church Age)
*(Romans 11:25)*

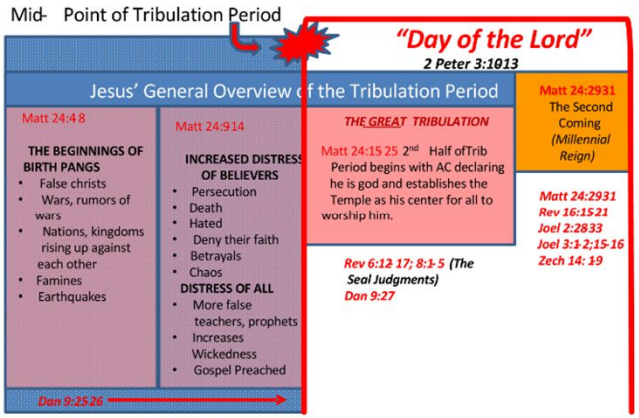



*NOTE: Some scholars believe the Gog, Magog battle will take place during the 1st half of the 7-Year Tribulation Period. Others say it will take place at the end of the Battle of Armageddon which occurs at the very end of the 7-Year Tribulation Period.*

*Some variable factors include:*

- *Israel having been recovered from war, now living in safety (Eze 38:7-8)*
- *Seven years converting and using converted weapons for fuel. (Eze 39:9)*

## "Day of the Lord" (Dispensational)




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*Times & Fullness of the Gentiles.vsd*

# What is Your Timetable?

- **No One Knows, except the Father**
  - ✓ There are, however, “signs” of these times recorded from both Jesus and the prophets
    - Matt 24:36-44 (The Olivet Discourse)
    - Prophetic Word of God
- **The Good News…**
  - ✓ Our Lord Wishes that No One is Lost
  - ✓ So, there is still time to be saved

# What is Your Timetable?

- **No One Knows, except the Father**
  - ✓ So, there is still time to be saved…*(cont'd)*
    - Saved? Saved from what?
      - From Eternal ***bliss*** or
      - Eternal ***damnation***
    - Doubt this, do you?
    - Everything to lose (or)
    - Everything to gain

# Comforting Scripture…

- **Our Lord Wishes that No One is Lost**
  - ✓ Matthew 18:11 *Reason for Jesus' advent*
  - ✓ Luke 15: 3-7 *Parable of the Lost Sheep*
  - ✓ Luke 15: 11-32 *Parable of the Lost Son*
  - ✓ Luke 19:10 *Value of the lost to Jesus*

# The Certainty of Death…

- **The Uncertainty of its *Outcome***
  - ✓ After we physically die, is that "all there is?"
  - ✓ Or, after we physically die, is there anything left of us that remains?
    - ➢ Anything thing "good"
    - ➢ Anything thing "bad"
  - ✓ Is Heaven real?
  - ✓ What about Hell?

# Do You Know…

Pew Research Center

*Religion & Public Life*

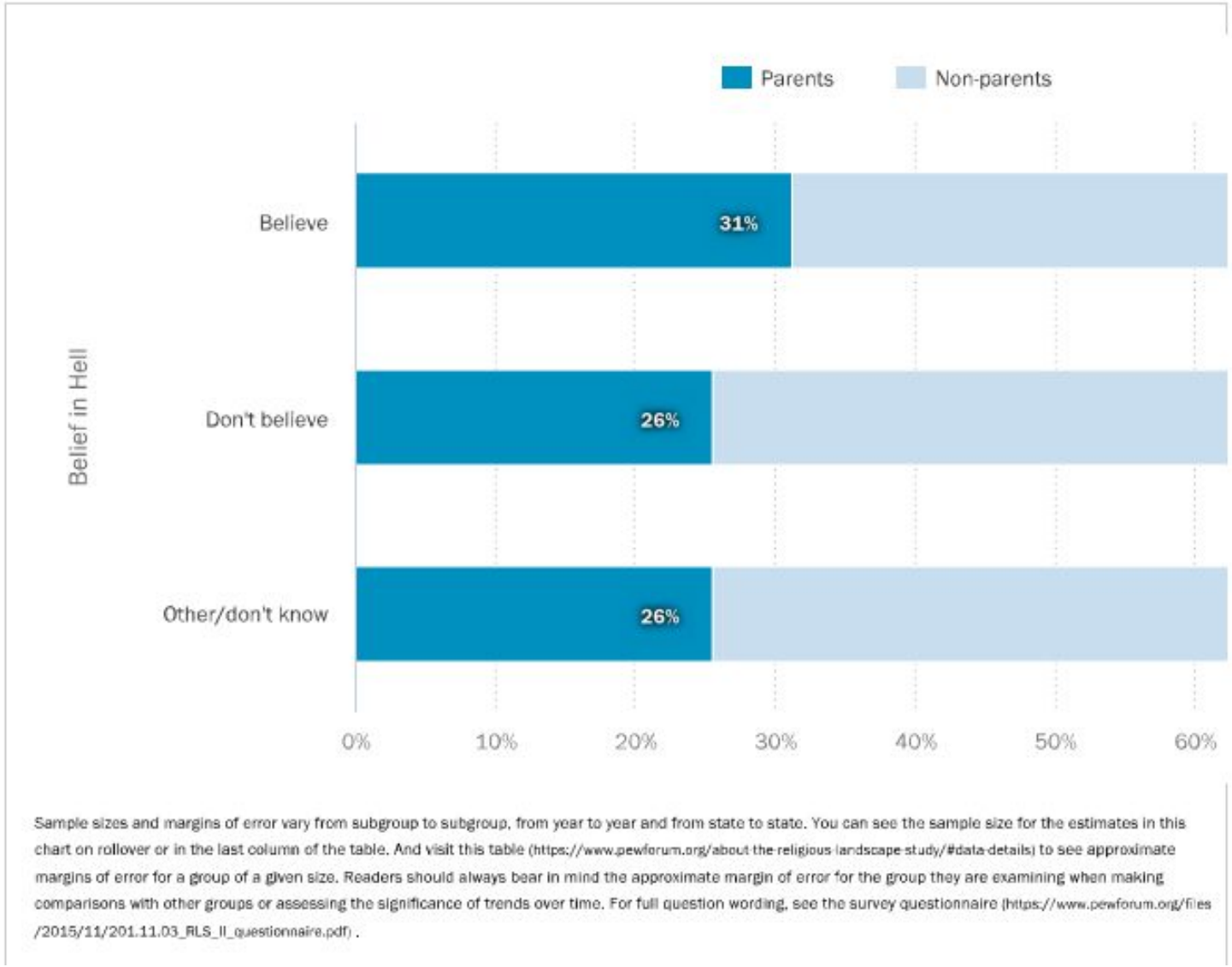
# Adults who believe in Hell

## Religious composition of adults who believe in Hell

| | |
|---|---|
| Christian | 86% |
| ▸ Evangelical Protestant | 36% |
| ▸ Mainline Protestant | 15% |
| ▸ Historically Black Protestant | 9% |
| Catholic | 23% |
| ▸ Mormon | 2% |
| ▸ Orthodox Christian | < 1% |
| Jehovah's Witness | < 1% |
| ▸ Other Christian | < 1% |
| Non-Christian Faiths | 3% |
| Jewish | 1% |
| Muslim | 1% |
| Buddhist | < 1% |
| Hindu | < 1% |
| Other World Religions | < 1% |
| ▸ Other Faiths | 1% |
| Unaffiliated (religious "nones") | 11% |
| Atheist | < 1% |
| Agnostic | 1% |
| ▸ Nothing in particular | 10% |
| Don't know | < 1% |

Pew Research Center

*Religion & Public Life*




Sample sizes and margins of error vary from subgroup to subgroup, from year to year and from state to state. You can see the sample size for the estimates in this chart on rollover or in the last column of the table. And visit this table (https://www.pewforum.org/about the religious landscape study/#data-details) to see approximate margins of error for a group of a given size. Readers should always bear in mind the approximate margin of error for the group they are examining when making comparisons with other groups or assessing the significance of trends over time. For full question wording, see the survey questionnaire (https://www.pewforum.org/files/2015/11/201.11.03_RLS_II_questionnaire.pdf) .

Pew Research Center

*Religion & Public Life*

## Belief in God by belief in hell

*% of adults who say they...*

Chart | Table

Share | Save Image

| Belief In Hell | Believe In God; absolutely certain | Believe In God; fairly certain | Believe In God; not too/not at all certain | Believe In God; don't know | Do not believe In God | Other/don't know if they believe In God | Sample Size |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Believe | 79% | 17% | 3% | 1% | 1% | 1% | 19,167 |
| Don't believe | 37% | 24% | 10% | 1% | 25% | 4% | 12,839 |
| Other/don't know | 58% | 23% | 7% | 2% | 3% | 8% | 3,065 |

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**Frequency of participation in prayer, scripture study or religious education groups by belief in hell**

*% of adults who attend prayer group...*

Chart | Table | Share | Save Image

| Belief In Hell | At least once a week | Once or twice a month | Several times a year | Seldom/never | Don't know | Sample Size |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Believe | 32% | 12% | 10% | 46% | 1% | 19,167 |
| Don't believe | 12% | 5% | 6% | 77% | < 1% | 12,839 |
| Other/don't know | 21% | 7% | 7% | 62% | 2% | 3,065 |

Sample sizes and margins of error vary from subgroup to subgroup, from year to year and from state to state. You can see the sample size for the estimates in this chart on rollover or in the last column of the table. And visit this table to see approximate margins of error for a group of a given size. Readers should always bear in mind the approximate margin of error for the group they are examining when making comparisons with other groups or assessing the significance of trends over time. For full question wording, see the survey questionnaire.

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## Importance of religion in one's life by belief in hell

*% of adults who say religion is...*

Chart | Table

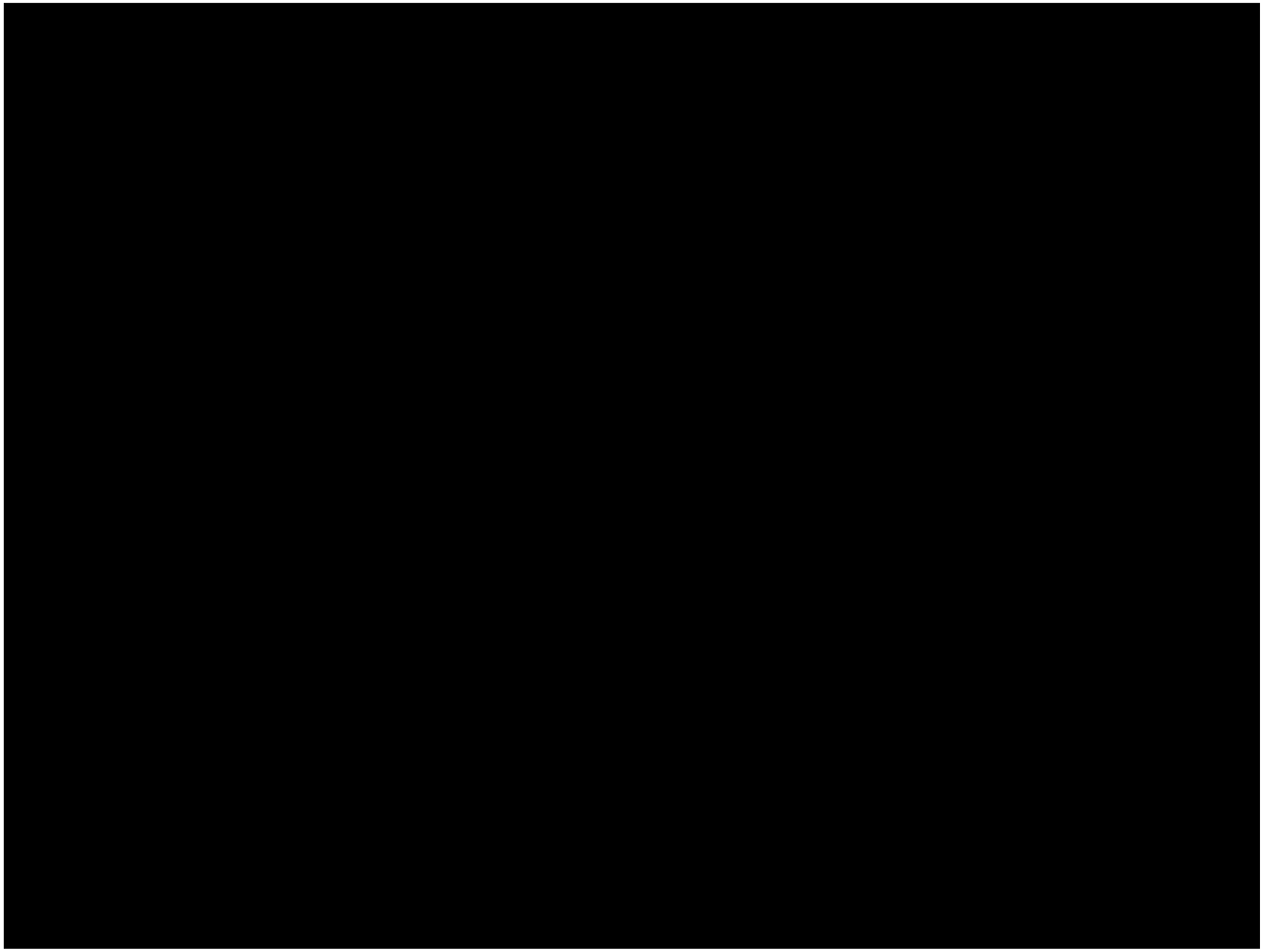
Share | Save Image

| Belief In Hell | Very Important | Somewhat Important | Not too Important | Not at all Important | Don't know | Sample Size |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Believe | 68% | 23% | 5% | 2% | < 1% | 19,167 |
| Don't believe | 28% | 26% | 19% | 26% | 1% | 12,839 |
| Other/don't know | 51% | 26% | 12% | 8% | 3% | 3,065 |

Sample sizes and margins of error vary from subgroup to subgroup, from year to year and from state to state. You can see the sample size for the estimates in this chart on rollover or in the last column of the table. And visit this table to see approximate margins of error for a group of a given size. Readers should always bear in mind the approximate margin of error for the group they are examining when making comparisons with other groups or assessing the significance of trends over time. For full question wording, see the survey questionnaire.


VideoScribe

# What Joel Says About the End Times



# What Are We?

Just a Body?

Body & Soul?

Body, Soul, & Spirit?

# What Genesis Says…

- **Genesis 1:26**

  “26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

- **God’s “image”** *(H6754)* ***“Likeness”*** *(H1823)*

  “Being in God's image means that humans share, though imperfectly and finitely, in God's nature, that is, in His communicable attributes (life, personality, truth, wisdom, love, holiness, justice), and so have the capacity for spiritual fellowship with Him.”

*The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures by Dallas Seminary Faculty*

# God's Image & Likeness

- **A "Person" is…**
  - ✓ According to Genesis 2: 6-7
    - ➢ *"…the Lord God formed the man (i.e., the body of flesh) from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath (Gk: pneuma; spirit) of life, and the man became a living being (a 'soul')."*
    - ➢ This scripture alludes to mankind having three features:
      - ✓ Body, the "tent" *(2 Cor 5:1-10)* or "the house"
      - ✓ A "soul" (the breath of "life" from God)
      - ✓ A "spirit" (a center of individual attributes)


1/9/2023

# Quick Commentary…

## By the Way…

- ✓ "God's breathing **the breath of life** into man transformed his form into **a living being** (lit., "a living **soul**"). This made man ***a spiritual being***, with a capacity for serving and fellowshipping with God.

*The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures by Dallas Seminary Faculty*

- ✓ With this special Creation in mind, the reader can see the significance of the "Fall:"
  - Since the "Fall", regeneration by the "inbreathing" of the Holy Spirit is essential in order for people to enjoy fellowship with God." *(ed.; being born again)*

# What About a "Soul"?

- **Scripture Confirms the Soul's Existence…**
  - *Lev 26:11* (God has a "*soul*")
  - *Lev 26:15* (Mankind has a "*soul*")
  - *Deut 30:6* (Is the "*heart*" different from the "*soul*"?)
  - *Ps 16:10* (The "*soul*" goes to sheol)
  - *Ezekiel 18:4* (Behold, all *souls* are Mine [ed., God's])
  - *Matt 10:28* (Men can kill the body, but not the *soul*.)
  - *Matt 16:26; Mark 8:*37 ("What shall a man give in exchange for his *soul*")?
  - Mark 8:36 (What shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own *soul*?)

# What About a "Soul"?

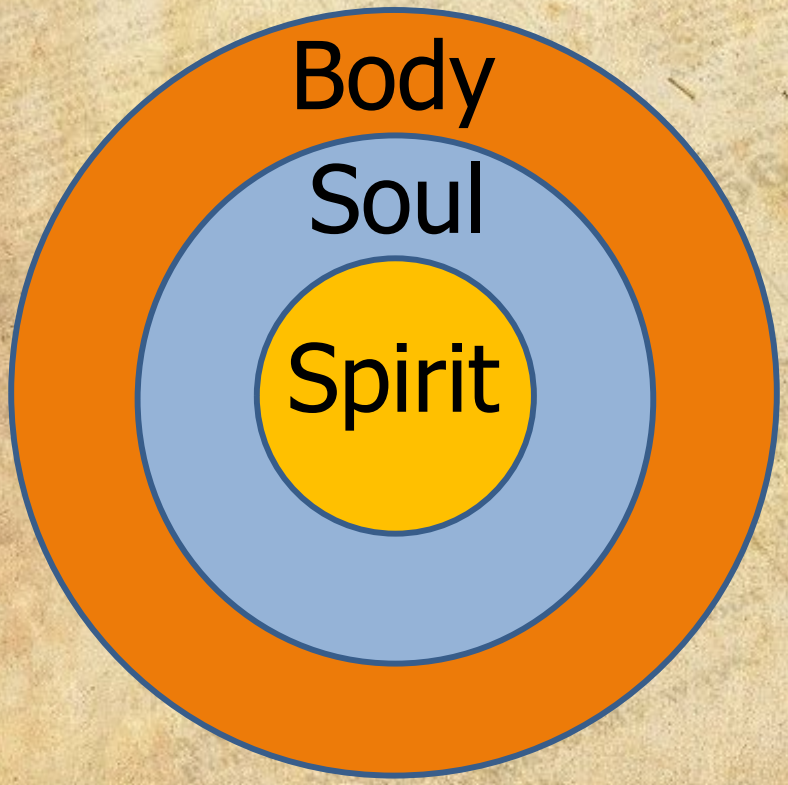
- **Are the "Soul" and "Spirit" the Same?**
  - *1 Sam 1:15 (Hannah pours out her "soul" to the Lord)*
  - *Isa 42:1* (God puts His "Spirit" on Jesus)

# What About a "Soul"?

- **Are the "Soul" and "Spirit" the Same?**
  - *1 Sam 1:15*
  - *Isa 42:1* (God puts His "Spirit" on Jesus
  - The "spirit" controls the soul's feelings, intellect, etc.
- **Does the soul survive the death of the body?**
  - *Yes, Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob (God is not the god of the dead, but of the living.)*

# What About a “Soul”?

- Are the “Soul” and “Spirit” the Same?



# Does Eternity Exist?

- **Is there a *"State of Infinite Existence"***
  - ✓ How can this be true since humans are mortals?
  - ✓ Doesn't the body (i.e., the flesh) deteriorate?
    - Yes
  - ✓ So, what's left that does not deteriorate?
    - The person's "***soul***"?
    - The person's "***spirit***"?

# Body, Soul, Spirit

- **Of "Spirit" and "Soul"**
  - ✓ **Concerning Mankind's "Body" and "Spirit"**
    - **Ephesians 4:4 (NLT)** "For there is one body and one ***spirit***, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future."
    - **Matthew 10:28** (NSAB) "[28] Do not fear those who kill the body but are *unable to kill the* ***soul***; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy *both soul and body in* ***hell***."



1/9/2023

# Body, Soul, Spirit

- **Scripture References…**
  - ✓ **1 Corinthians 15:35-44**
    - At the resurrection of the dead…the body (i.e., "natural,' of flesh and bones) is raised as **a "Spiritual Body"** (imperishable)
  - ✓ **1 Thessalonians 5:12-23**
    - 17 pray without ceasing; 18 in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 19 *Do not quench **the Spirit**;*
  - ✓ **Hebrews 4:12-13**
    - 12 For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, *piercing to the division of **soul and of spirit***, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the ***heart***.

# At Death, Something Parts Company

- **So, When a Person Dies, What Happens?**
  - ✓ If the person is a "believer," then the person will be with Christ (see *Phil 1:23*)
  - – If the person is NOT a "believer," he will find himself in the "bad" side of Sheol and will await his final judgment (i.e., the "***Great White Throne Judgment***") after Jesus's 2nd Advent

# Videos of People answering questions about Heaven and Hell

Heaven & Hell On-the-Street


VideoScribe

# # References to *Heaven*

- Variations from Different Interpretations
  - 457 (NASB)
  - 538 (CJB)
  - 582 (KJ)
- Variations in Name
  - Heaven
  - Paradise

# Names of *Heaven*

- **Its Name** - The place of the everlasting blessedness of the righteous; the abode of departed spirits.
  - Christ calls it his "Father's house" (John 14:2)
  - It is called "paradise" (Luke 23:43; 2 Co 12:4; Rev 2:7)
  - "The heavenly Jerusalem" (Gal 4:26; Heb 12:22; Rev 3:12)

*Illustrated Bible Dictionary: And Treasury of Biblical History, Biography, Geography, Doctrine, and Literature*

# Names of *Heaven*

- **Its Name** – *(cont'd)*
  - The "eternal kingdom" (2 Pe 1:11)
  - The "eternal inheritance" (1 Pe 1:4; Heb 9:15)
  - The "better country" (Heb 11:14, 16)

*Illustrated Bible Dictionary: And Treasury of Biblical History, Biography, Geography, Doctrine, and Literature*

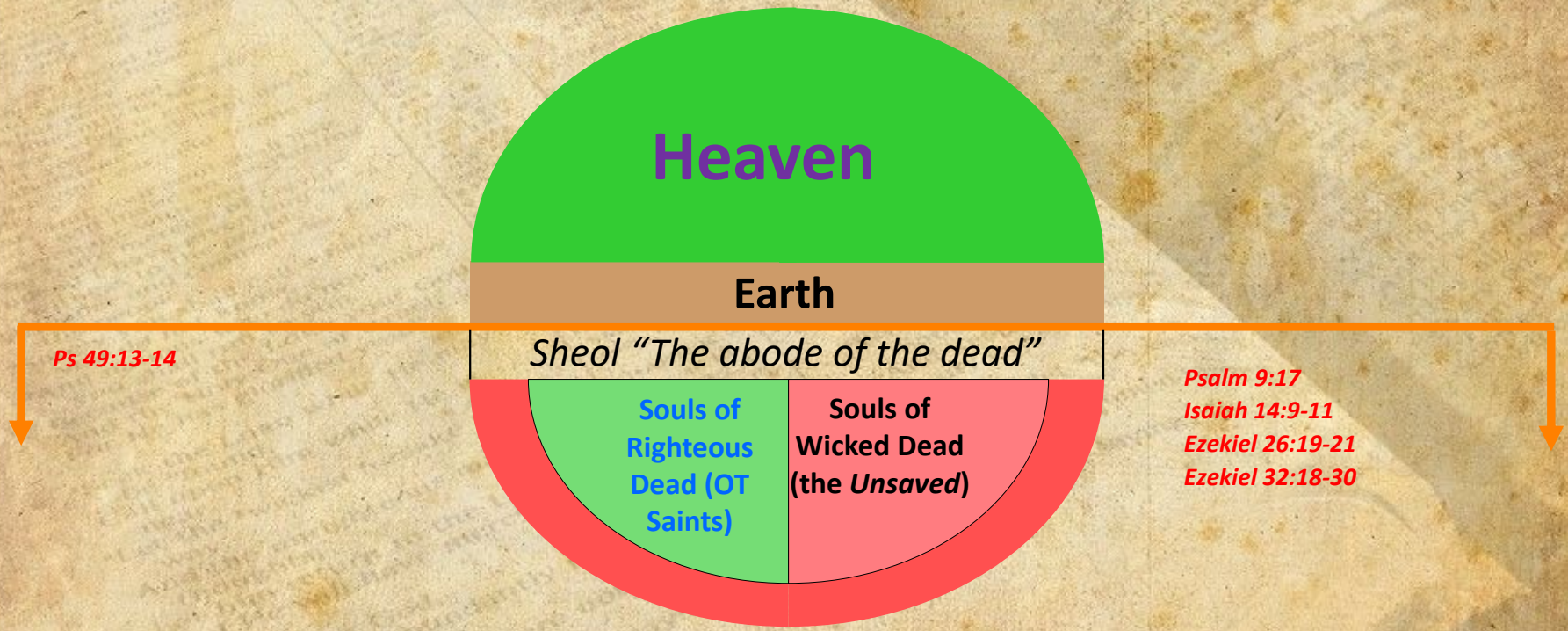
# Scriptural Proofs of *Heaven*

- **Specifics…**
  - A place prepared for His own (John 14:2)
  - The blessed are said to "sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob," and to be "in Abraham's bosom" (Luke 16:22; Mat 8:11); to "reign with Christ" (2 Ti 2:12); and to enjoy "rest" (Heb 4:10, 11)
  - Enoch (Gen 5:18-24)
  - Elijah (2 Kings 2:9-11; Matt 17:1-4)
  - Paul (2 Cor 12: 1-4)
  - Thief on the cross with Jesus (Luke 23:39-43)
  - Rich man & Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31)

# OT View of Heaven, Earth, Sheol (*BEFORE* Christ's 1st Advent)

An Illustration…

# OT View of Heaven, Earth, Sheol



# OT View of Heaven, Earth, Sheol

*(With some NT Insight…)*

- **Luke 16:22-23:** ***The Rich Man and Lazarus***
  - ✓ "Lazarus went **to Abraham's side** while **the rich man… was buried** and was **in hell,** a place of conscious **torment** (vv. 24, 28)

*(Hadēs*, the Greek word often translated "hell," is used 11 times in the New Testament. The Septuagint used *hadēs* to translate the Hebrew *šeʾôl* (the place of the dead) on 61 occasions. Here *hadēs* refers to the abode of the *unsaved* dead *prior* to the Great White Throne Judgment (Rev. 20:11-15). "Abraham's side" apparently refers to a place of paradise for Old Testament believers at the time of death (cf. Luke 23:43; 2 Cor. 12:4).

# OT View of Heaven, Earth, Sheol

*(With some NT Insight…)*

## ❖ Luke 16:22-23: *The Rich Man and Lazarus*

- ✓ In verses 24-31**,** the rich man was able to converse with **Abraham.**
- ✓ He first begged to have **Lazarus** sent over to give him some water. **Abraham replied** that that was not possible and that he should **remember that** during his life he had everything he wanted **while Lazarus** had nothing.
- ✓ Even so, the rich man had never helped Lazarus during the course of his life. Furthermore, **a great chasm** separated paradise and hades so that no one could **cross** from one to the other.

# OT View of Heaven, Earth, Sheol

*(With some NT Insight…)*

## ❖ Luke 16:22-23: *The Rich Man and Lazarus*

- ✓ The rich man next begged that **Lazarus** be sent to earth to **warn** his **brothers.** It was his contention that if one came back **from the dead** then his brothers would **listen** (v. 30).

- ✓ **Abraham** replied that if they refused to **listen to** the Scriptures (**Moses and the Prophets** represent all the OT; cf. v. 16), then they would refuse to listen to one who came back **from the dead.**

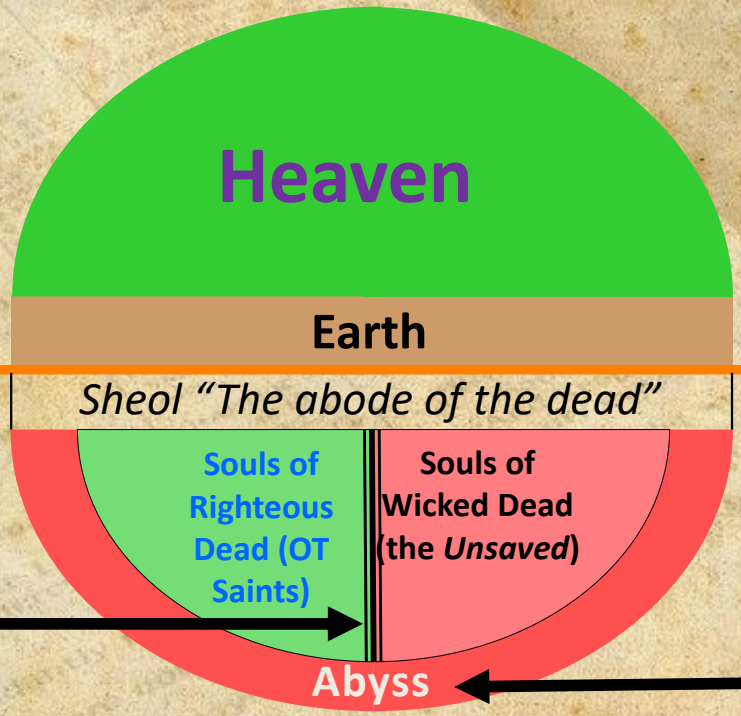




*The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures by Dallas Seminary Faculty*

# OT View of Heaven, Earth, Sheol

## *(With some NT Insight …about Lazarus)*




***Ps 49:13-14***

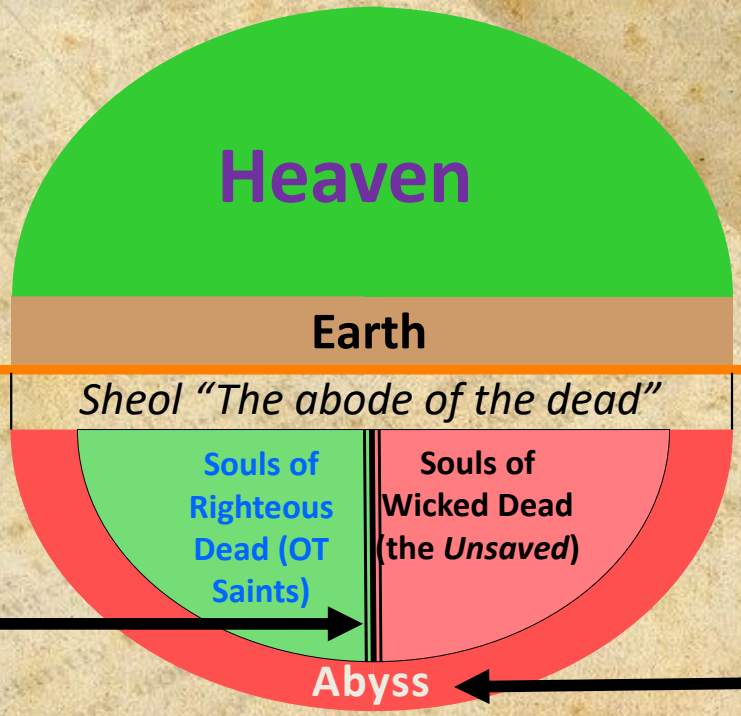
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***Psalm 9:17***
***Isaiah 14:9-11***
***Ezekiel 26:19-21***
***Ezekiel 32:18-30***

**2 Peter 2:4-5** (ESV) *2Pe 4 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."*

# OT View of Heaven, Earth, Sheol

## *(With some NT Insight …about Lazarus)*




***Ps 49:13-14***

**Luke 16:23 (ESV)** *23 and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. (i.e., Paradise (or) "Abraham's Bosom")…26 And besides all this, **between us and you a great chasm has been fixed**, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.'*

(see also, **1 Samuel 28: 3-14)**

***Psalm 9:17***
***Isaiah 14:9-11***
***Ezekiel 26:19-21***
***Ezekiel 32:18-30***

**2 Peter 2:4-5** (ESV) 2Pe 4 *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."*

# *Definition Review…*

## *(Just to "Clarify…")*

# Grave

**GRAVE** **The pit or cave in which a dead body is buried**. The variety of grave sites used by the Hebrews was determined by several factors: the circumstances of death, the surrounding terrain, and the time available for preparation and burial…. In New Testament times graves were whitewashed each spring so people could see them easily and avoid touching them to prevent ritual defilement during the Passover and Pentecost pilgrimages (Matt. 23:27; compare Luke 11:44)…**In Hebrew thought graves were not simply places to deposit human remains. They were in a sense extensions of Sheol, the place of the dead**. Since the realm of Sheol was threatening and since each grave was an individual expression of Sheol, the Israelites avoided burial sites when possible and treated them with circumspection. They performed purification rites when contact was unavoidable. See ***Death***; ***Eternal Life***; ***Sheol***.

*Holman Bible Dictionary*

# Sheol

**SHEOL** The abode of the dead in Hebrew thought. Sheol was thought to be deep within the earth (Ps. 88:6; Ezek. 26:20; 31:14-15; Amos 9:2) and was entered by crossing a river (Job 33:18). Sheol is pictured as a city with gates (Isa. 38:10), a place of ruins (Ezek. 26:20), or a trap (2 Sam. 22:6; Ps. 18:5). Sheol is sometimes personified as a hungry beast (Pr. 27:20; Isa. 5:14; Hab. 2:5) with an open mouth and an insatiable appetite. Sheol is described as a place of dust (Ps. 30:9; Job 17:16) and of gloom and darkness (Job. 10:21)…**Sheol was regarded as the abode of all the dead, *both righteous and wicked* (Job 30:23).** It was, in fact, regarded as a consolation that none escaped death (Ps. 49:10-12; Ezek. 31:16). **Only once does the Old Testament speak of Sheol specifically as the abode of the wicked (Ps. 9:17).** Some earthly distinctions were regarded as continuing in Sheol. Thus kings have thrones (Isa. 14:9); and warriors possess weapons and shields (Ezek. 32:27). Here the biblical writers possibly mocked the views of their neighbors. Ezekiel 32:18-30 pictures the dead as grouped by nation with the crucial distinction between the circumcised and uncircumcised continuing in the grave.

*Holman Bible Dictionary*

# Hades

**HADES** (*hay' deess*) **the abode of the dead**. *In the King James Version* of the Bible, **the Greek word is generally translated "hell."**

It differs, however, from the term "**Gehenna," which more precisely refers to hell.** Hades is the Greek equivalent of the Hebrew term "Sheol," which refers in general to the place of the dead. See ***Hell***.

*Holman Bible Dictionary*

# Gehenna

**GEHENNA** (*geh hehn' na*) English transliteration of the Greek word that is a transliteration of the Hebrew place name meaning, "valley of whining" or "valley of lamentation" and came to be used in New Testament times as a word for hell. See ***Hinnom***.

In the period between the Old and New Testaments Jewish writing used the term to describe the hell of fire in the final judgment….**The New Testament uses Gehenna to speak of the place of final judgment**. Jesus warned that those who called another, "Thou fool," faced the danger of the fire of Gehenna (Matt. 5:22). He taught it is better to destroy a part of one's body than to have one's whole body thrown into Gehenna (Matt. 5:29; 18:9; Mark 9:43,45,47). In Gehenna worms are constantly at work in a fiery environment that burns forever (Mark 9:48

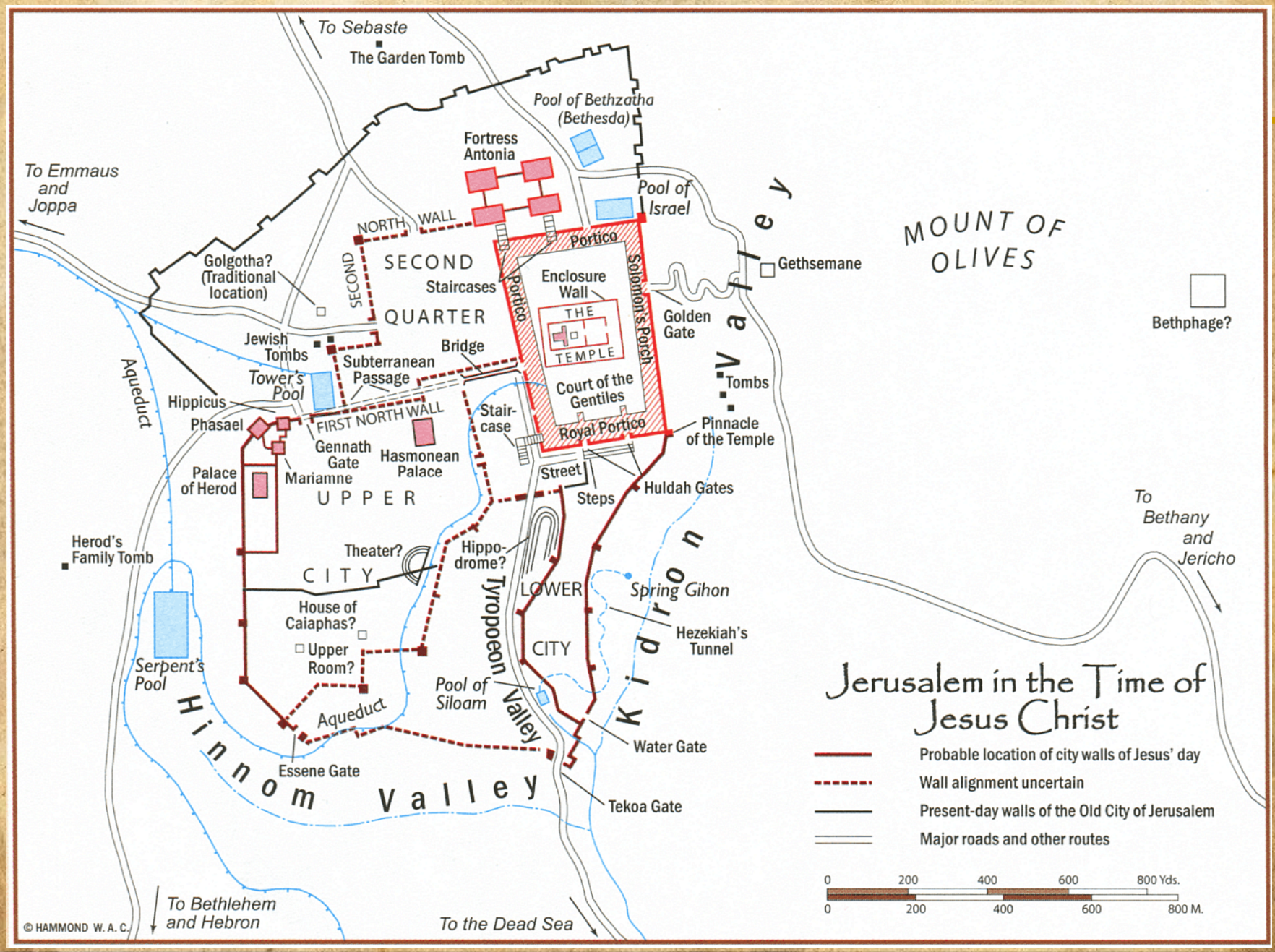
*Holman Bible Dictionary*

# Hinnom

**HINNOM, VALLEY OF** (*hihn' nahm*) Place name of uncertain meaning; also called the valley of the son(s) of Hinnom. The valley lies in close proximity to Jerusalem (2 Kings 23:10), just south of the ancient city (Josh. 15:8). The valley had a somewhat unglamorous history during the Old Testament period. The **worshipers of the pagan deities, Baal and Molech, practiced child sacrifice in the valley of Hinnom** (2 Kings 23:10). The first specific mention of human sacrifice in **Israel** is in 2 Kings 16:3 and in **Judah** is in 2 Kings 17:17. The parallel passage in 2 Chronicles 28:3 indicates that the scene of the abomination was the valley of Hinnom.

The phrase "valley of Hinnom" in Hebrew may be transliterated ge-hinnom. The reputation of the valley was understood by the writers of the New Testament who transliterated the word into Greek as gehenna. That is the word attributed to Jesus as one of the several designations for hell (Matt. 5:22). Because of its ancient association with fiery sacrifices, the valley came to symbolize the place of torment reserved for those who reject God's offer of salvation. See ***Baal***; ***Gehenna***; ***Hell***; ***Jerusalem***; Molech.

*Holman Bible Dictionary*


To Sebaste
The Garden Tomb
Pool of Bethzatha (Bethesda)
Fortress Antonia
To Emmaus and Joppa
Pool of Israel
NORTH WALL
SECOND QUARTER
Golgotha? (Traditional location)
Staircases
Portico
Enclosure Wall
THE TEMPLE
Solomon's Porch
Golden Gate
Gethsemane
MOUNT OF OLIVES
Bethphage?
Jewish Tombs
Bridge
Subterranean Passage
Tower's Pool
Aqueduct
Hippicus
Phasael
FIRST NORTH WALL
Court of the Gentiles
Tombs
Stair-case
Royal Portico
Pinnacle of the Temple
Gennath Gate
Hasmonean Palace
Palace of Herod
Mariamne
UPPER CITY
Street
Steps
Huldah Gates
To Bethany and Jericho
Herod's Family Tomb
Theater?
Hippo-drome?
LOWER CITY
Spring Gihon
House of Caiaphas?
Upper Room?
Hezekiah's Tunnel
Serpent's Pool
Pool of Siloam
Tyropoeon Valley
Kidron Valley
Hinnom Valley
Aqueduct
Water Gate
Essene Gate
Tekoa Gate
To Bethlehem and Hebron
To the Dead Sea
© HAMMOND W. A. C.
Jerusalem in the Time of Jesus Christ
Probable location of city walls of Jesus' day
Wall alignment uncertain
Present-day walls of the Old City of Jerusalem
Major roads and other routes
0 200 400 600 800 Yds.
0 200 400 600 800 M.


alSawana
The Islamic Quarter
Mount of Olives
Christian Quarter
Old City
Moriah
Zion
Temple Mount
The Jewish Quarter
City of David
Gihon
Ma'ale ha-Zeitim
Kidron Valley Kidron
Mount Zion
Silwan
Topheth
Serpent's Stone
En-rogel
1949 Armistice Agreement Line
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# Hell

**HELL** In the **Old Testament** this is the word generally and **unfortunately** used by our translators to render the Hebrew *Sheol*. It (ed., Sheol) really means the place of the dead, the unseen world, without deciding whether it be the place of misery or of happiness. It is clear that in many passages of the Old Testament *Sheol* can only mean "the grave," and is rendered in the Authorized Version; see, for example, Gene 37:35; 42:38; 1 Sam 2:6; Job 14:13. In other passages, however, it seems to Involve a notion of punishment, and is therefore rendered in the Authorized Version by the word "hell…"

Elsewhere in the New Testament Hades is used of **a place of torment**, Matt 11:23; Luke 16:23; 2 Pet 2:4 etc.; consequently it has been the prevalent, almost the universal, notion that **Hades is an *intermediate state* between death and resurrection**, divided into two parts one the abode of the blest and the other of the lost

*Smith's Bible Dictionary: Comprising Antiquities, Biography, Geography, Natural History, Archaeology and Literature*

# The Grave

Sheol,
Hades

**Gehenna,
Hell**


I am a fool
for
Jesus...


Whose fool
are
You?


VideoScribe




ABANDON ALL
HOPE, YE WHO
ENTER HERE.

# What Do People Think About Hell?



# Helpful Hints In Interpretation

## ❖ According to Translations…

- Translations vary:
  - ✓ CJB uses “Sh’ol below”
  - ✓ KJV uses “Hell from beneath”
  - ✓ NASB uses “Sheol from beneath”
  - ✓ NIV 2011 uses “The realm of the dead below”
  - ✓ NLT uses “In the place of the dead”

# # References to *Sheol*

- **Variations from Different Interpretations**
  - **Old Testament**
    - ✓ 67 (NASB)
    - ✓ 0 (KJV)
    - ✓ 0 (CJB)
    - ✓ 65 (Hebrew-English Interlinear)

# # References to *Pit*

- **Variations from Different Interpretations**
  - **New Testament**
    - ✓ 7 (NASB)
    - ✓ 11 (KJV)
    - ✓ 6 (CJB)
    - ✓ 3 (Greek-English Interlinear)
  - **Old Testament**
    - ✓ 70 (NASB)
    - ✓ 77 (KJV)
    - ✓ 33 (CJB)
    - ✓ 155 (Hebrew-English Interlinear)

# # References to *Grave*

- **Variations from Different Interpretations**
  - **New Testament**
    - ✓ 5 (NASB)
    - ✓ 8 (KJV)
    - ✓ 7 (CJB)
    - ✓ 6 (Greek-English Interlinear)
  - **Old Testament**
    - ✓ 36 (NASB)
    - ✓ 59 (KJV)
    - ✓ 22 (CJB)
    - ✓ 81 (Hebrew-English Interlinear)

# # References to *Hades*

- **Variations from Different Interpretations**
  - **New Testament**
    - ✓ 10 (NASB)
    - ✓ 0 (KJV)
    - ✓ 0 (CJB)
    - ✓ 8 (Greek-English Interlinear)

# # References to *Abyss*

- Variations from Different Interpretations
  - **New Testament**
    - ✓ 7 (NASB)
    - ✓ 0 (KJV)
    - ✓ 7 (CJB)
    - ✓ 9 (Greek-English Interlinear)
  - **Old Testament**
    - ✓ 2 (CBJ)

# # References to *Gehenna-Hell*

- Variations from Different Interpretations
  - **New Testament**
    - ✓ 13 Hell; 0 Gehenna (NASB)
    - ✓ 23 Hell; 0 Gehenna (KJV)
    - ✓ 0 (CJB)
    - ✓ 4 Hell; 8 Gehenna (Greek-English Interlinear)
  - **Old Testament**
    - ✓ 31 Hell; 0 Gehenna (KJV)

# The Environments of Heaven & Hell

# Hell

# Purpose of *Hell*

- Purpose of ***Hell***
  - God has given mankind free will to make his own choices regarding God's existence
  - After thousands of years (and many "dispositions") mankind has proven that he cannot remain obedient to God
  - God provided His "Son" (Jesus) to provide a way for mankind to receive His Grace
  - Those who reject the "Gift" have no right to remain in His presence for eternity

# Purpose of *Hell*

- Purpose of ***Hell*** *- (cont'd)*
  - God's WORD provides a clear picture of the nature of hell to deter those who continue to deny the Deity of Jesus
  - Those who harden their hearts against Gospel Message will find themselves there for eternity
    - Where the "worm" does not die
    - Where the "fire" is not quenched
    - Where they will be in isolation from others

# Variations on Nature of *Hell*

- **Its Name - A Place of…*Everlasting* Torment**
  - Fire (Matt 3:12; 13:41-42; Mark 9:43; Rev 20:15)
  - Thirst, memory/remorse (Luke 16:19-31)
  - Frustration & anger (Matt 13:42; 24:51)
  - Prepared for Satan & his hosts (Matt 25:41)
  - Separation (Rev 2:11; 20:6, 14)
  - Endless torment, misery & pain (Rev 14:10-11)
  - Undiluted Divine wrath of God (Rev 14:10)
  - Created for eternity (Matt 25:46; Jude 7; Rev 20:10)
  - The body has no strength (Ps 88:3)

# *More About Hell…*

- **Where is it?**
  - Opposite of Heaven *(Matt 11:23-2; Luke 10:15)*
  - Down…*(Psalm 55:15; Isa 14:9-11)*
  - Into darkness *(Ps 88:11; 2 Peter 2:4)*
- **What actually goes there?**
  - The spiritual body *(Matt 5:30; 1 Cor 6:13, 15:35-50)*
  - *The soul (Gen 35:18)*
  - The body & the soul *(Matt 10:28)*
  - *The complete "You" (Luke 12:4-5)*

# Jesus Teaches About *Hell*

- **A Place of…*Everlasting* Torment**
  - Prepared in advance for:
    - ✓ Satan (*Matt 25:41*)
    - ✓ Satan's angels (*Matt 25:41; 2 Peter 2:4*)
    - ✓ His demons *(Luke 8:31)*
    - ✓ Cities who reject God *(Luke 10:8-15; Matt 11:20-24 )*
    - ✓ People who reject Jesus *(Matt 8:8-12; 22:1-14; 25: 42-46; Luke 13:22-28)*
    - ✓ Hypocrites…those who reject the prophets, wise men, and teachers (*Matt 23:33-36; Luke 16:22-31*)

# Jesus Teaches About *Hell*

- **A Place of…*Everlasting* Torment** - *(cont'd)*
  - Prepared in advance for:
    - ✓ Those who use hateful language *(Matt 5:21-22)*
    - ✓ Those who not faithful & wise servants *(Matt 24:45-51; 15:5-8; 25: 14-30; Luke 12:42-46)*
    - ✓ Those who are not repentant…remorseful for their sins *(Matt 5:29-30; 18:7-9; Mark 9:42-48)*
    - ✓ False prophets *(Matt 7:15-20)*
    - ✓ All who do evil *(Matt 13:36-43; 47-50)*

# Scriptural References People in *Hell*

- **Specifics…**
  - **Luke 16:22-23:** ***The Rich Man and Lazarus***
    - ✓ He begged to have **Lazarus** sent over to give him some **water. Abraham replied** that that was not possible and that he should **remember that** during his life he had everything he wanted **while Lazarus** had nothing.
  - **Isaiah 14:9-11:** ***Belshazzar or Sennacherib***
    - ✓ His arrival in the *abode of the dead* is greeted by the spirits of other kings and leaders of the world that went there before him.

# Heaven

# Exactly What is *"Heaven"*?

- ***"Heaven"*** **is Part of God's *Creation***
  - The ***place*** from which God created:
    - ✓ The "heavens and the earth" *(Gen 1:1)*
    - ✓ "Stars" to take away the darkness *(Gen 1:3-5)*
    - ✓ The "sky," or atmosphere *(Gen 1:6-8)*
    - ✓ The dry earth and the seas *(Gen 1:9-10)*
    - ✓ The vegetation on the earth *(Gen 1:11-13)*
    - ✓ The sun & moon *(Gen 1:19)*
    - ✓ The fish in the seas & birds of the air *(Gen 1:20-23)*
    - ✓ Other living creatures - animals *(Gen 1:24-25)*

# Exactly What is *"Heaven"?*

- The ***place*** from which God created: - *(cont'd)*
  - ✓ Man, in His image & likeness *(Gen 1:26-27)*
  - ✓ Man's "soul" as He breathed "life" into man's nostrils *(Gen 2:7)*
  - ✓ The place of God's throne *(Isa 66:1)*
  - ✓ Heaven is ***not*** where God perpetually resides, rather than simply His "base camp." *(1 Kings 8:27; Ps 139:7-16; Isa 66:1)*

# What is *"Heaven"* (Summarized)

- **Heaven is God's *"Homeplate"***
  - God's Throne is there
  - It is the abode of the Triune God
  - God cannot be contained to one place…He is omnipresence
    - ✓ God is free from the laws or limitations of space *(see Psalm 139:7-10; Jeremiah 23:23-24; Hebrews 1:3; Acts 17:27-28)*
    - ✓ God is Spirit, and His infinite presence is to be regarded as invincible

# What God Does From *Heaven*...

- The earth's *physical state* ( *Job 38:4-11*)
- Provides for the needs of the earth's creatures *(Ps 147:8-9)*
- He inflicts *judgement & Discipline* on mankind such as the flood *(Gen 6:17)*
- He provides for His people *(Exodus 16:4; Joshua 10:6-15)*

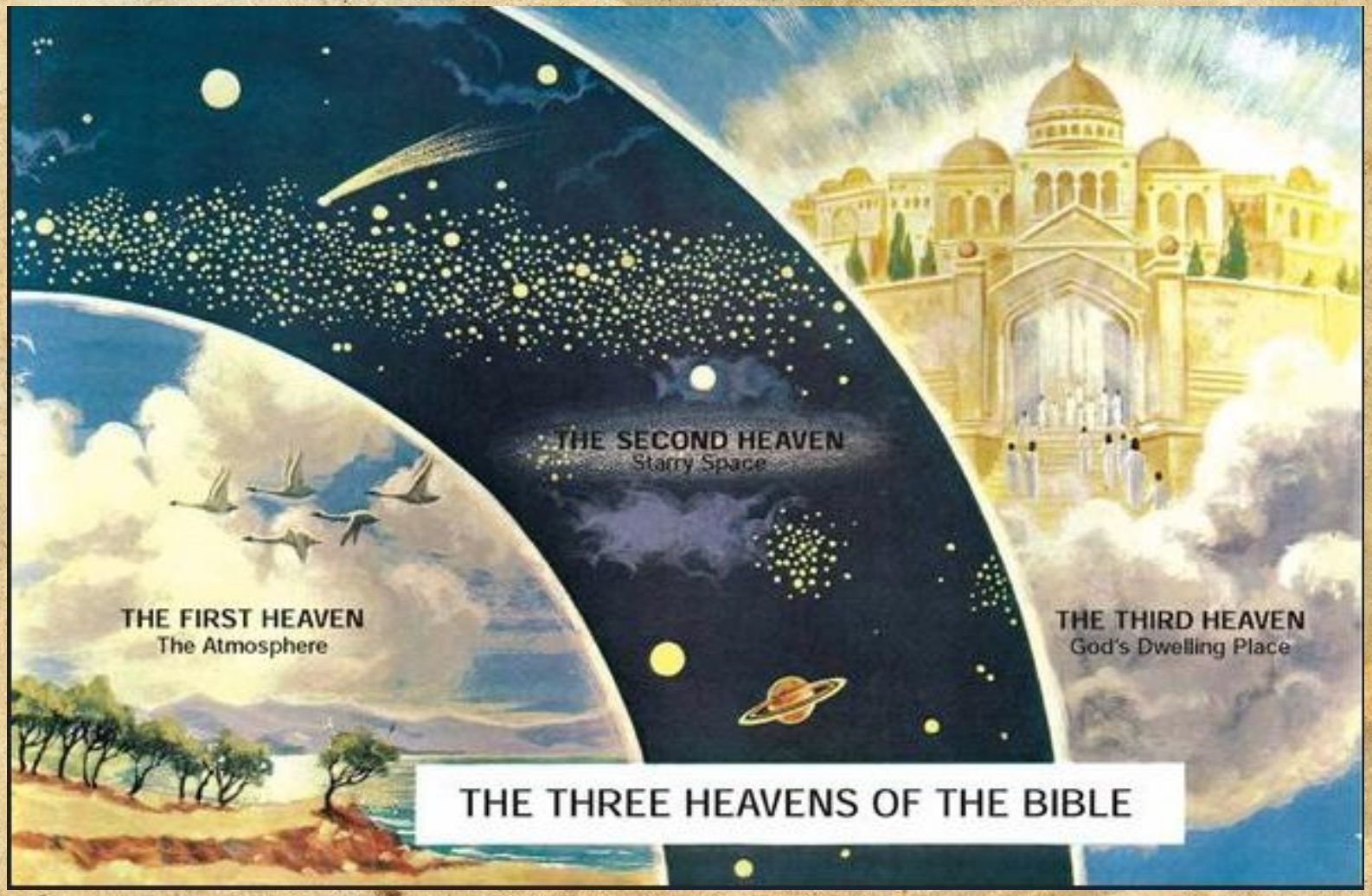
# Where is *"Heaven"?*

- **Scripture reveals three heavens**
  - It specifically identifies a "third heaven" in *(2 Cor. 12:2)* which is the abode of the Triune God. Its location is unrevealed.
  - Logically, a third cannot exist without a first and second, but the Bible does not describe the first and second heaven.
    - The first likely refers to the atmospheric heavens (i.e., the "sky" where birds fly, clouds appear, and weather originates).
    - The second heaven is likely where the planets and stars reside.

# Where is *"Heaven"?*

- **Scripture reveals three heavens** – *cont'd*
  - In (2 Cor. 12:4, Paul refers to the "third heaven" as ***"Paradise"***
  - So, are ***Heaven*** and ***Paradise*** one and the same?
    - ✓ Luke 23:43; 2 Cor. 12:4; Rev. 2:7) directly relate *"Paradise"* to *"Heaven"*
    - ✓ ***"The tree of life"*** – was in the Garden of Eden which was the perfected creation of God prior to man's first disobedient act against Him, resulting in Adam and Eve being driven out of the garden…
    - ✓ The environment God offered us initially is where He wants to bring us at the end of the age.

# A Traditional View of the 3 *Heavens*



# Paradise, Heaven, & *"Abraham's Bosom"*

- **Jesus Tells Us About the Rich Man & Lazarus *(Luke 16:19-31)***
  - The rich man who valued material things at the loss of the spiritual died and wound up in ***Hell*** where he was in great torment
  - The poor man who relied on God to care for his every need died and went to *"Abraham's Bosom"* where he was comforted
- **Jesus Talks About a Feast in Heaven *(Matt 8:11)***

# A Link to *"Abraham's Bosom"*?

- **OT Tradition**
  - Abraham is held in such high esteem that the Jews considered him as being the one who would welcome them at the gate of Heaven
  - Abraham is:
    - *The father of the Jewish people*
    - *The origin of God's blessings to the Jewish people*
    - *The name is used to identify God's people (i.e., "the God of Abraham").*

# A Link to *"Abraham's Bosom"*?

- **OT Tradition** – *(cont'd)*
  - Jewish history begins with *Abraham*
  - ***Jesus*** culminates Jewish history *(Matt 1:17)*
  - *"…to be in Abraham's Bosom"* was to be in a position of honor," a place of comfort, rest
  - Abraham was thought of as a kind of "gate-keeper" to Heaven
  - Effectively, *Abraham's Bosom* is a ***Heavenly*** *abode before God creates the* ***New Heaven*** *&* ***Earth***

# Has Anyone Seen *Heaven?*

- **Paul, the Apostle** *(2 Cor 12:1-7)*
  - **12:2** "Caught up" is a form of the Greek word *harpazoµg,* the same word used in *1 Thess. 4:17* in reference to the rapture of the church. Paul was "raptured" to the *third heaven*.
    - The dwelling place of Christ and the saints, which Jesus called **paradise** (Luke 23:43; Rev. 2:7; Rev 7:9-17)
    - Temporal and spatial sensations were absent (**whether he was in the body or apart from the body he did not know**)
    - What he heard he was forbidden to communicate, possibly because it applied to him alone

*The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures by Dallas Seminary Faculty.*

# Where Do Believers Go When They Die?

- **Jesus Says in *John 14:1-4…***
  - That He has prepared a place for us there
  - That He will *come back* for us *to take us there*
- Paul Says in ***1 Thess 4:13-17…***
  - "According to the Lord's own word"
    - ✓ We who are still alive at his 2nd Coming will not precede those who have fallen asleep
    - ✓ The Lord will come down from Heaven

# Where Do Believers Go When They Die?

- **Summary…**
  - We /they go *"to be with the Lord"*
    - ✓ *Abraham's Bosom*
    - ✓ *Heaven*
    - ✓ *Paradise*

# The Required *Passport* to *"Heaven"*

- **The *<u>Narrow Gate</u>*…**
  - Those who are born again…those who receive the 2nd breath of God's Spirit which overcomes their iniquities by the atoning work of Jesus (i.e., the scourging & crucifixion)
  - Those who allow the Holy Spirit to continue to nurture your relationship with Jesus

# Citizens of *Heaven*

- **Who will be There?**
  - Thousands of angels (*Rev. 5:11*)
  - Those who are raptured *(1 Thess 4:13-18)*
  - Those who *will become believers* during the Great Tribulation *(Rev 7:9-17; 20:4-6)*
  - At the 1st Resurrection
    - ✓ The OT saints *(Dan 12:1-4)*

# Experiences in *Heaven*

- **What Will We All Experience?**
  - Glorified bodies (1 Cor 15:42-55)
  - Completely free from corruption (Rev. 21:27)
  - Beauty (Ps. 50:2)
  - Unity of all things with Christ (Eph. 1:10)
  - Perfection (1 Cor. 13:10)
  - Joy, eternal pleasurable things (Ps. 16:11)
  - No tears (Rev. 7:17; 21:4)

# Experiences in *Heaven*

- **What Will We All Experience?** *(cont'd)*
  - No death (Isa. 25:8; 1 Cor. 15:26; Rev. 21:4)
  - No thirst or hunger (Rev. 7:16)
  - No sin or judgment (Rev. 21:27; 22:3)
  - No need for sun or moon (Rev. 21:23)
  - No night (Rev. 21:25; 22:5)
  - No remembrance of things past (Isa 65:17-25)

# The Eternal *Heaven*

- **How Long Will It Last?**
  - Forever (Ps. 23:6; John 3:15; Rev. 22:5)


VideoScribe

# The Bottom Line…

## Psalm 49

# OT View of Heaven, Earth, Sheol

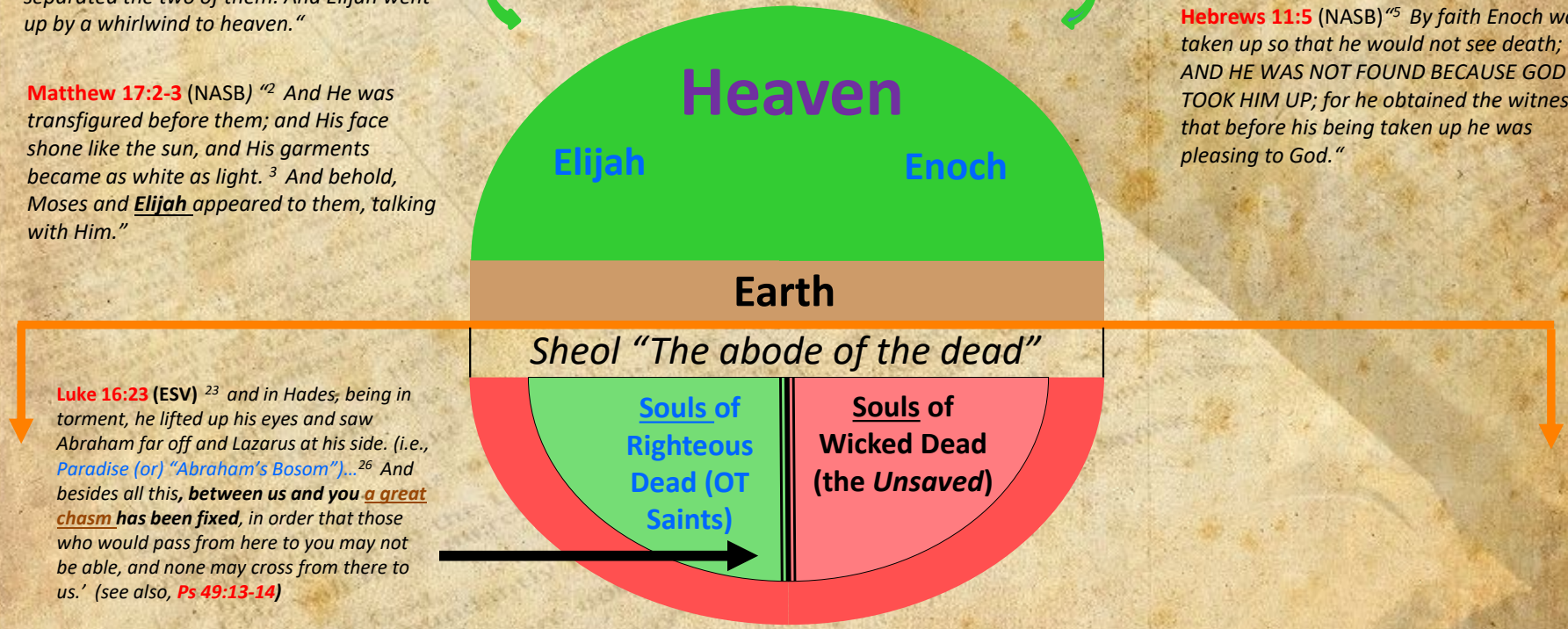
## OK, Let's Finish the Illustrations…

# OT View With Unique OT Saints

**2 Kings 2:11** (NASB) *"11 As they were going along and talking, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire and horses of fire which separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind to heaven."*

**Matthew 17:2-3** (NASB) *"2 And He was transfigured before them; and His face shone like the sun, and His garments became as white as light. 3 And behold, Moses and **Elijah** appeared to them, talking with Him."*

***Neither Elijah nor Enoch experienced death, but went straight to Heaven.***




**Genesis 5:24** (NASB) *"24 Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him."*

**Hebrews 11:5** (NASB) *"5 By faith Enoch was taken up so that he would not see death; AND HE WAS NOT FOUND BECAUSE GOD TOOK HIM UP; for he obtained the witness that before his being taken up he was pleasing to God."*

**Luke 16:23 (ESV)** *23 and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. (i.e., Paradise (or) "Abraham's Bosom")...26 And besides all this, **between us and you a great chasm has been fixed**, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.' (see also, **Ps 49:13-14**)*

# OT View With *One More* OT Saint

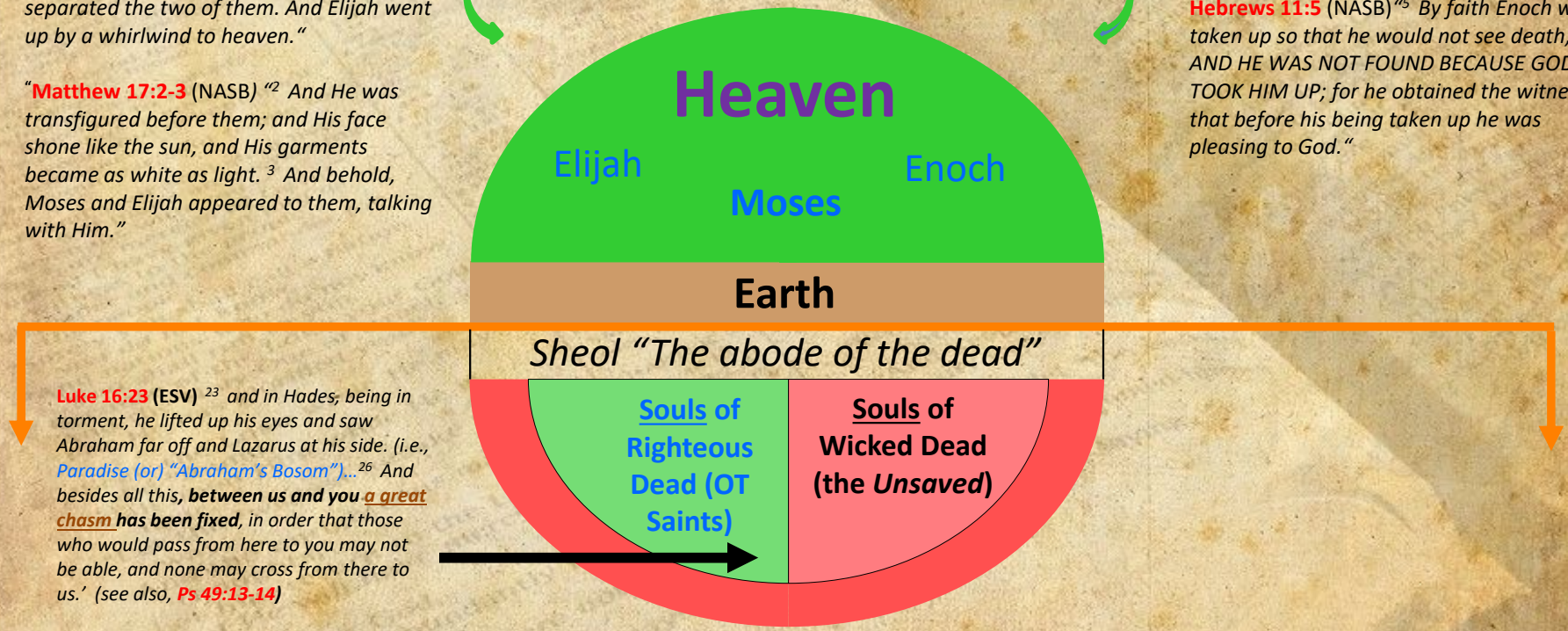
***Referencing Deut 34:1-6 & Matt 17:1-3 I think Moses also went to Heaven after he died, bypassing "The abode of the dead"***

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# OT View of Heaven, Earth, Sheol

**So, Who or What are Currently Occupying the "place of the wicked dead"?**

# OT View With Unique OT Saints

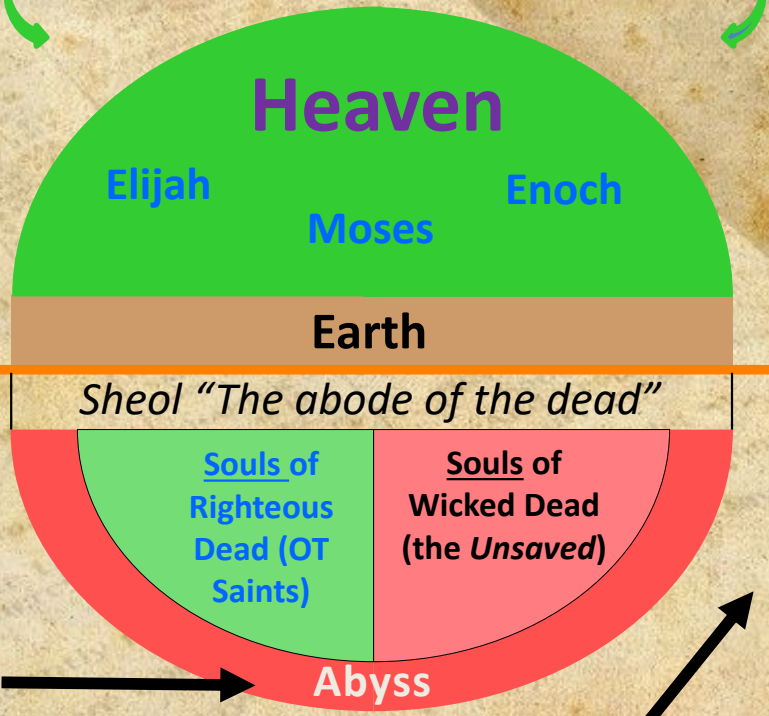
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***Referencing Deut 34:1-6 & Matt 17:1-3 I think Moses also went to Heaven after he died, bypassing "The abode of the dead"***

**Genesis 5:24** (NASB) "[24] *Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him."*

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The worst of the fallen angels (demons?)

**Jude 1:6** (ESV) "Jude 6 *And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority…he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day —" (see also Luke 8:31; Rev 9:1-12)*

**2 Peter 2:4-5** (ESV) 2Pe 4 *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."*

He will also send evil kings and nations *(nations are made up of people)* to "the abode of the wicked dead"

***Psalm 9:17***
***Isaiah 14:9-11***
***Ezekiel 26:19-21***
***Ezekiel 32:18-30***

# OT *FINAL* View

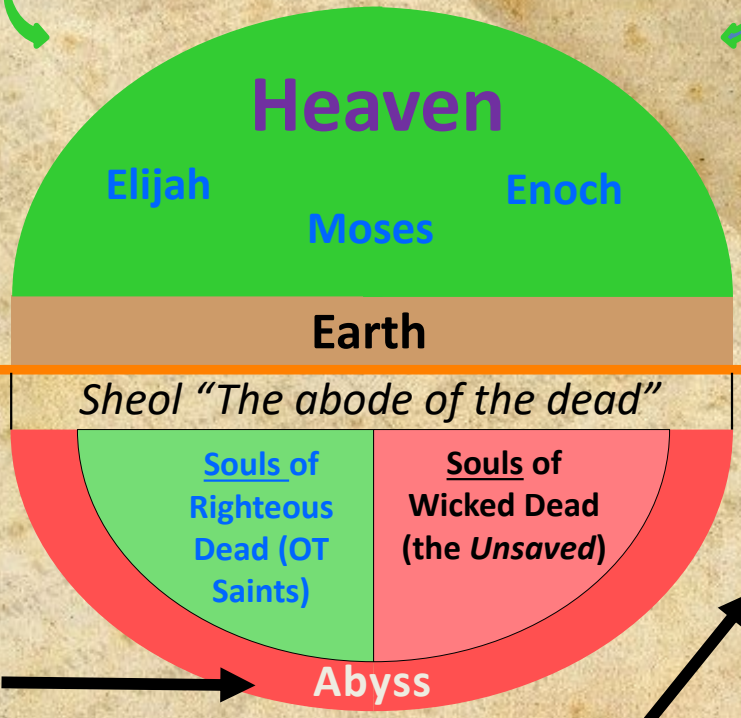
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**NOTE**: According to Dan 12:1-2, the spirits of the OT Saints remain in Sheol until Christ's 2nd Advent.

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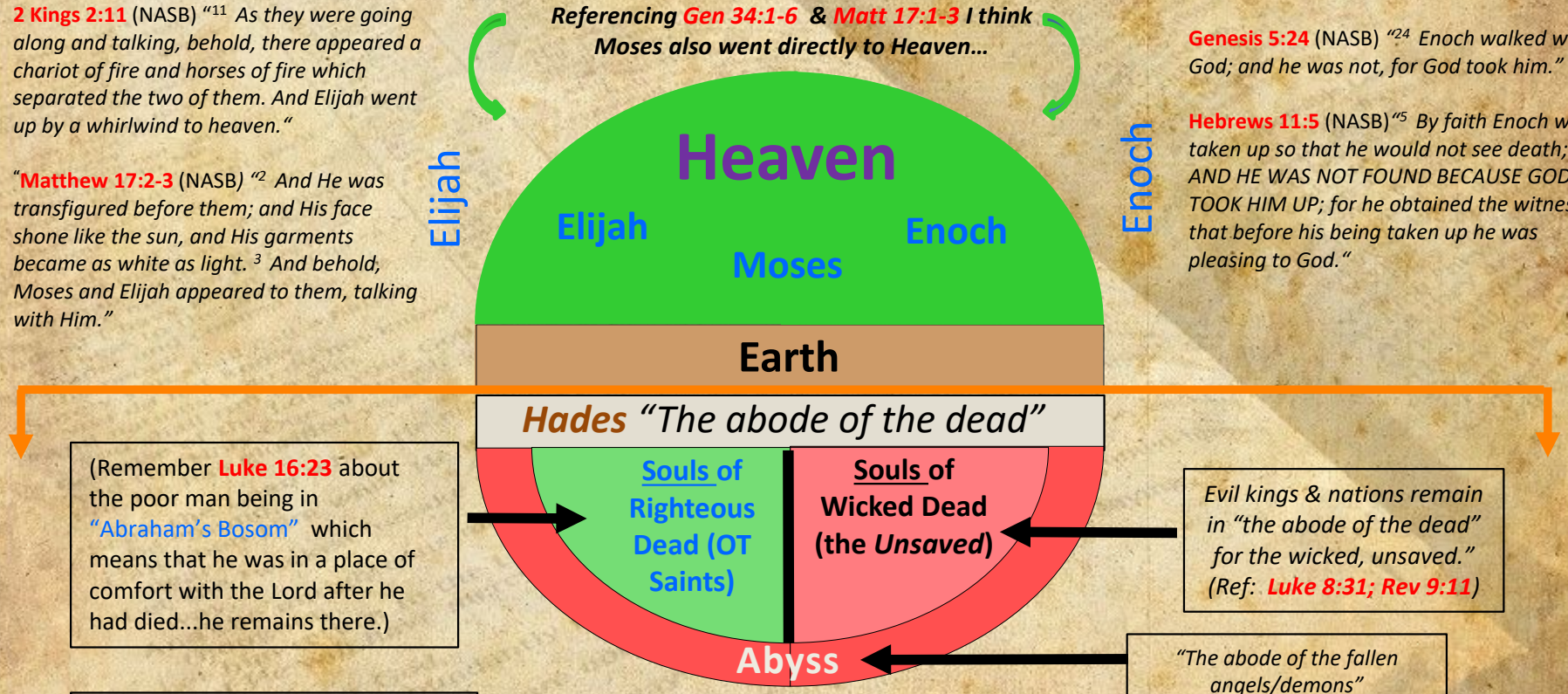
# *NT View* of Heaven, Earth, Hades

## (*BEFORE* Jesus' Death on the Cross)

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(Remember **Luke 16:23** about the poor man being in "Abraham's Bosom" which means that he was in a place of comfort with the Lord after he had died...he remains there.)

According to **Dan 12:1**, the spirits of the OT Saints remain in "the abode of the dead" *(of righteous OT saints)* until ***Christ's 2nd Advent***.

*Evil kings & nations remain in "the abode of the dead" for the wicked, unsaved." (Ref: **Luke 8:31; Rev 9:11**)*

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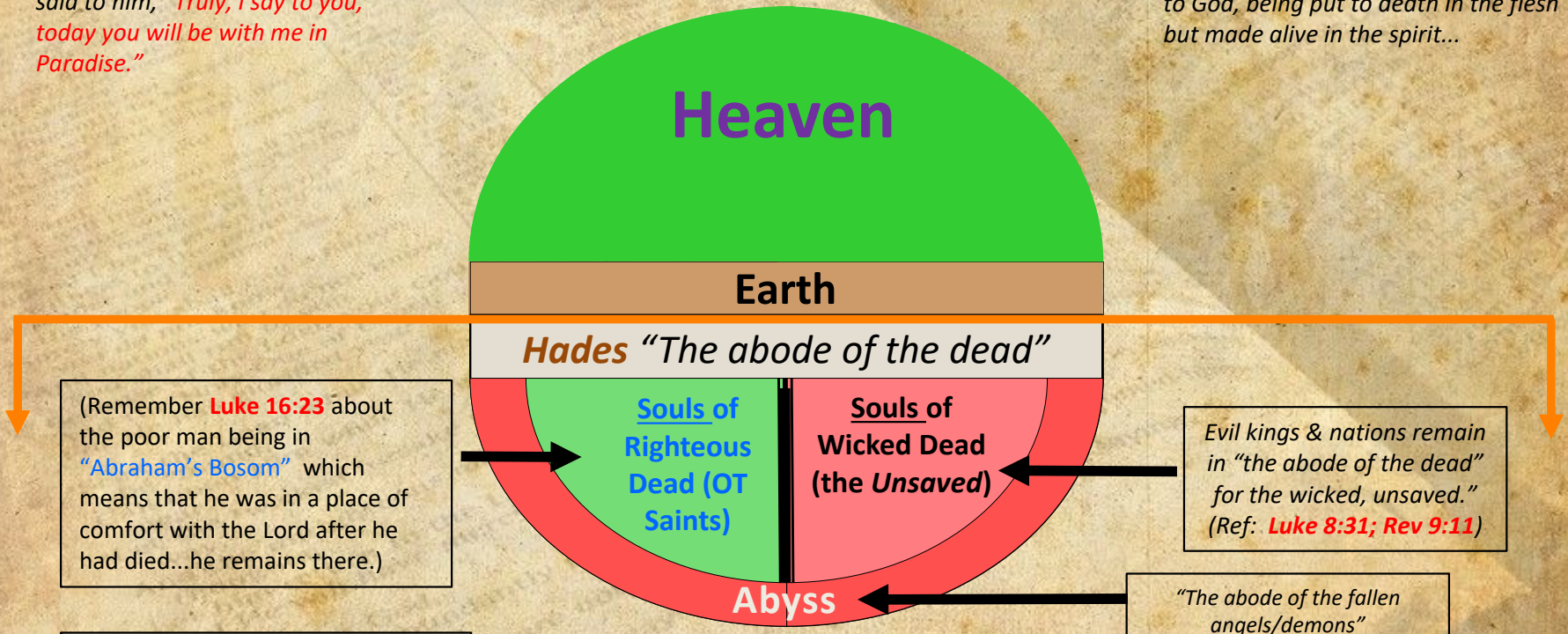
# NT View of Heaven, Earth, Hades

## (*AT THE TIME OF* Jesus' Death on the Cross)

**Luke 23:42-43 (ESV)** *"42 And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." 43 And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."*

**Matthew 27:50 (ESV)** *50 And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit."*

**1 Peter 3:18 (ESV)** *18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit...*




(Remember **Luke 16:23** about the poor man being in "Abraham's Bosom" which means that he was in a place of comfort with the Lord after he had died...he remains there.)

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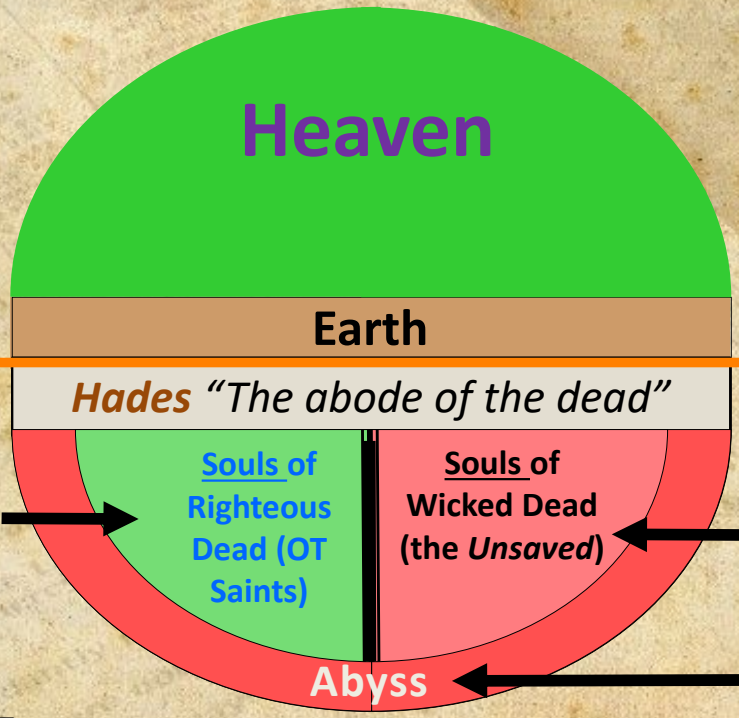
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*"The abode of the fallen angels/demons" (Ref: **Luke 8:31; Rev 9:11**)*

# NT View of Heaven, Earth, Hades

## (*AFTER* Jesus' Death on the Cross He is Buried)

**Matthew 27:57-60 (NASB)** [57] When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who himself had also become a disciple of Jesus…took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, [60] and laid it in his own new tomb….and he rolled a large stone against the entrance of the tomb and went away.




(Remember **Luke 16:23** about the poor man being in "Abraham's Bosom" which means that he was in a place of comfort with the Lord after he had died…he remains there.)

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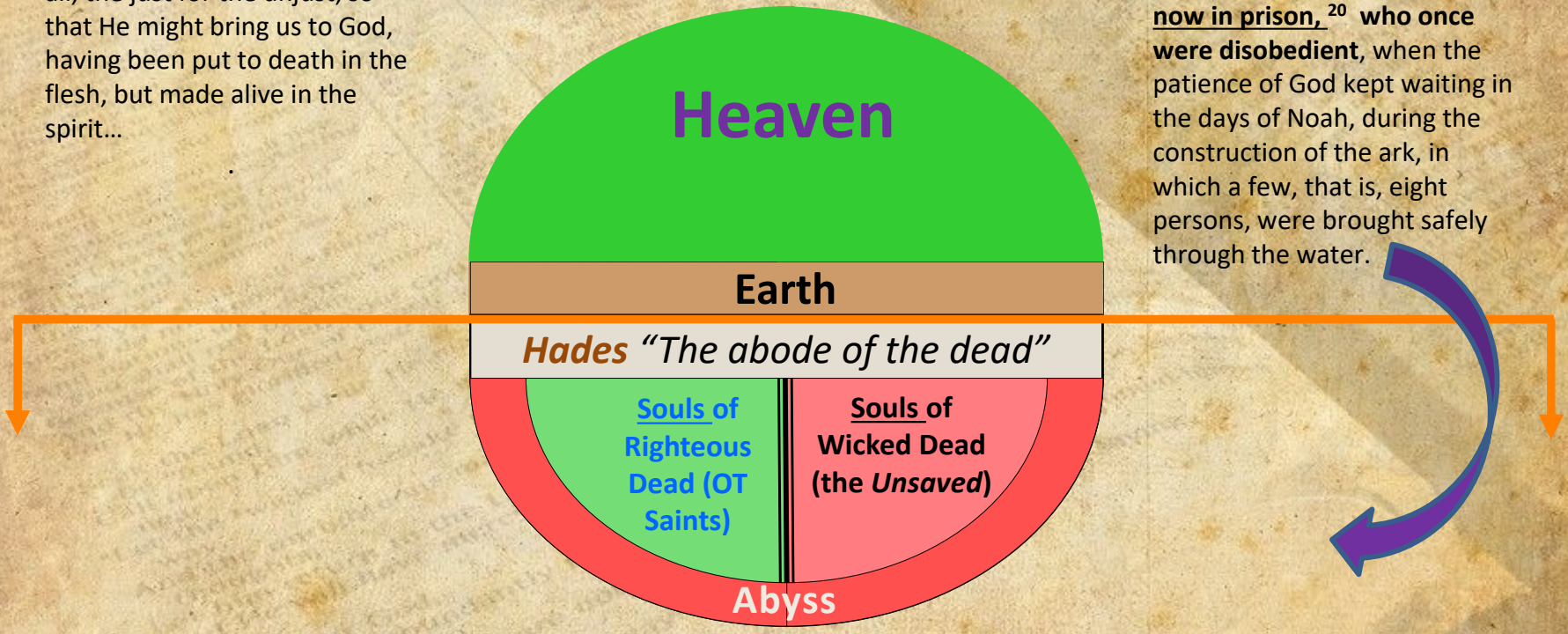
*"The abode of the fallen angels/demons" (Ref: **Luke 8:31; Rev 9:11**)*

**Everyone's soul at this point remains in "Hades, the abode of the dead" as before.**

# NT View of Heaven, Earth, Hades

## (*AFTER* Jesus's Death & Burial, He Descends…)

**1 Peter 3:18** (NASB) [18] For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit…



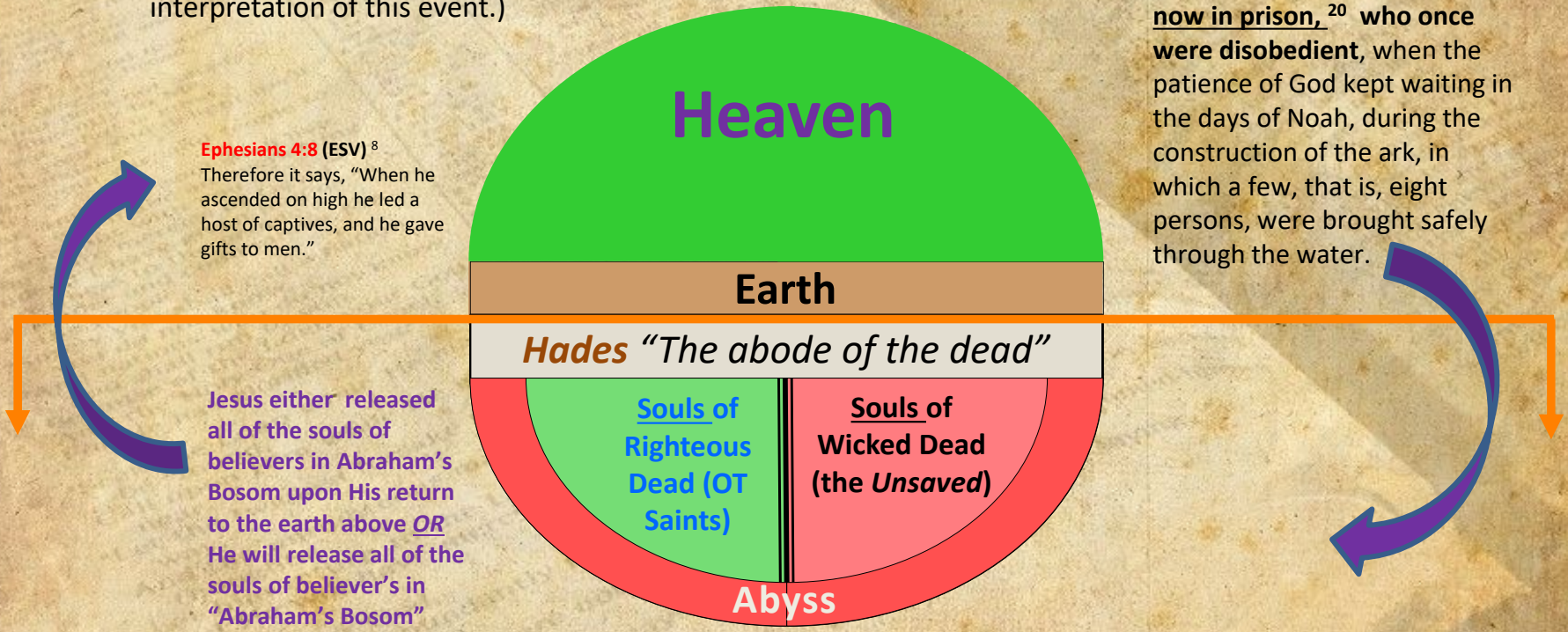

**1 Peter 3:19-20** (NASB) …[19] in which also **He went and made proclamation to the spirits now in prison, [20] who once were disobedient**, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the water.

# NT View of Heaven, Earth, Hades

## (*AFTER* Jesus's Descent, He Ascends, Releasing the Righteous Dead)

(**NOTE:** There are considerable variations in the interpretation of this event.)

**Ephesians 4:8 (ESV)** [8] Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men."



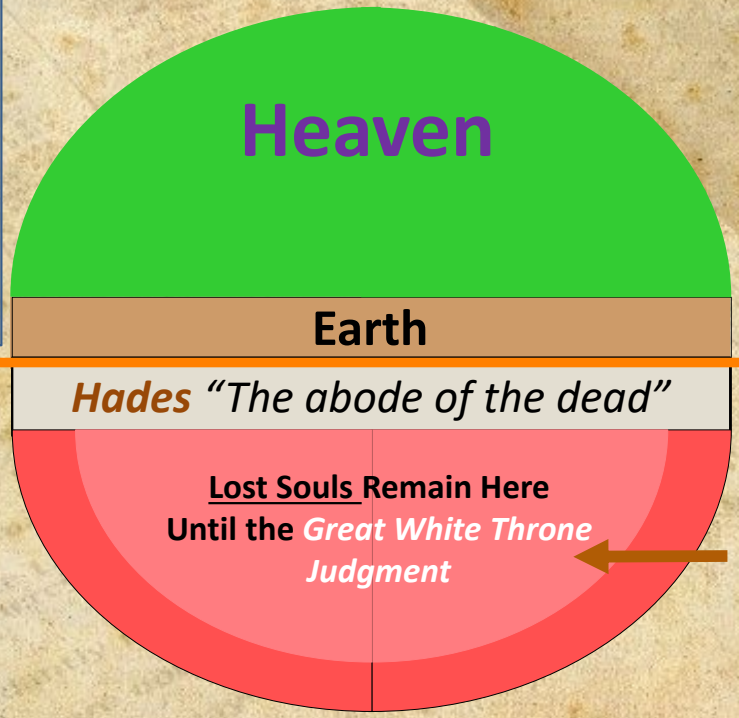

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**Jesus either released all of the souls of believers in Abraham's Bosom upon His return to the earth above *OR* He will release all of the souls of believer's in "Abraham's Bosom" when He ascends to Heaven *(see Acts 1:7-11)***

# NT View of Heaven, Earth, Hades

## (*AFTER* Jesus' ascends from the abode of the dead)

**John 20:1-17 (NASB)** [1] …Mary Magdalene *came early to the tomb…saw the stone *already* taken away from the tomb…so, as she wept…she saw Jesus standing *there,* and did not know that it was Jesus. Supposing Him to be the gardener, she *said to Him, "Sir, if you have carried Him away, tell me where you have laid Him..,[16] Jesus *said to her, "Mary!" She turned and *said to Him in Hebrew, "Rabboni!" (which means, Teacher)."




**John 20:19-23 (NASB)** [19] So when it was evening on that day, the first day of the week…Jesus came and stood in their midst…The disciples then rejoiced when they saw the Lord. [21] So Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you." [22] And when He had said this, He breathed on them and *said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. "

*NOTE: After Jesus' ascent back to the earth's surface **OR** after His Resurrection, only the souls of **unbelievers** will go here to join those who preceded them.*

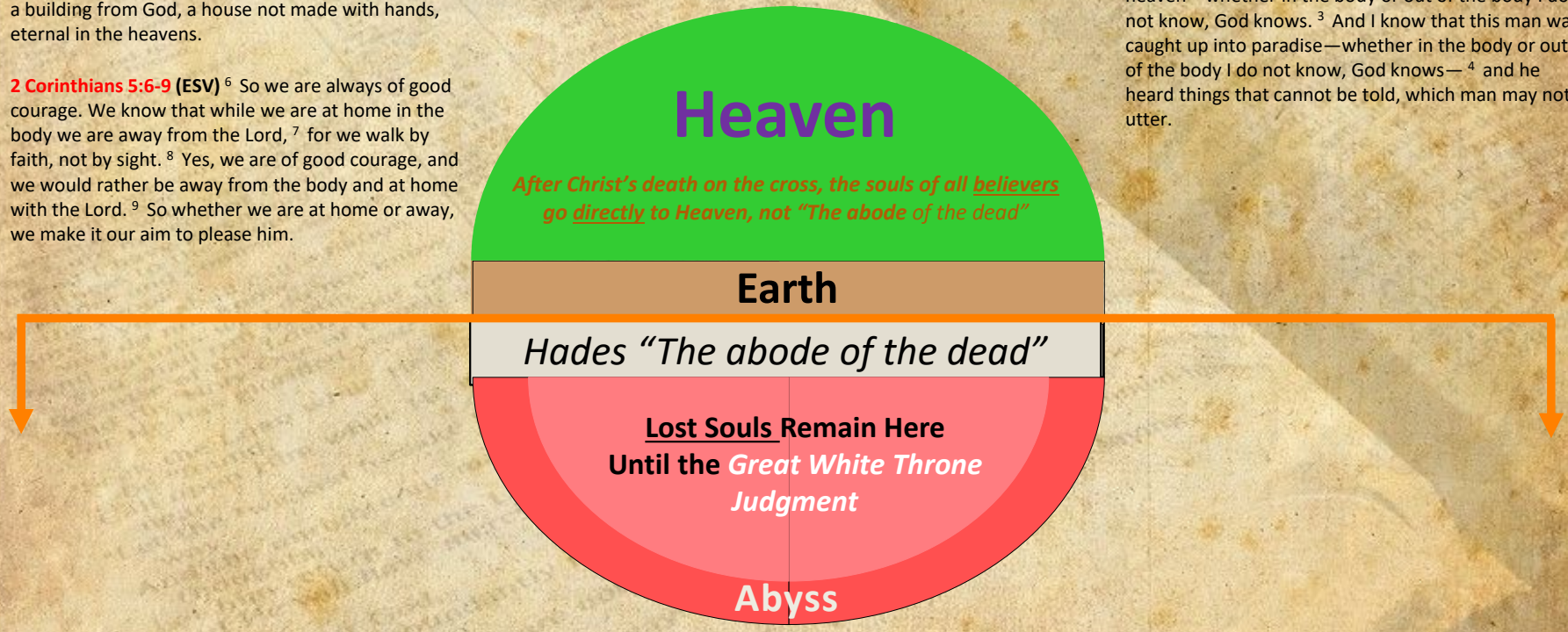
# NT View of Heaven, Earth, Hades

## *(Current)*

**2 Corinthians 5:1 (ESV)** [1] For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

**2 Corinthians 5:6-9 (ESV)** [6] So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, [7] for we walk by faith, not by sight. [8] Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. [9] So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

**Philippians 1:23 (ESV)** [23] I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better.



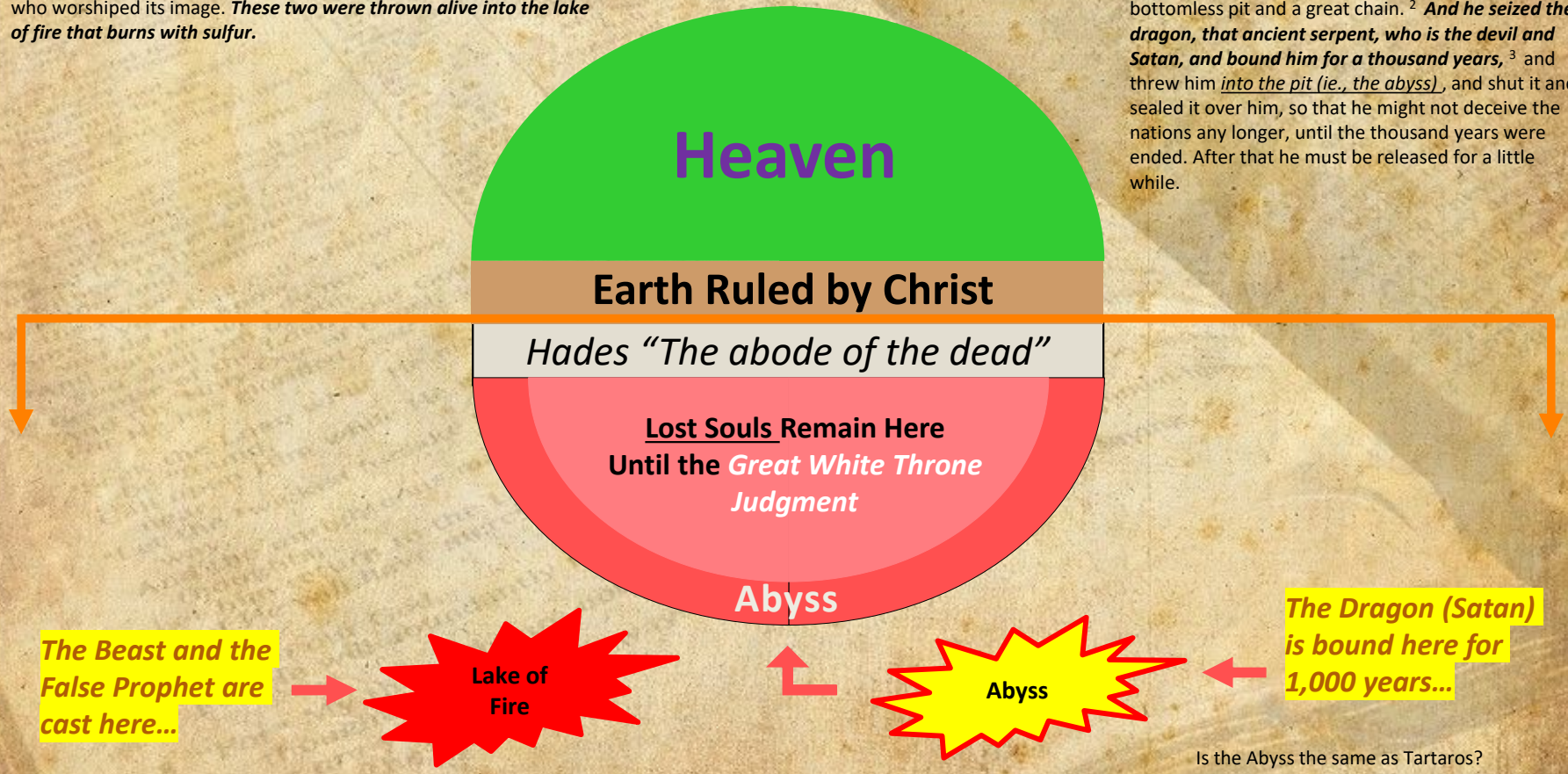

**2 Corinthians 12:2-4 (ESV)** [2] I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. [3] And I know that this man was caught up into paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— [4] and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter.

# NT View of Heaven, Earth, Hades

## (At the *Beginning* of the *Millennial Age*)

**Revelation 19:20 (ESV)** [20] And the beast was captured, and with it the false prophet who in its presence had done the signs by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped its image. ***These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur.***

**Revelation 20:1-3 (ESV)** [1] Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain. [2] ***And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years,*** [3] and threw him *into the pit (ie., the abyss)*, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he might not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were ended. After that he must be released for a little while.

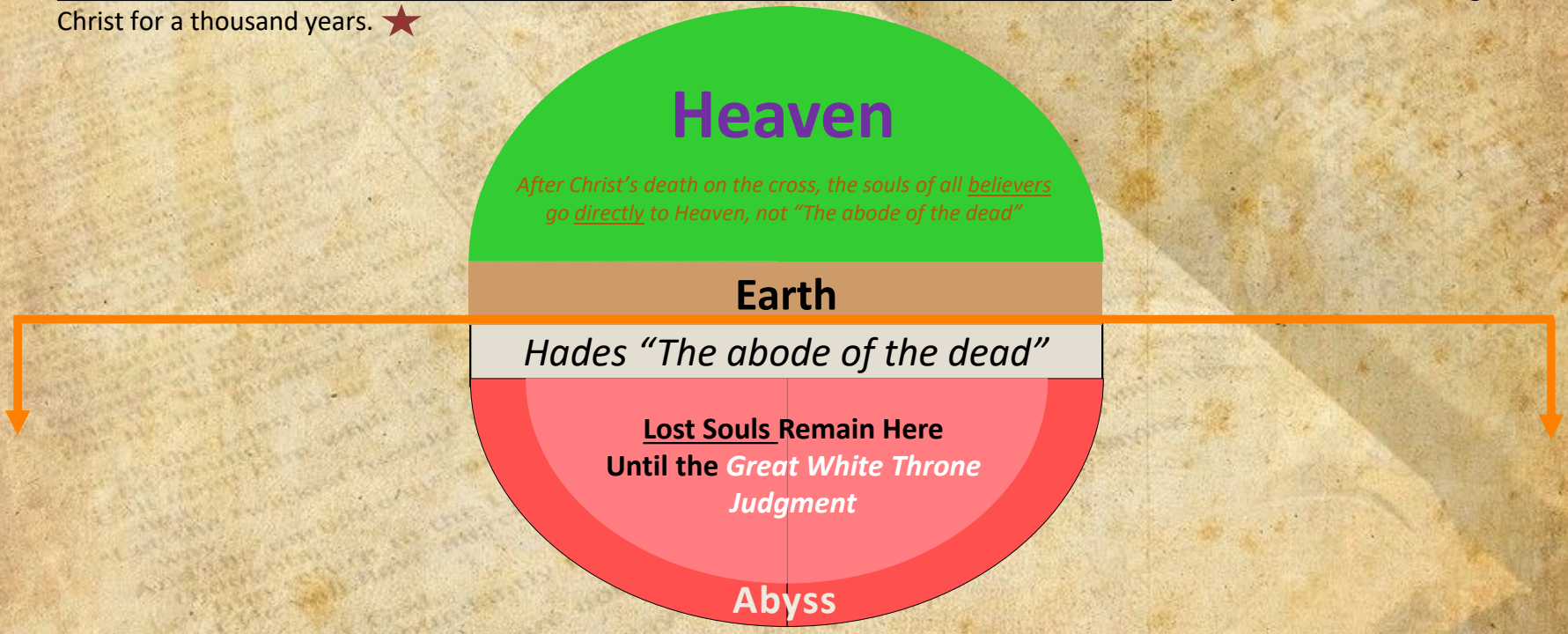



Is the Abyss the same as Tartaros?

# NT View of Heaven, Earth

## (*After* Jesus' 2nd Advent, Before the Mill Age)

**Revelation 20:4-6 (ESV)** [4] Then I saw thrones and seated on them were those to whom the authority to judge was committed. Also, I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ★




★ ***NOTE:*** *The passage above refers to the souls of people who are not raptured; endure at least part of the 7-year Tribulation period; become believers; and die. These people will participate in the 1st Resurrection, along with the OT Saints.*

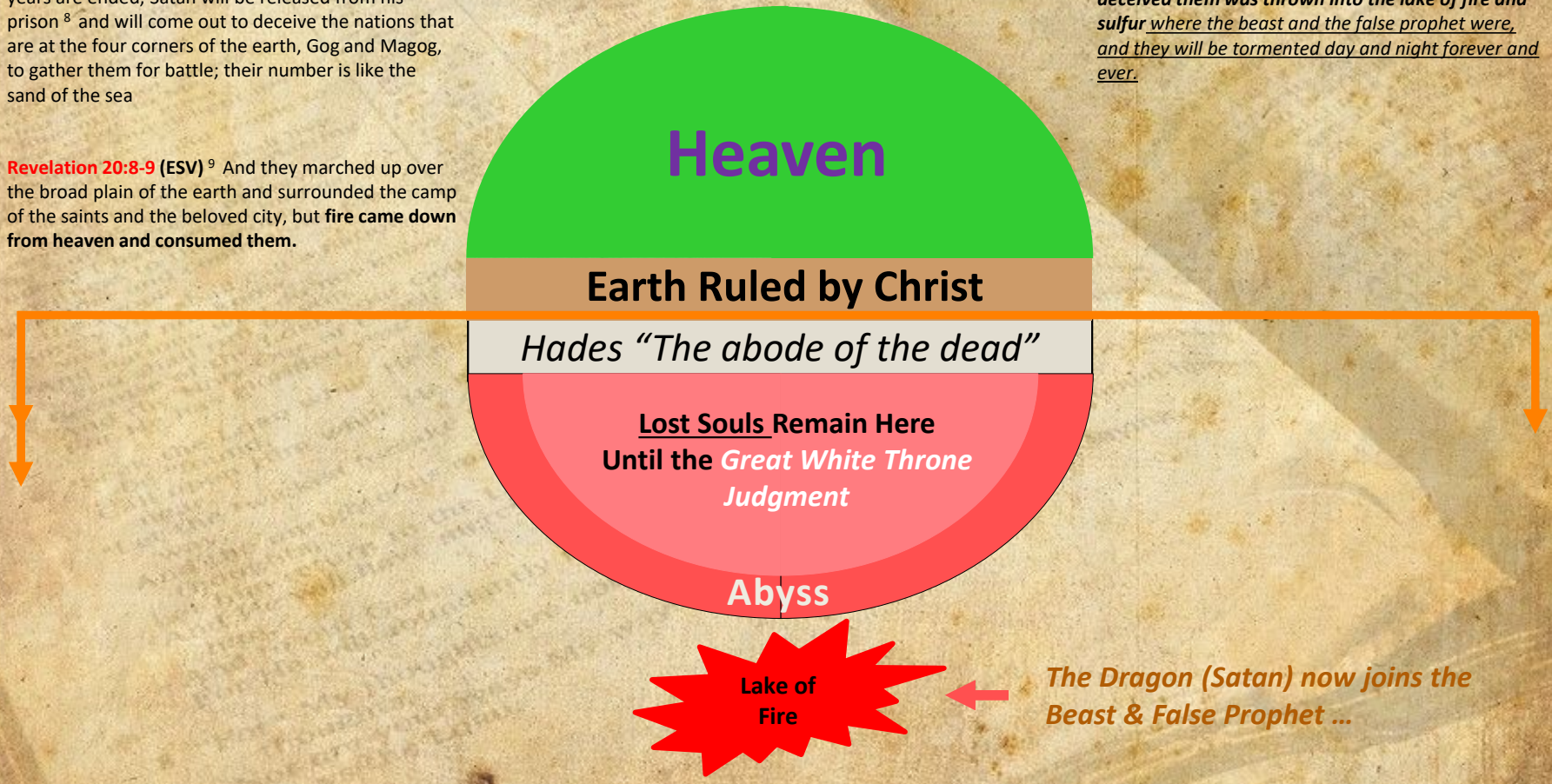
# NT View of Heaven, Earth, Hades

## (*At the End of the Millennial Age*)

**Revelation 20:7-8 (ESV)** [7] And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison [8] and will come out to deceive the nations that are at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle; their number is like the sand of the sea

**Revelation 20:8-9 (ESV)** [9] And they marched up over the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, but **fire came down from heaven and consumed them.**

**Revelation 20:10 (ESV)** [10] *and* ***the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur*** *where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.*



# NT View of Heaven

## (*The Great White Throne Judgment*)

**Revelation 20:11-12 (ESV)** [11] Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence **earth and sky fled away**, and no place was found for them. [12] And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done.




**Revelation 20:13-15 (ESV)** [13] 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. [14] Then **Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire.** This is the second death, the lake of fire. [15] And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

***The Great White Throne Judgment Delivers all of the Lost Souls & "Death & Hades" into the Lake of Fire…***






# “Lake of Fire”/”Burning Sulfur”

- **The "lake of fire“**
  - ✓ Can be called "the second death" only with reference to the lost among men (Rev 20:15), ***not*** with reference to death and Hades (Rev 20:14).

**NOTE:** In all the above references "the lake of fire" appears as a place of ***punishment, of perpetual torment***, not of annihilation (Rev 20:10). The beast (Rev 19:20); the pseudo-prophet (Rev 19:20; Rev 20:10); the devil (Rev 20:10); the wicked of varying description (Rev 20:15; Rev 21:8), are cast into it.

*The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*

# APPENDICES

# "Paradise"

***1. PARADISE*** (*par' uh disse*) Old Persian term which means literally "enclosure" or "wooded park," used in the Old Testament to speak of King Artaxerxes' forest (Neh 2:8), and twice of orchards (Eccl 2:5; Song of Solomon 4:13). All three ***New Testament*** occurrences (Luke 23:43; 2 Cor 12:4; Rev 2:7) refer to the *abode of the* ***righteous*** *dead (heaven)*.

*Holman Bible Dictionary*

# Sheol/Grave – *Exhibit A*

***Sheol*** The term *Sheol* is used in the **OT** to denote the underworld, i.e., *the abode of **the** dead*. In some instances, the word may simply refer to death or the grave (cf. Genesis 37:35; 42:38; 44:29,31; 1 Kings 2:6,9). Conceived of as situated in the depths of the earth, Sheol is a place of physical death in contrast to the vitality of life on earth with all of its brightness and activity (cf. Job 10:21-22).

Both the righteous and the wicked went to Sheol, although there is some indication of a distinction in their condition there (cf. Deuteronomy 32:22; Isaiah 57:1-2; Luke 16:23). Moreover, the righteous looked for ultimate deliverance from Sheol (e.g., Psalms 49:15; 73:24). (*See also* Hades).

*Holman Treasury of Key Bible Words*

# Sheol/Grave – *Exhibit B*

- **References for a 2-Division "Sheol" include:**
  - ✓ Gen 37:38 (Jacob, concerning Joseph) speaks of physical death in *Sheol*, but not for evil activities. In this context Jacob was simply referring to the "*grave*" for the righteous dead.
  - ✓ Num 16:30 (Korah, his family, friends and their possessions) swallowed up by the earth after rebellion against Moses/God suggests the wicked also go to *Sheol* when they die, in the compartment reserved only for the wicked.

# Sheol/Grave – *Exhibit C*

**Sheol** was regarded as the *abode of all the dead*, both righteous and wicked (Job 30:23). It was, in fact, regarded as a consolation that none escaped death (Ps. 49:10-12; Ezek. 31:16). Only once does the Old Testament speak of **Sheol** specifically as the abode of the wicked (Ps. 9:17). Some earthly distinctions were regarded as continuing in **Sheol**. Thus kings have thrones (Isa. 14:9); and warriors possess weapons and shields (Ezek. 32:27). Here the biblical writers possibly mocked the views of their neighbors. Ezekiel 32:18-30 pictures the dead as grouped by nation with the crucial distinction between the circumcised and uncircumcised continuing in the grave…. Though the overall picture of **Sheol** is grim, the Old Testament nevertheless affirms that **God is there** (Ps. 139:8; Prov. 15:11) or that it is impossible to hide from God in **Sheol** (Job 26:6; Amos 9:2).

The Holman Bible Dictionary

# Sheol/Grave – *Exhibit D*

By virtue of having died, ***Christ*** thus became an inmate of Hades, just as all other good men who had died before him; whilst the descent into Hades, of which the Creed speaks, was part of his active redemption work, and the beginning of his exaltation as the successful Redeemer, which wrought a great change in Hades itself, and in the whole condition of the pious dead from that time on.

His dead body having been requickened and glorified by his divine power, recalling his departed soul to it, even before he reappeared on earth, he went to Hades, not as a subject of death, but as the *Conqueror of death*, heralding his victory to the spirits therein detained (1 Pet. 3:18, 19), and actually bringing out with him all faithful souls, even resurrecting many of them (Matt. 27:52, 53; Ps. 68:18).

*The Apocalypse: A Series of Special Lectures on the Revelation of Jesus Christ*

# Sheol/Grave – *Exhibit D*

It is with special reference to this, that he announced himself to John, in the first vision, *as having "the Keys of Death and of Hades."* ***Paradise*** **now** is no longer in Hades, but above, in the heavens, where its inmates enjoy a far more blessed portion than was ever enjoyed in Hades.

*The Apocalypse: A Series of Special Lectures on the Revelation of Jesus Christ*

# Two Divisions of Sheol?

Substantial evidence after reviewing scriptural usage of "Paradise," "Sheol," "Hades," "Grave," "Hell," "Abyss," "Pit," "Lake of Fire" in both Testaments, using the Greek, NASB, ESV, NLT, & KJV *leads this disciple* to believe that there were two major divisions of **Sheol** *prior* to our Savior's death on the cross.

# The Abyss & the Lake

- The ***Abyss***
  - ✓ Luke 8:31 (Jesus, having confronted the demons in a man; the demons begged not to be sent into the **Abyss**)
  - ✓ Revelation 9:11 (Satan thrown down from Heaven with key to the **Abyss** to release his demons in **Tartaros**)
  - ✓ Rev 11:7 (the beast [Antichrist] comes up from the **Abyss** and kills the 2 witnesses)

# The Abyss & the Lake of Fire

- **The *Abyss***
  - ✓ Rev 17:8 (the beast…will come up out of the **Abyss** and goes to his destruction)
  - ✓ Revelation 20:1-3 (Satan bound in the **Abyss** for 1,000 years)

# The Abyss & the Lake

- **The Lake of Fire/Burning Sulfur (*Hell/Gehenna*)**
  - ✓ Rev 19:20 "But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."
  - ✓ Rev 20:10 "And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever."

# The Abyss & the Lake

- **The Lake of Fire/Burning Sulfur (Hell/Gehenna)**
  - ✓ Rev 20:14-15 “Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. 15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.”
  - ✓ Rev 21:8 "But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

# For Further Reading…

# Hell, Gehenna, Tartarus

The word "hell" is used in the New Testament in the King James Version as the equivalent of Gehenna (Matthew 5:29; 10:28, etc.)…

Originally the Valley of Hinnom, near Jerusalem, Gehenna became among the Jews the synonym for **the place of torment in the future life** (the "Gehenna of fire," Matthew 5:22, etc.; see Gehenna).

In yet one other passage in the New Testament (2 Peter 2:4), "to cast down to hell" is used (the King James Version and the Revised Version (British and American) to represent the Greek *tartaróō*, ("to send into Tartarus"). Here it stands for the place of punishment of the fallen angels: "spared not angels when they sinned, but cast them down to hell, and committed them to pits (or chains) of darkness" (compare Jude 1:6; but also Matthew 25:41).

*The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*

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Here it stands for the place of punishment of the fallen angels: "spared not angels when they sinned, but cast them down to hell, and committed them to pits (or chains) of darkness" (compare Jude 1:6; but also Matthew 25:41). Similar ideas are found in certain of the Jewish apocalyptic books (Book of Enoch, Book of Jubilees, Apocrypha Baruch, with apparent reference to Genesis 6:1-4; compare ESCHATOLOGY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT).

*The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*

# Abyss

The demons do not wish to be sent to their place of punishment before their destined time. Mark simply says "out of the country" (Mark 5:10). In Romans 10:7 the word is equivalent to Hades, the abode of the dead. In Revelation (where the King James Version renders invariably "the bottomless pit") abussos denotes the abode of evil spirits, but not the place of final punishment; it is therefore to be distinguished from the "lake of fire and brimstone" where the beast and the false prophet are, and into which the Devil is to be finally cast (Rev 19:20; 20:10).

*The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*

Careful distinction needs to be made between this lake of fire and hades. Those who are unsaved who die before the second coming of Christ go to hades, as illustrated by the rich man after his death (Luke 16:23). Up to this point nobody had been cast into the lake of fire. Both the beast and the false prophet, however, now are cast directly into the lake of fire, and they will be joined 1,000 years later by those who are now in haes or those who are unsaved at the time of the end of the millennial kingdom. This marks the end, of course, of Gentile power and the world kingdom which was under the ruler of the beast out of the sea, and the beast out of the land, the false prophet who was associated with the beast out of the sea (13:1-18). As supported by the fact that the beast and the false prophet are still there in the lake of fire at the end of the Millennium, it is clear that the lake of fire is not annihilation, and also it does not serve as a sanctifying force because those who are in it remain in their wicked natures with bodies that are suited for eternal punishment. By contrast, believers in Christ will have new bodies that are holy and suited for the worship and service of God throughout eternity. The judgment of Christ on this army is summarized, "The rest of them were killed with the sword that came out of the mouth of the Rider on the horse, and all the birds gorged themselves on their flesh" (19:21).

Every Prophecy of the Bible.

# OT View With *One More* OT Saint

- **What About Moses?**
  - Moses died and the Lord buried him in Moab in the valley opposite Peth Peor (*Deut 34:5*)
  - Did Moses' spirit go to Sheol (the good part) when he died or did his spirit & body go to Heaven?
  - What about the "Transfiguration" account showing him in a bodily form (*Matt 17:2-3*)?

# OT Unresolved Issues

- **What About *Other* OT Saints?**
  - *Daniel 12:1-2* says the OT Saints will be part of the 1st Resurrection (just prior to the Millennial Age)
  - So, when they died it seems as if their spirits went to Sheol (the good part)

# After Jesus' Death on the Cross

According to Warren Wiersbe: *Bible Exposition Commentary (BE Series) - New Testament - The Bible Exposition Commentary – New Testament, Volume 2 –* ***1 Peter*** *"Paul taught that Christ is the Giver of these gifts, through the Holy Spirit (Eph. 4:8-10). He ascended to heaven as Victor forevermore.*

*The picture here is of a military conqueror leading his captives and sharing the spoil with his followers. Only* ***in this case, the "captives" are not His enemies, but His own. Sinners who once were held captives by sin and Satan have now been taken captive by Christ. Even death itself is a defeated foe!"***

# “Paradise” is NOT “Heaven” ?

***Paradise***, or the Garden of Eden, became to the later Jews a common designation for the state of bliss that awaits the righteous after death—by which they meant that delights like those of Eden are enjoyed by the departed—they are in a paradise-like state. With reference to this use of the term, but with a deeper insight into the spiritual relation of things and the connection between the past and future, **it is employed in the NT to indicate the destiny and experience of the redeemed** (Luke 23:43; cf. Rev. 2:7; Rev. 22:2, 14). It is quite difficult to locate paradise as mentioned by Paul (2 Cor. 12:4). Whedon (*Com.,* ad loc.) believes it nearer to earth than the third heaven (2 Cor. 12:2). Meyer (*Com.,* ad loc.) says, “The *paradise* is here not the *lower,* i.e., the place of *Sheol,* in which the spirits of the departed righteous are until the resurrection, but the *upper,* the paradise of God (Rev. 2:7) in heaven, where God’s dwelling is.”

*The New Unger's Bible Dictionary*

# Descent into Hades?

(*AFTER* Christ's Death on the Cross)

## According to the Bible Knowledge Commentary…

**Peter 3:19-20 Through whom... He... preached to the spirits in prison** has been subject to many interpretations. Some believe Peter here referred to the descent of Christ's Spirit into hades between His death and resurrection to offer people who lived before the Flood a second chance for salvation. However, this interpretation has no scriptural support.

Others have said this passage refers to Christ's descent into hell after His crucifixion to proclaim His victory to the imprisoned fallen angels referred to in 2 Peter 2:4-5, equating them with "the sons of God" Moses wrote about (Gen. 6:1-2). Though much commends this view as a possible interpretation, the context seems more likely to be referring to humans rather than angels.

# Descent into Hades?

## (*AFTER* Christ's Death on the Cross)

### According to the Bible Knowledge Commentary… *(cont'd)*

**Eph 4:9-10:** Verses 9-11 serve as a commentary on two words of the quotation in verse 8, namely, **ascended** (vv. 9-10) and "gave" (v. 11). In verses 9-10 Paul commented on the words He ascended. These two verses are parenthetical in thought because the issue of the passage is the giving of gifts. Before Christ could ascend He had to descend. What is meant by to the lower, earthly regions, literally, "into the lower parts of earth"? The genitive "of" can be taken in three ways: (1) "Into the lower parts, namely, the earth" (a genitive of apposition). This would refer to Christ's incarnation, His "descent" to the earth. (2) "Into the parts lower than the earth" (a genitive of comparison). This would mean that Christ descended into hades between His death and resurrection. (3) "Into the lower parts which belong to the earth" (a genitive of possession). This would refer to Christ's death and His burial in the grave. The third view best fits the context because in His death Christ had victory over sin and redeemed those who would be given as "gifts" to the church. (The gifts to the church are gifted people.)

# NT View of Heaven, Earth, Hades

## (*AFTER* Christ's Death on the Cross)

The "spirits" (*pneumasin*, a term usually applied to supernatural beings but also used at least once to refer to human "spirits"; cf. Heb. 12:23) are described in 1 Peter 3:20 as those who were disobedient **when God waited patiently** for **Noah** to finish building **the ark.** They had rebelled against the message of God during the 120 years the ark was being built. God declared He would not tolerate people's wickedness forever, but would extend His patience for only 120 more years (Gen. 6:3). Since the entire human race except Noah (Gen. 6:5-9) was evil, God determined to "wipe mankind... from the face of the earth." The "spirits" referred to in 1 Peter 3:20 are probably the souls of the evil human race that existed in the days of Noah. Those "spirits" are now "in prison" awaiting the final judgment of God at the end of the Age.

# NT View of Heaven, Earth, Hades

## (*AFTER* Christ's Death on the Cross)

The problem remains as to *when* Christ preached to these "spirits." Peter's explanation of the resurrection of Christ (3:18) "by the Spirit" brought to mind that the preincarnate Christ was actually in Noah, ministering through him, by means of the Holy Spirit. Peter (1:11) referred to the "Spirit of Christ" in the Old Testament prophets. Later he described Noah as "a preacher of righteousness" (2 Peter 2:5). The Spirit of Christ preached through Noah to the ungodly humans who, at the time of Peter's writing, were "spirits in prison" awaiting final judgment.

*The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures by Dallas Seminary Faculty*

# NT View of Heaven, Earth, Hades

## (*AFTER* Christ's Death on the Cross)

Immediately after Jesus' bodily death on the cross (Matt 27:52-53) "…tombs broke open and the bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life…" were some of these OT Saints? [*I believe this was a one-time special event – see Dan 12:1-2*]

At the time of Jesus' death on the cross (ref: Matt 27:50; Luke 23:46) – Jesus "…gave up His spirit." AND Luke 23:43

# Heaven

**Heaven** thus becomes the curtain of God's tent, separating His dwelling place from that of humanity on earth (Ps. 104:2; Isa. 40:22).

*Holman Bible Dictionary*