

HEAVEN - Nobody goes there when they die!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HVpjkYZCTPE&t=1351s>

Finding the Ancient Path

A biblical examination of heaven, death, resurrection, and the believer's ultimate hope

Common Myths About Heaven

People become angels when they die

Faithful people immediately go to heaven

Dead relatives are waiting, watching, or communicating

Heaven is whatever each person imagines Paradise to be

What Does Scripture Describe?

Isaiah 6 and Ezekiel describe Yahovah's throne room

Isaiah 66:1: heaven is His throne; earth is His footstool

The Teaching distinguishes heaven from the New Jerusalem

Resurrection - Not Becoming Angels

Philippians 3:20-21 - transformed body

Luke 24:36-43 - Yeshua's resurrected body

1 Corinthians 15:20 - Yeshua as firstfruits

Hope centers on resurrection and transformation

Rich Man and Lazarus

Luke 16:19-31

Teaching treats the account as a parable

Central closing point: hear Moses and the Prophets

Do not build an afterlife doctrine from imagery the Teaching says is not repeated elsewhere

Difficult Passages

2 Corinthians 5:6-8

Philippians 1:21-23

Luke 23:42-43

Teaching asks: what do these verses explicitly say, and what is being inferred?

The Thief on the Cross

Greek manuscripts did not contain modern punctuation

Comma placement can change the reading

Teaching compares Luke 23 with Matthew 12:40, John 20:17, and Acts 1

Scripture should be reconciled with Scripture

What Happens When We Die?

Teaching: death is repeatedly described as sleep/rest

Deuteronomy 31:16; Job 14:10-12; Psalm 13:3; Daniel 12:2

Ecclesiastes 9:5,10 - the dead know nothing

Psalm 115:17 - the dead do not praise Yahovah

Questions From the Teaching

What about the martyrs crying out for justice?

What returns to Elohim in Ecclesiastes 12:7?

What is the second death?

Is “death” versus “sleep” just semantics?

Does cremation affect resurrection?

The Resurrection Is Essential

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 - dead in Christ rise at Yeshua's return

1 Corinthians 15 - raised incorruptible

2 Timothy 2 warns against saying resurrection is already past

The Teaching places the believer's hope in a future resurrection

In the Twinkling of an Eye

Transformation occurs at resurrection

The Teaching uses sleep/anesthesia as an analogy

No conscious awareness of elapsed time

The next experienced moment after death is presented as awakening to Yeshua's return

Where Do the Faithful Ultimately Live?

Psalm 115:16 - earth given to the children of men

Teaching: renewed earth, not heaven, is the final destination

New Jerusalem descends to the renewed earth

Revelation 21-22: river of life, tree of life, gates, and city imagery

Heaven and Paradise

Teaching's answer in closing Q&A:

Heaven = Yahovah's throne room

Paradise = earth restored to its Eden-like condition

Yeshua makes all things new

Study Carefully

Let Scripture speak before inserting assumptions

Distinguish explicit statements from inference

Compare difficult passages with the broader biblical witness

Keep resurrection at the center of the hope presented in this Teaching