

"So, What Do YOU Believe about...Heaven and Hell?"

with Pastor Max Frazier

We believe that God will raise the dead and judge the world. Those having believed in Jesus Christ as Savior, will receive rewards, resulting in their being received into eternal blessedness and joy with the Lord Jesus in the new heaven and earth; those not having believed will receive condemnation, resulting in eternal conscious punishment in hell.

INTRODUCTION

The knowledge of both a heaven and a hell become markedly real at a cemetery.

What a difference at a funeral for a believer as opposed to that for an unbeliever.

WHAT HAPPENS AT THE TIME OF DEATH?

What happens to a believer in Jesus Christ?

At the time of death, two things happen:

The body is placed into the grave to await its resurrection.

The spirit ascends into the very presence of Jesus (2 Cor. 5:6-8; 1 Thess. 4:14)

"Do we become angels when we die?"

Do we get our wings like Clarence in "It's A Wonderful Life"?

Do we then get involved in the lives of others like in "Touched by an Angel"?

Angels are a separate creation of God; they cannot become us and we cannot become them.

"Can those who died have any influence over those who still are alive?"
Luke 16:29-31

Jesus seems to make clear that there is no communication from one world to another.

What happens to a person who is not a believer in Jesus Christ?

At the time of death, two things happen:
The body is placed into the grave to await its resurrection.

The spirit goes to a place known as Hades – a place of conscious torment and separation from God.

THERE WILL BE TWO RESURRECTIONS

We all have an appointment with death. (*Hebrews 9:27*)

There is coming a day when the dead will be resurrected; not all at one time and not all for the same purpose. (*1 Thess. 4:16*)

There is a second resurrection, one that leads to death. (*Revelation 20:11-15*)

They will be sentenced to an eternal death.

THERE WILL BE TWO JUDGMENTS

The purpose of the court and the function of the judge is to make sure that justice is carried out.

Two courts will be convened in heaven.

No juries at either.

Sole judgment in the hands of the Judge.

For the believer – the Judgment Seat of Christ. (*2 Corinthians 5:10*)

Are we judged for our sins? No!

For what will we be judged? How we have lived for Jesus.

Our service for Jesus will be evaluated. (*1 Corinthians 3:12-15*)

For the unbeliever – the Great White Throne (*Revelation 20:11-15*)

A searching of the Book of Life, but it is an empty search.

There will be no pleading of mercy from the Court.

There will be no grounds for an appeal.

There will be no hope for probation.

God's judgment will be final!

To be in heaven is to be at home!

Paul's words in *1 Corinthians 2:9*.

"Think of stepping on shore And finding it Heaven!
Of taking hold of a hand And finding it's God's hand;
Of breathing a new air And finding it celestial air!
Of feeling invigorated And finding it immortality!
Of passing from storm and tempest To perfect calm!
Of waking and knowing 'I am Home!'"

THERE WILL BE TWO DESTINATIONS OR ABODES

Hell – the place God prepared for the devil and his angels. (*Matthew 25:41*)

God does not send a person to hell; a person chooses to go to hell.

Hell is a place of eternal torment – *Mark 9:43-48; Matthew 8:12*

Hell is such an awful place that God sent His Son to die so that we might not go there.

Heaven – the place God has prepared for those who love Him.

Bible speaks very little about the specifics of heaven.

John speaks of it in *Revelation 21 and 22*.

It is a place of beauty beyond anything we could imagine.

A CHALLENGE

Two destinations as different from each other as night is from day.

You can choose which one you desire.

Your final destination is determined by your decision concerning Jesus Christ.

Do you know where you will be spending eternity?

NOTES:

