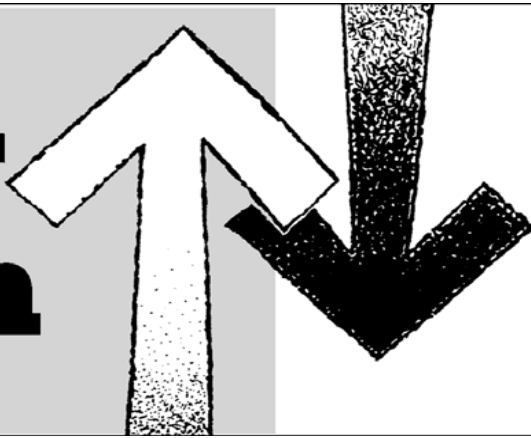


After Death



BY T.L. OSBORN

HAVE YOU EVER watched a person die? Are you afraid of death? Are you ready to die? Do you know what will happen after death?

The Bible says, *It is appointed once to die, and after that, the judgment.* Heb.9:27

Your turn will come and you will die, then you will face judgment. No one escapes. Kings and monarchs are not excepted. The greatest doctors die. Beggars and common people must die. Some live long lives. Some are cut off in youth. Neither you nor I know when our turns will come, but death is a certainty that we all must face. And **AFTER DEATH**, what?

You **HAVE** a *soul*. You **ARE** a *spirit*, and you **LIVE** in a *body* of flesh. Your body will die and return to the dust. But your spirit, the real you, will live eternally in one of two places, heaven or hell. You can choose your destiny.

Jesus described two men. Luk. 16:19-31 One was rich. The other was a beggar named Lazarus. The rich man had great wealth, wore extravagant clothing and ate sumptuously. The beggar, full of sores, lay at the rich man's gate desiring to be fed with crumbs that fell from his table, while dogs licked his sores.

Then they both died. When Lazarus died, angels bore his spirit away to heaven to be with God. But when the

rich man died, he *was buried; and in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torment. And he saw Lazarus, the beggar, in heaven. He cried: Have mercy on me; send the man who was a beggar to me to dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.* vs.22-24

This story is not a parable. It actually occurred. Jesus was letting us know what happens after death. The answer came back from heaven to the rich man's plea: *Remember that you in your lifetime received good things but this beggar, evil things. Now he is comforted and you are tormented. Besides all of this, between us and you, there is a great gulf fixed: so that those who would pass to us from you cannot come, neither can we come to you.* vs.25-26

Then the rich man pled: *Then I beg you, send Lazarus to my people for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not come to this place of torment.* vs.27-28

Again the answer came: *They have the Scriptures of Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to them.* v.29

But the rich man said: *I'm afraid they will not take heed to the Scriptures. If someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent and believe.* v.30

But the reply was: *If they will not believe the Scriptures, neither would they believe though one rose from the dead and came to them.* v.31

My friend, after death your spirit will go out into eternity. It will not come back to live in some other form. The Scriptures state clearly that such a person will spend eternity either in hell or in heaven.

The Bible says *death and hell...is the second death* Rev.20:14 which means eternal separation from God – eternal torment. It says: *The wicked shall be turned into hell,* Psā.9:17 *because The wages of sin is death.* Rom.6:23

Hell is a literal place of torment. One will go there because of his or her sins, unless he or she has been saved by faith in Jesus Christ. He died to save us from being separated from God. *He made His soul an offering for sin* Isa.53:10 – for your soul and for mine. He died that we might live.

Concerning those in hell, the Bible says, *The smoke of their torment rises forever and ever: and they have no rest day or night.* Rev.14:11

There are two deaths: one of the body and one of the spirit. Jesus said: *Do not be afraid of those who kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul (the spirit). Rather, fear Him who can destroy both soul and body.* Mat.10:28

After death, where will you spend eternity? In this life, you have the opportunity to choose. *Now is the day of salvation.* 2Co.6:2 In other words, now is the time to choose one's destiny. God says, *I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both you and your seed may live.* Deu.30:19 He is speaking to you.

The Bible asks, *How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation?* Heb.2:3

Jesus said, *The time will come when all*

who are in their graves will hear His voice and come out – those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned.


Joh.5:28-29

God's Word says: *The sea gave up the dead that were in it; and death and hell delivered up their dead. Small and great, they stood before God; and the books were opened, and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And whoever was not found written in the Book of Life, was cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.* Rev.20:11-15

But Jesus said: *Those who hear my word and believe on Him who sent me, have eternal life and will not be condemned; they have passed from death to life.* Joh.5:24 He said, *In heaven there are many mansions. I go to prepare a place for you. And I will come again, and receive you so that where I am, there you will be also* Joh.14:2-3.

So, which will it be for you? Heaven or hell? Do not perish in your sins. Jesus died for you. His blood was shed for the remission of your sins. Accept Him by faith and be saved. *Now is the day of salvation.* 1Co.6:2 When you die, if you have believed on Jesus Christ and received Him into your heart as Savior, you will be carried by angels to your eternal home with our Lord.

If you reject Christ, your sins will condemn you and you will spend eternity separated from God.

Turn to Jesus. The Bible promises: *Whoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.* Act.2:21 Accept His pardon and let Him save you NOW. *Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you shall be saved.* Act.16:31 

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