

The Intermediate State

Slaves to whom?

Eph 4:8 Wherefore he saith, When **He** ascended up on high (*sat down at the right hand of God*), He led **captivity** (*those who are in bondage to sin...*) captive (*...became servants of Christ*), and **gave gifts** unto men. (*Pentecost*) 9 (Now that **He** ascended, what is it but that **He** also **descended** first into the **lower parts of the earth**?)

- *Before He ascended to Heaven He first descended into the Hadean realm. **Just as Heaven cannot be seen with a telescope, Hades cannot be reached with a backhoe.** They are both realms of the spirit world.*

Eph 4:10 He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that He might fill all things.) 11 And He **gave some**, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; ... (*for the purpose of unity.*)

- Heb 1:3 Who being the brightness of *His* glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, **when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;**
- *At this point He became our advocate (1 Jn 2:1) having removed our servitude to sin unto death making us free from sin and alive unto righteousness.*

The following passages will show this.

Heb 2:3 How shall we **escape**, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard *Him*;

Heb 2:8 Thou hast put all things in subjection under his (*man's*) feet. For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing *that is* not put under him. But now we see **not yet all things put under him.** (*sin and death*)

Heb 2:15 And deliver them who through **fear of death** were all their lifetime subject to **bondage.**

Rom 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus (*the Gospel*) hath made me **free** from the law of sin and death.

Gal 1:10 For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the **servant of Christ.**

Rev 5:9 And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for Thou wast slain, and hast **redeemed us** to God by Thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

Rom 6:16 Know ye not, that to **whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey;** whether of **sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?** 17 But God be thanked, that ye **were** the servants of sin, **but** ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. 18

Being then **made free from sin**, ye **became the servants of righteousness**. 19 I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members **servants to righteousness unto** (*for the purpose of obtaining*) **holiness**. 20 For when ye **were** the servants of sin, ye **were** free from righteousness.

 Heb 9:27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

- *Once dead we do not raise up until the judgment day.*

So where are the dead?

Luk 23:43 And Jesus said unto him, **Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with Me in paradise.**

1Sa 28:15 And Samuel said to Saul, Why hast thou disquieted me, to **bring me up**? And Saul answered, I am sore distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God is departed from me, and answereth me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams: therefore I have called thee, that thou mayest make known unto me what I shall do. 16 Then said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing the LORD is departed from thee, and is become thine enemy? 17 And the LORD hath done to him, as He spake by me: for the LORD hath rent the kingdom out of thine hand, and given it to thy neighbour, *even* to David: 18 Because thou obeyedst not the voice of the LORD, nor executedst His fierce wrath upon Amalek, therefore hath the LORD done this thing unto thee this day. 19 Moreover the LORD will also deliver Israel with thee into the hand of the Philistines: and tomorrow *shalt* thou and thy sons **be with me** (*doesn't imply exact place, just that Saul and his sons would be in the realm of the dead*): the LORD also shall deliver the host of Israel into the hand of the Philistines.

The following passages will help to explain this.

Act 1:4 And, being assembled together with *them*, commanded them that they should **not depart from Jerusalem**, but **wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith He, ye have heard of Me.**

Act 1:12 Then returned they **unto Jerusalem** from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey.

Act 2:5 And there were dwelling **at Jerusalem** Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.

Act 2:14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all *ye* that dwell **at Jerusalem**, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

Act 2:29 Men *and* brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead (*Gk.5053-to expire*) and buried (*Gk.2290-to celebrate funeral rites, to inter*), and his sepulchre (*Gk.3418-monument [burial place]*) is **with us** unto this day.

- *Even though David was buried in Bethlehem and Peter was speaking in Jerusalem to say that his sepulchre was with them he would mean that it was still in existence and not exactly where they were at that time.*

1Ki 2:10 So David slept with his fathers, and was buried in the **city of David**.

Luk 2:4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the **city of David, which is called Bethlehem**; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

 Php 1:23 For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be **with Christ**; which is far better:

- *To presently be with Christ at death then would mean to be in the spirit world. Even the apostles have to wait until He comes again to be in Heaven.*

Joh 14:2 In My Father's house are many mansions: if *it were not so*, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, **I will come again (at the resurrection), and receive you (apostles) unto Myself**; that where I am, *there ye may be also*.

2Ti 4:6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. 7 I have fought a (*the*) good fight, I have finished *my* course, I have kept the faith: 8 Henceforth there is **laid up for me** a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me **at that day**: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His **appearing**.

1Pe 5:4 And when the chief Shepherd **shall appear**, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

----- **Enoch and Elijah: did they go to Heaven?**

Gen 5:24 And Enoch walked with God: and he *was not (Heb.369-not exist) (he vanished into thin air)*; for God took (*Heb.3947-to take, carry away, fetch*) him.

Deu 34:5 So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD. 6 And He buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, over against Bethpeor: but no man knoweth of his sepulchre unto this day.

Jude 9 Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about **the body of Moses**, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee. (*The contention here may have been that Satan wanted to reveal the place of Moses' burial.*)

Heb 11:5 By faith Enoch was translated (*Gk.3346-to transfer, [literally] to transport, change sides*) that he should not see (*Gk.1492-experience*) death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

- In changing sides, **Enoch** went from the physical realm directly to the spiritual without experiencing the sting of death. His body, probably as **Moses'**, could not be found even though **Moses** experienced death.

1Co 15:55 O death, where *is* thy sting? (*Not that all deaths are painful, just that all must die.*) O grave (*Gk.86-Hades, place of departed souls*), where *is* thy victory?

2Ki 2:11 And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, *there appeared* a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven (*Heb.8064-sky*).

Joh 3:13 **And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but He that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.**

 Mat 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of hell (*Gk.86-Hades*) shall not prevail against it.

- The gates of **Hades** were breached by the resurrection of **Christ**.

Act 2:27 Because Thou wilt not leave My soul in hell (*Gk.86-Hades*), neither wilt Thou suffer Thine Holy One to see corruption.

- **Jesus did not preach to the dis-embodied spirits in the Hadean realm!** Remember we only get one chance at salvation and that chance lasts only while we are alive!

1Pe 1:11 Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ **which was in them** did signify, when it (*He*) testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.

- Example: Noah.

1Pe 3:18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the Just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: 19 By (*in*) which also He went (*in this case at that time through Noah*) and preached (**2 Pet 2:5**) unto the spirits (*now*) in (*Gk.1722-[fixed] position [in place, time or state]*) prison;

1Pe 4:3 For the time past of *our* life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries: 4 Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with *them* to the same excess of riot, **speaking evil of you:** 5 Who shall give account to Him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead. 6 For for this cause **was** the gospel (*good news of salvation- "get in the ark before the flood comes in order to be saved"*) preached also to them that are (*now*) dead,..

(1Ti 2:4 *Who [God our Savior] will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.*)

... that they **might** be judged according to men in the flesh (*speaking evil of you*), but **live according to God** in the spirit.

- When we live unto **God and His ways** we will be spoken evil of (*judged*) by those we once ran with. Those of **Noah's day** were given the same opportunity, to suffer persecution as did **Noah**, but perished for their mockery and disobedience. They now await the judgment in (*prison*) the lower part of the **Hadean realm**.

Saints or Angels?

1Th 3:13 To the end He may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the **coming** (*from Heaven to the earth*) of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints (*Gk.40-sacred, morally blameless*).

Jud 1:14 And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord **cometh** (*from Heaven to the earth*) with ten thousands of His saints (*Gk.40-sacred, morally blameless*)...

(Rev 5:11 And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;)

Mat 25:31 When the Son of man shall **come** (*Jesus here speaking from the earth*) in His glory, and all the holy (*Gk.40*) angels (*Gk.32*) with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory:

Mar 8:38 Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when He **cometh** (*Jesus here speaking from the earth*) in the glory of His Father with the holy (*Gk.40*) angels (*Gk.32*).

- Jesus will be in Heaven when He leaves the throne of Grace to come back and claim His own.

1Th 4:14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring (*not send*) with Him (*back to Heaven*). **15** For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. **16** For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: **17** Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. **18** Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

- When you die will you sleep in Jesus? If you are not in Him now you won't be when He comes.

Hear: **Romans 10:17** ..."faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Believe: **Heb 11:6** ..."for he that commeth to God must believe that He is"...

Repent: **Lk 13:3** ..."except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

Confess: **Mat 10:32** "Whosoever shall confess Me before men, him will I confess before My Father which is in Heaven."

Be baptized: **Acts 2:38** ..."repent and be baptized...in the name of **Jesus Christ** for the remission of sins"...

Remain faithful: **Rom 6:4** ..."even so we also should walk in newness of life."

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