

12 Death - Hell and the grave

What does the Bible say about death?



Genesis 3:19; Isaiah 38:9-18. In the grave, what state is everyone in? - Psalm 6:5; 88:10-12; 115:17; 146:3-4; Ecclesiastes 9:5-10; Isaiah 38:18

Who goes to hell?

The Hebrew word for hell is 'sheol'. In the authorised version it is translated equally 'grave' and 'hell', whereas in the NIV it tends to be translated 'grave'. In the following passages it is always translated 'grave'.

Who is referred to?

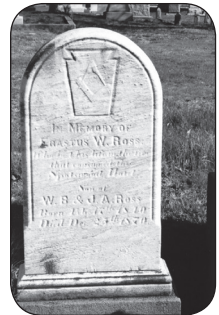
Psalm 89:48

Genesis 37:35

Isaiah 38:10

Psalm 16:10

Psalm 139:8



In the New Testament the Greek word for hell is 'hades'. In the Authorised version it is nearly always translated 'hell', but in the NIV it is always 'grave'. It means the same as 'sheol', as you can see from the Acts 2:27,31, where the Apostle Peter quotes from Psalm 16:10. Who is the passage talking about?

Is it possible to be raised from hell?



Look at 1 Samuel 2:6; Psalm 49:15, and Hosea 13:14, where the word grave is 'sheol' again.

What do you think?

Do you think it is comforting to be told that someone has 'gone to be with Jesus'?

Imagine that you had a friend who had died from an illness, or killed in a car crash, and someone told you that they weren't really dead, but that they had gone to heaven. What thoughts and doubts might arise in your mind?

What does this mean about spirits and mediums?



Deuteronomy 18:9-12

What about the witch at Endor 1 Samuel 28?

Summarise what the Bible teaches about Hell and the Grave

