

ARISE BIBLE STUDY DOCTRINES

Study: The Nature of Man / State of the Dead

Purpose: The purpose of this study is to identify man's soul and what happens to man after death.

Center It: God is love. We will start with Revelation, which is the Revelation of Jesus Christ. Revelation is all about the Lamb and Salvation.

Know It / Mark it:

1. Revelation 1:18
2. Genesis 3:4
3. Genesis 2:7
4. Ecclesiastes 12:7
5. Psalm 146:3, 4
6. Ecclesiastes 9:5
7. I Timothy 6:15, 16
8. I Corinthians 15:51-54
9. John 11:11-14
10. Acts 2:39, 34
11. II Corinthians 11:14-15
12. Job 10:10-15

Share it:

1. **Revelation 1:18:** Jesus, who was dead and is now alive, has the keys of hell and of death. Jesus has turned death into sleep – a temporary condition.
2. **Genesis 3:4:** The first lie ever told to humans (not heavenly beings): “You will not surely die.”
3. **Genesis 2:7:** The Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, breath into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living being. Illustration: A light bulb. When the switch is turned on, there is light. However, there will be no light if the switch is turned off or the appliance unplugged. (Frequently we make the mistake of making truth complicated – and we forget that people we may be meeting may not know much about the Bible. Take the time to answer questions. You don't have to exhaust every verse in the first Bible study).
4. **Ecclesiastes 12:7:** You return to the dust as it was, and the spirit returns to God as it was. Exactly the opposite of what took place at Creation. Illustration: A mathematical equation: $\text{The elements of earth / body} - \text{Spirit of life / breath} = \text{DEATH, NOTHING}$
5. **Psalm 146:3, 4:** Trust not in earthly rulers because they perish on the very day that they die
6. **Ecclesiastes 9:5:** The living know that they shall die, but the dead know nothing. The dead do not appear to their loved ones. They do not instruct their relatives. They are DEAD. They know nothing! (Are the apparitions real? Is it possible for Satan to manifest himself as a person, as a being?)
7. **I Timothy 6:15, 16:** Only God is immortal. The KJV uses “soul” 1600 times*, but never says that the soul is immortal
8. **I Corinthians 15:51-54:** We will all be changed in the blinking of an eye. Clarification: Humans are mortal. However, we are seeking immortality. We're told that we will be given immortality by God, who is the lone immortal Being and the only Entity capable of distributing eternity at will. **Death and God are enemies.**
9. **John 11:11-14:** Death is death, but Jesus took it upon Himself to die for us so that we might not have to die a second death. Therefore, death is a sleep and can be described as ephemeral. The

downside of having friends and relatives in heaven is the fact that they are up there enjoying the benefits of heaven while you wallow in misery down here on earth. After you die, the best thing you know is eternity. God can do for us what we can't imagine.

10. **Acts 2:29, 34:** Jesus clearly mentions sleep to refer to death. Affirm it. The patriarch David remained in the earth after his death and was not in heaven. Although David was a believer, he is not in heaven.
11. **II Corinthians 11:14-15:** Satan is capable of transforming himself into an angel of light – which he definitely is not! (1 Samuel 28:7-20). An example is when Jesus was tempted in the wilderness . . . Angels of light can transform themselves into ministers of righteousness.
12. **Job 10:10-15:** Perfect summary of the whole study.

Appeal: According to the Bible, death is a sleep from which all who trust in Jesus will awake to the reality of eternity. What a wonderful truth! Jesus has abolished death so that we might all experience the reality of immortality. Jesus wants you to partake in this wonderful reality. Will you say yes to

Defend It:

Objection: Luke 23:42, 43: The thief on the cross asks Jesus if he will remember him, and Jesus answers that he will be in the kingdom.

2 Corinthians 5:1-8, Job 20:17, Romans 7, Romans 8

Answer 1: The Bible was originally written as a continuum, a book without any separation into chapters and verses. Jesus didn't go to heaven on that day. (John 20:17). Jesus had not yet ascended into heaven in the latter passage. Someone already influenced by a paradigm in which Jesus ascended into heaven immediately after his death added the comma.

Objection: 2 Corinthians 5:1-8: State of being. Two evident states of being: Clothed with immortality and clothed with immortality. People think that there is no third option – sleep. The third is being naked and unclothed.

Answer 2: Paul was actually referring to a yearning for the wonderful reality of immortality – [®] which we will experience when we get to heaven. Jesus could knock every theologian off of their seats in the Temple because He knew the Scriptures better than the teachers of the Law. There are three states of being: a mortal body clothed with immortality, an immortal body clothed with immortality, and naked unclothed.

We're not here to baptize. We're here to preach the Gospel.