

WHERE ARE THE DEAD? – WD

1WD – Ecclesiastes 12:7. At death the body goes back to dust; the spirit returns to God who gave it. This spirit which returns to God is not some entity which is capable of a conscious existence apart from the body, but it is the breath of life (James 2:26, margin: Job 27:3), which God gave to make him a living, conscious personality, Gen. 2:7. At death, that life passes into God's hands for safekeeping until the resurrection, Death is creation in reverse.

2WD – Acts 2:34. Peter declared that David, who was very much loved of God, was not in heaven.

3WD – Psalms 17:15. David expected to go to heaven when he should awake from sleep at the resurrection morning when Jesus would again give him the breath of life.

4WD – I Thessalonians 4:16-18. The righteous do not go to heaven until the coming of Jesus Christ at the last day, I Thess. 2:19; John 14:3. All life after death depends upon the resurrection.

5WD – I Corinthians 15:16-18. Without the resurrection, the good people who have died are PERISHED. This could not be true if they went to heaven when they died. If the righteous went to heaven when they died, there would be not need of a resurrection. There would be not reason for Christ to come back to earth the second time to gather His saints (John 14:3) if they had already gone to heaven at death. If the wicked go to hell-fire at death and the righteous to heaven at death, there is no need of a judgment day at the end of time, or for Christ to come to reward every man according to his works, Matt. 16:27; Rev. 22:12. This idea of a person going to hell or heaven at death destroys the Bible doctrine of the resurrection, the coming of Christ, and the judgment at the last day. There is no text in the Bible, when rightly understood by its relation to all other texts, teaches that anybody goes to hell or heaven at death, because the Bible does not contradict its own teachings..

6WD – Ecclesiastes 3:20. All go to one place, and one place is the grave, where all turn to dust again, Job 30:23; John 5: 28-29. The Bible never speaks of the soul or the spirit going out of the body at death to maintain, or to become capable of maintaining a conscious existence somewhere else. EIGHT TIMES THE BIBLE SPEAKS OF THE SOUL AS GOING INTO THE GRAVE: Acts 2:31; Job 33:18, 22, 28, 30; Ps. 30:3, Ps. 89:48; Isa. 38:17.

7WS – Psalms 146:3-4. When a man dies, his soul is unconscious until the resurrection. THE SOUL IS THE ACCOUNTABLE PART OF MAN THAT SINS, Eze. 18:4; Ps. 139:14. This is why the soul of Jesus had to die to atone for the sins of our souls, Isa. 53:10,12.

8WDS – Psalms 115:17. If the righteous were in heaven, they would certainly be praising the Lord; but this text says that the dead praise not the Lord.

9WD – Job 14:21. The dead do not know anything about what takes place on the earth after death because they are unconscious. In the Bible, death is called a sleep 54 times; thus we understand that the dead are unconscious, just as a person is unconscious who is in a deep sleep. The breath of life from God made Adam a living soul, a conscious being; and when that breath of life was taken away at his death, it would necessarily leave him to be a dead soul: an unconscious being until the resurrection, when the breath of life, or the spirit is put back into him again.

10WD Ecclesiastes 9:5-6. The dead do not know anything. When a Christian dies, the next moment, as far as any sensations are concerned, he is with Christ to stay. The lapse of time between a Christian's death and Jesus' second coming, the glorious resurrection day, will seem to him like an instant of time. To him it will seem but the next moment after he closes his eyes in death, for the passing of time means nothing. Soon there will be a day of reunion with loved ones who have died in Christ.