

What Is the Condition of The Wicked?

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Life after Death / Wicked; Wicked Men; Paradise; Hades; Torment; Judgment; Intermediate State; Hell; Tartarus; Death / Luke 16:19–31

Scripture speaks of those who die lost in their sin (the Wicked) are in Hades; in torment; separated from God; and conscious.



INTRODUCTION

1. We have concentrated our attention upon...

- a. The "i _____ state" of man between death and the resurrection
- b. In particular, the temporary state of the departed righteous

2. Upon death the souls of the righteous:

- a. Are in P _____, which since the a _____ of Christ is in H _____ with Jesus and the Father

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b. That they are conscious in this state of "bliss", and recognize one another

3. The "intermediate state" of the righteous after death is Re 7:9-17

I. A _____ AND C _____

A. AS SUGGESTED BY THE STORY OF THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS...

3. The reference to "Moses and the prophets" (31) makes it clear the time frame of the story is set while the Law of Moses was still in effect, so this is a description of the "intermediate state"

B. FROM THIS ACCOUNT, WE LEARN THAT THE WICKED...

1. Do not cease to exist ("he lifted up his eyes and saw") - 23
2. Are aware of where they are, and what is going on around them ("I am tormented in this flame") - 24b
3. Recognize others ("Father Abraham...send Lazarus...") - 24a
4. Remember those who have yet to follow them in death ("for I have five brothers") - 28a

II. IN T _____

A. AS EMPHASIZED FOUR TIMES IN THE STORY OF THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS...

1. "being in torments" - Lk 16:23a
2. "I am tormented in this flame" - Lk 16:24c
3. "and you are tormented" - Lk 16:25c
4. "lest they also come to this place of torment" - Lk 16:28b

B. AS REVEALED BY PETER...

- The Lord knows how to "reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment" - 2 Pe 2:9
- Note that the wicked are reserved under punishment "for" the day of judgment, so the punishment is something going on prior to the Judgment itself

III. IN H _____

- Depending upon the context, "sheol" (hades) may mean...

a. Simply an unseen place

- 1) As in Jonah 2:2

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b. The grave - Gen 42:38; 44:29,31; Job 17:13; Psa 16:10

c. The realm of the dead (but not the tomb), where both good and bad people go upon death

1) Gen 37:35 - How could Jacob hope to go down "into the grave" to his son (even though that is how the NKJV translates "sheol") when he thought his son had been eaten by animals? This makes me think Jacob had in mind the "realm of the dead", not the tomb

2) Psa 55:15; Pro 9:18; Isa 14:9-11 - These passages speak of the wicked

CONCLUSION

1. Though the Scriptures may not tell us everything we might like to know about the "intermediate state", enough is revealed to make the following comparison:

a. Concerning the righteous...

1) With _____ d and _____ t

2) In P _____, which since the a _____ of Christ is in H _____

3) A _____ and c _____

4) At r _____ in a s _____ of b _____

b. Concerning the wicked...

1) S _____ from G _____ and C _____

2) In H _____

3) A _____ and c _____

4) In t _____, reserved under punishment for the day of Judgment

Next lesson: **What Do We Know About the Lord's Second Coming?**