

# A Biblical Study: Understanding Death



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# Biblical Study on the State of the Dead

## 1. Definitions of Life, Death, and Immortality

### a. Life:

#### i. Merriam-webster dictionary definition

1. “The quality that distinguishes a vital and functional being from a dead body. An organismic state characterized by the capacity for metabolism, growth, reaction to stimuli, and reproduction. The sequence of physical and mental experiences that make up the existence of an individual.”

### b. Death:

#### i. Medical definition

1. The end of life. The permanent cessation of all vital bodily functions. The common law standard for determining death is the cessation of all vital functions traditionally demonstrated by an absence of spontaneous respiratory and cardiac functions.

#### ii. Merriam-webster dictionary definition

1. “A permanent cessation of all vital functions, the end of life.”

### c. Immortality:

#### i. Merriam-webster dictionary definition

1. “Unending existence. Exempt from death. Exempt from oblivion. Imperishable, eternal. Able or tending to divide indefinitely such as immortal cell lines produced in a culture in a laboratory.”

## 2. The Bible Tells Us How We Were Made

- a. “And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.” Genesis 2:7 (KJV)

**Dust of the Ground + Breath of Life = A Living Person**

- b. “Entonces Jehová Dios formó al hombre del polvo de la tierra, y sopló en su nariz aliento de vida, y fue el hombre un ser viviente.” Genesis 2:7 (Reina Valera 1960)

**Polvo de la Tierra + Aliento de Vida = Un Ser Viviente**

### c. Literal meaning:

- i. Next, the LORD God formed the man from the ground, and He blew into his nostrils a living breath; then the man became a living being.

## 3. Biblical Words

### a. Bible originally composed of 3 ancient languages: Hebrew, Aramaic, and Koine Greek.

- i. Ancient Hebrew was the tongue of the ancient Israelites and the language in which most of the Old Testament was written in.
- ii. Ancient Aramaic originated among the Arameans in northern Syria and became widely used under the Assyrians. A few passages in the Old Testament were written in Aramaic.

- iii. The New Testament was written in Koine Greek (common Greek), language that could be understood by almost anyone, educated or not. Rome had conquered Greece, and the influence of Greek culture had saturated the empire.
- b. **“Breath” (Nashamah in Hebrew):** breath, spirit, breath (of man), spirit (of man), breath (of God), every breathing thing.
  - i. **In scientific terms breath means oxygen exchange (metabolism).**
    - 1. For example, a living cell differs from a non-living cell in that a living cell has metabolism. Once a cell dies or no longer has metabolism, a scientist nor science can bring it back to life. Metabolism comes from God.
  - ii. **God gives the breath of life to both people and animals.**
    - 1. Ecclesiastes 3:19 (NKJV) “<sup>19</sup>For what happens to the sons of men also happens to animals; one thing befalls them: as one dies, so dies the other. Surely, they all have one breath; man has no advantage over animals, for all *is* vanity.”
- c. **“Spirit” (Ruwach in Hebrew):** spirit, Spirit, wind, breath, side, mind, blast, vain, air, anger, cool, courage
- d. **“Soul” (Nephesh in Hebrew):** soul, life, person, mind, heart, creature, body, himself, yourselves, dead, will, desire, man, themselves, any, appetite.
  - i. **a living soul** is the translation of the Hebrew phrase – נֶפֶשׁ חַיָּה (*ne-phesh chay-yah*) which refers to something living that breaths.
  - ii. **Do souls die? Yes**
    - 1. Ezekiel 18:4,20 (NKJV) “<sup>4</sup>“Behold, all souls are Mine; The soul of the father As well as the soul of the son is Mine; The soul who sins shall die...<sup>20</sup> The soul who sins shall die.”
    - 2. Revelation 16:3 (KJV) “<sup>3</sup>Every living soul died in the sea”
  - iii. The word “soul” is found in the bible more than 1600 times. The words “immortal soul” is never found in the Bible.
- e. **“To expire” (Gava in Hebrew):** to expire, die, perish, give up the ghost, yield up the ghost, be dead, be ready to die.

#### 4. Who is Immortal and Who is Mortal?

- a. **ONLY God is immortal**
  - i. 1 Timothy 1:17 (NKJV) “<sup>17</sup>Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, *be* honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.”
  - ii. 1 Timothy 6:15,16 (NKJV) “<sup>15</sup> which He will manifest in His own time, *He who is* the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords, <sup>16</sup> who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom *be* honor and everlasting power. Amen.”
- b. **Man is mortal**
  - i. 2 Corinthians 4:11 (NKJV) “<sup>11</sup> For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus’ sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.”
  - ii. Paul did not appear to his brethren as a spirit. He is telling them though he is not with them physically, he will still be with them in their hearts.
    - 1. 1 Corinthians 5:3 (NKJV) “<sup>3</sup>For I indeed, as absent in body but present in spirit, have already judged (as though I were present) him who has so done this deed.”

**c. Immortality for the saved in Christ on Christ's 2<sup>nd</sup> coming.**

- i. 1 Corinthians 15:51,52 (NKJV) “<sup>51</sup>Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed— <sup>52</sup>in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.”
- ii. 1 Thessalonians 4:16,17 (NKJV) “<sup>16</sup>For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup>Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.”
- iii. Psalms 17:15 (NKJV) “<sup>15</sup>As for me, I will see Your face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when I awake in Your likeness.”
- iv. 1 John 5:12,13 (NKJV) “<sup>12</sup>He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. <sup>13</sup>These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may *continue to* believe in the name of the Son of God.”
- v. John 11:25 (NKJV) “<sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.”

**d. Jesus' reward will be given at His 2<sup>nd</sup> coming.**

- i. John 13:33,36 (NKJV) “...<sup>33</sup>‘Where I am going, you cannot come,’ so now I say to you... <sup>36</sup>Simon Peter said to Him, “Lord, where are You going?” Jesus answered him, “Where I am going you cannot follow Me now, but you shall follow Me afterward.”
- ii. Revelation 22:12 (NKJV) “<sup>12</sup>And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward *is* with Me, to give to every one according to his work.”
- iii. Hebrews 11:13 (NKJV) “<sup>13</sup>These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced *them* and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.”
- iv. Matthew 25:45,46 (NKJV) “<sup>45</sup>Then He will answer them, saying, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do *it* to one of the least of these, you did not do *it* to Me.’ <sup>46</sup>And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”
- v. Assurance of the resurrection 2 Corinthians 5:1-8

**5. What Happens When a Person Dies?**

**a. The body turns to dust and the spirit goes back to God who gave it.**

- i. Ecclesiastes 12:7 (NKJV) “<sup>7</sup>Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, And the spirit will return to God who gave it.”
- ii. James 2:26 (NKJV) “<sup>26</sup>For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.”
- iii. Job 27:3 (NKJV) “<sup>3</sup>As long as my breath *is* in me, And the breath of God in my nostrils,”
- iv. Psalms 146:4 (NKJV) “<sup>4</sup>His spirit departs, he returns to his earth; In that very day his plans perish.”

**b. People do not go to heaven, hell or purgatory when they die.**

- i. Job 7:9 (NKJV) “<sup>9</sup>As the cloud disappears and vanishes away, So he who goes down to the grave does not come up.”

- ii. Acts 2:29, 34 (NKJV) <sup>29</sup>“Men *and* brethren, let *me* speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day... <sup>34</sup>For David did not ascend into the heavens...”
- iii. John 5:28, 29 (NKJV) <sup>28</sup>“Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice <sup>29</sup>and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.”

**c. The dead have no understanding, no feelings, no remembrance.**

- i. Ecclesiastes 9:10 (NKJV) <sup>10</sup>“Whatever your hand finds to do, do *it* with your might; for *there is* no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going.”
- ii. Psalms 115:17 (NKJV) <sup>17</sup>“The dead do not praise the Lord...”
- iii. Psalms 6:5 (NKJV) <sup>5</sup>“For in death *there is* no remembrance of You; In the grave who will give You thanks?”
- iv. Job 7:9,10 (NKJV) <sup>9</sup>“As the cloud disappears and vanishes away, So he who goes down to the grave does not come up. <sup>10</sup>He shall never return to his house, Nor shall his place know him anymore.”
- v. Isaiah 38:18 (NKJV) <sup>18</sup>“For Sheol cannot thank You, Death cannot praise You; Those who go down to the pit cannot hope for Your truth.”
  - 1. The word Sheol means grave.

**d. The dead cannot communicate with the living.**

- i. Job 14:12, 21 (NKJV) <sup>12</sup>“Man lies down and does not rise. Till the heavens are no more, they will not awake nor be roused from their sleep. ... <sup>21</sup>His sons come to honor, and he does not know it; they are brought low, and he does not perceive it”
- ii. Ecclesiastes 9:5, 6 (NKJV) <sup>5</sup>“For the living know that they will die; But the dead know nothing, And they have no more reward, For the memory of them is forgotten. <sup>6</sup>Also their love, their hatred, and their envy have now perished; Nevermore will they have a share in anything done under the sun.”

## **6. Bible Defines Death as Sleep**

**a. The bible refers to death as sleep 53 times.**

- i. Psalms 13:3 (NKJV) <sup>3</sup>“Consider *and* hear me, O LORD my God; Enlighten my eyes, Lest I sleep the *sleep of* death;”

**b. Jesus called the state of being dead as “sleep”.**

- i. John 11:11-14 (NKJV) <sup>11</sup>“These things He said, and after that He said to them, “Our friend Lazarus sleeps, but I go that I may wake him up.” <sup>12</sup>Then His disciples said, “Lord, if he sleeps he will get well.” <sup>13</sup>However, Jesus spoke of his death, but they thought that He was speaking about taking rest in sleep. <sup>14</sup>Then Jesus said to them plainly, “Lazarus is dead.”

**c. Jesus is the resurrection and the Life for all those who believe in Him.**

- i. John 11:24,25 (NKJV) <sup>24</sup>“Martha said to Him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.” <sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. <sup>26</sup>And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?”

**d. At the resurrection of Jesus a few others were also resurrected.**

- i. Matthew 27:52,53 (NKJV) “<sup>52</sup>and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; <sup>53</sup>and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many.”
- e. Death will be destroyed forever.**
- i. 1 Corinthians 15:54-57 (NKJV) “<sup>54</sup>Death is swallowed up in victory.” <sup>55</sup>“O Death, where *is* your sting? O Hades, where *is* your victory?” <sup>56</sup>The sting of death *is* sin, and the strength of sin *is* the law. <sup>57</sup>But thanks *be* to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.
  - ii. 1 Corinthians 15:26 (NKJV) “<sup>26</sup>The last enemy *that* will be destroyed *is* death.”
  - iii. Revelation 21:4 (NKJV) “<sup>4</sup>And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.”

## 7. Hellfire, Second Death, Day of Judgement, Reincarnation, and God’s Strange Act

### **a. Hellfire is not eternal.**

- i. Hellfire was meant for Satan and his evil angels (demons).
  - 1. Matthew 25:41 (NKJV) “<sup>41</sup>Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:’”
  - 2. 2 Peter 2:4 (NKJV) “<sup>4</sup>For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;”
- ii. Destruction of Satan.
  - 1. Ezekiel 28:18,19 (NKJV) “<sup>18</sup>“You defiled your sanctuaries By the multitude of your iniquities, By the iniquity of your trading; Therefore I brought fire from your midst; It devoured you, And I turned you to ashes upon the earth In the sight of all who saw you. <sup>19</sup>All who knew you among the peoples are astonished at you; You have become a horror, And *shall be* no more forever.”
- iii. Lake of fire is not a place but an event that will happen at the end of time.
  - 1. Revelation 20:9 (NKJV) “<sup>9</sup>They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them.”
- iv. 2 cities as examples of total destruction were Sodom, and Gomorrah.
  - 1. 2 Peter 2:6 (NKJV) “<sup>6</sup>and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned *them* to destruction, making *them* an example to those who afterward would live ungodly;”
  - 2. Jude 7 (NKJV) “as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.”
- v. Matthew 13:40-42 (NKJV) “<sup>40</sup> Therefore as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age. <sup>41</sup>The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, <sup>42</sup>and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth”
- vi. Psalms 37:10,20 (NKJV) “<sup>10</sup>For yet a little while and the wicked *shall be* no more; ... <sup>20</sup>But the wicked shall perish; And the enemies of the LORD, Like the splendor of the meadows, shall vanish. Into smoke they shall vanish away.”

- vii. Malachi 4:1 (NKJV) “<sup>1</sup>For behold, the day is coming, Burning like an oven, And all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up,” Says the LORD of hosts, “That will leave them neither root nor branch.”
- viii. 2 Peter 3:10 (NKJV) “<sup>10</sup>But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.”

**b. Second Death: The eternal separation from God. No one has suffered this death except Jesus when He died on the cross carrying the burden of our sins.**

- i. Revelation 21:8 (NKJV) “<sup>8</sup>But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”
- ii. Matthew 10:28 (NKJV) “<sup>28</sup>And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”

**c. Day of Judgement**

- i. Job 21:30,32 (NKJV) “<sup>30</sup>For the wicked are reserved for the day of doom; They shall be brought out on the day of wrath... <sup>32</sup>Yet he shall be brought to the grave, And a vigil kept over the tomb.”
- ii. 2 Peter 2:9 (NKJV) “<sup>9</sup>then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment,”
- iii. John 12:48 (NKJV) “<sup>48</sup>He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.”

**d. No Reincarnation**

- i. Hebrews 9:27 (NKJV) “<sup>27</sup>And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,”

**e. God’s Strange Act**

- i. God does not enjoy hurting His creation.
  - 1. Ezekiel 18:32 (NKJV) “<sup>32</sup>For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies,” says the Lord GOD. “Therefore turn and live!”
  - 2. Ezekiel 33:11 (NKJV) “<sup>11</sup>Say to them: ‘As I live,’ says the Lord GOD, ‘I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?’
- ii. There is no eternal punishment or fire. Out of love God will destroy the wicked. Otherwise, to have them live forever in sin would be a torment to people and to Him.
  - 1. Isaiah 28:21 (KJV) “<sup>21</sup>For the LORD shall rise up as in mount Perazim, he shall be wroth as in the valley of Gibeon, that he may do his work, his strange work; and bring to pass his act, his strange act.”

**8. God’s Truths, and Satan’s Actions**

**a. God’s Truths:**

- i. Genesis 2:16,17 (KJV) “<sup>16</sup>And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: <sup>17</sup>But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.”
- ii. Sin has a penalty.
  - 1. Romans 6:23 (KJV) “<sup>23</sup>For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”



- iii. When Adam and Eve sinned they became mortal, and they no longer had access to the Tree of life. The redeemed, once in heaven, will be able to have of the Tree of Life.
  1. Genesis 3:22 (NKJV) “<sup>22</sup>Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever.”
- iv. God’s armor needed against Satan’s deceptions.
  1. Ephesians 6:11,12 (NKJV) “<sup>11</sup> Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the <sup>[b]</sup>wiles of the devil. <sup>12</sup> For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of <sup>[c]</sup>the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.”

## b. Devil’s Actions:

- i. Satan is the serpent who spoke to Eve in the Garden of Eden.
  1. Revelation 12:9 (NKJV) “That serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan.”
  2. Genesis 3:4,5 (KJV) “<sup>4</sup>And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: <sup>5</sup>For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.”
- ii. Satan is a liar.
  1. John 8:44 (NKJV) “ You are of *your* father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *resources*, for he is a liar and the father of it.”
- iii. Satan can perform miracles and impersonates.
  1. Revelation 16:14 (KJV) “For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles”
  2. Matthew 24:24 (NKJV) “False christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.”
  3. 2 Thessalonians 2:9,10 (NKJV) “<sup>9</sup>The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, <sup>10</sup> and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish...”
  4. Satan will appear as an angel of light.
    - a. 2 Corinthians 11:14 (NKJV) “And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.”
  5. Satan will appear as Christ Himself.
    - a. Matthew 24:23 (NKJV) “Then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here *is* the Christ!’ or ‘There!’ do not believe *it*.”
- iv. Satan deceives.
  1. Revelation 13:13,14 (NKJV) “<sup>13</sup> He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. <sup>14</sup> And he deceives <sup>[f]</sup>those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived.”
  2. Revelation 16:14 (NKJV) “For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, *which* go out to the kings <sup>[g]</sup>of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.”
  3. Revelation 18:23 (NKJV) “The light of a lamp shall not shine in you anymore, and the voice of bridegroom and bride shall not be heard in you anymore. For your merchants were the great men of the earth, for by your sorcery all the nations were deceived.”

4. 1 Timothy 4:1,2 (NKJV) “Now the Spirit <sup>[a]</sup>expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, <sup>2</sup> speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron.”
- v. Satan wants to be like God.
  1. Isaiah 14:12-15 (NKJV) “<sup>12</sup>“How you are fallen from heaven, O Day Star, son of Dawn! How you are cut down to the ground, you who laid the nations low! <sup>13</sup> You said in your heart, ‘I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north; <sup>14</sup> I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.’ <sup>15</sup> But you are brought down to Sheol, to the far reaches of the pit.”
- vi. Satan has great anger and will make war with God’s people because he knows his end will come soon.
  1. Revelation 12:12 (NKJV) “Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time.”

## 9. The Truth About Angels

### **a. All angels are powerful beings.**

- i. Revelation 16:4 (NKJV) “Then the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood.”
- ii. Acts 12:7 (NKJV) “<sup>7</sup>Now behold, an angel of the Lord stood by *him*, and a light shone in the prison; and he struck Peter on the side and raised him up, saying, “Arise quickly!” And his chains fell off *his* hands.”

### **b. God’s angels.**

- i. Psalms 103:20 (NKJV) “<sup>20</sup> Bless the LORD, you His angels, Who excel in strength, who do His word, Heeding the voice of His word.”

### **c. Satan and his evil angels thrown out of heaven.**

- i. Revelation 12:7-9 (NKJV) “<sup>7</sup> And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, <sup>8</sup> but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for <sup>[b]</sup>them in heaven any longer. <sup>9</sup> So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.”

## 10. God of the Living, the god of the Dead, and Spiritism

### **a. God of the living was Yahweh in the Old Testament and who is Jesus Christ.**

- i. Matthew 22:32 (NKJV) “I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob”? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.”
- ii. Mark 12:27 (NKJV) “He is not the God of the dead, but the God of the living. You are therefore greatly mistaken.”
- iii. Luke 20:38 (NKJV) “For He is not the God of the dead but of the living, for all live to Him.”
- iv. In Christ people are alive. In Christ there is eternal life. Those who have died in Christ, He counts them as living and will give them eternal life at the resurrection.

### **b. The god of the dead was Osiris.**

- i. Osiris was an ancient Egyptian god of the dead, fertility, agriculture, afterlife, resurrection, life and vegetation. He was deemed the ruler, protector, and judge of the dead.
- ii. Veneration of the dead was a system attributed to Osiris.
- iii. He was also a judge who weighs the works of the people. Good works vs. bad works determined where you would end up once you died.

**c. Ancient and Modern Spiritism**

- i. **Spiritualism** is a religious movement based on the belief that the spirits of the dead exist and have both the ability and the inclination to communicate with the living.
- ii. Spiritualism comes from ancient Babylonian and Egyptian civilizations.
- iii. Modern or Western spiritism in North America began through the Fox sisters in 1840's.

**11. God Strictly Prohibits the Veneration and Consultation of the Dead.**

- a. **Veneration of the dead;** can include one's ancestors, is based on love, respect and worship for the deceased.
- b. **Paganism and other religions;** believe in the veneration of the dead, dead ancestors, and saints.
- c. **Cathedrals;** are built in ancient pagan worship sites. All cathedrals contain dead bodies, graves, or relics of the dead.
- d. **God prohibits veneration of the dead.**
  - i. Leviticus 19:31 (NKJV) “Give no regard to mediums and familiar spirits; do not seek after them, to be defiled by them: I *am* the LORD your God.”
  - ii. Leviticus 20:6 (NKJV) “And the person who turns to mediums and familiar spirits, to prostitute himself with them, I will set My face against that person and cut him off from his people.”
  - iii. Leviticus 20:27 (NKJV) “‘A man or a woman who is a medium, or who has familiar spirits, shall surely be put to death; they shall stone them with stones. Their blood *shall be* upon them.’ ”
  - iv. Deuteronomy 18:10-12 (NKJV) “<sup>10</sup>There shall not be found among you *anyone* who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, *or one* who practices witchcraft, *or a* soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, <sup>11</sup> or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. <sup>12</sup>For all who do these things *are* an abomination to the LORD, and because of these abominations the LORD your God drives them out from before you.”
  - v. Numbers 19:16 (NKJV) “Whoever in the open field touches one who is slain by a sword or who has died, or a bone of a man, or a grave, shall be unclean seven days.”
  - vi. Leviticus 21:1 (NKJV) “And the LORD said to Moses, “Speak to the priests, the sons of Aaron, and say to them: ‘None shall defile himself for the dead among his people,’”
  - vii. Isaiah 8:19,20 (NKJV) “<sup>19</sup> And when they say to you, “Seek those who are mediums and wizards, who whisper and mutter,” should not a people seek their God? *Should they seek* the dead on behalf of the living? <sup>20</sup> To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, *it is* because *there is* no light in them.”
  - viii. 2 Chronicles 33:6 (NKJV) “Also he caused his sons to pass through the fire in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom; he practiced soothsaying, used witchcraft and sorcery, and consulted mediums and spiritists. He did much evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke Him to anger.”

- ix. 1 Corinthians 10:20-22 (NKJV) “<sup>20</sup> Rather, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice they sacrifice to demons and not to God, and I do not want you to have fellowship with demons. <sup>21</sup> You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the Lord’s table and of the table of demons. <sup>22</sup> Or do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than He?”

## 12. King Saul, the Witch of Endor, and the King’s Death

- a. **King Saul departs from God;** King Saul sought answers about the battle with the Philistines. He sought out a medium, a witch from Endor.
- i. 1 Samuel 28:6-7 (NKJV) “<sup>6</sup> And when Saul inquired of the LORD, the LORD did not answer him, either by dreams or by Urim or by the prophets. <sup>7</sup> Then Saul said to his servants, “Find me a woman who is a medium, that I may go to her and inquire of her.” And his servants said to him, “In fact, *there is* a woman who is a medium at En Dor.”
- b. **King Saul requests a séance and asks for Samuel the prophet who was dead.**
- i. 1 Samuel 28:8,11,15 (NKJV) “<sup>8</sup> So Saul disguised himself and put on other clothes, and he went, and two men with him; and they came to the woman by night. And he said, “Please conduct a séance for me, and bring up for me the one I shall name to you.”... <sup>11</sup> Then the woman said, “Whom shall I bring up for you?” And he said, “Bring up Samuel for me.”... <sup>15</sup> Now Samuel said to Saul, “Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?” And Saul answered, “I am deeply distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God has departed from me and does not answer me anymore, neither by prophets nor by dreams. Therefore I have called you, that you may reveal to me what I should do.”
- c. **King Saul and his 3 sons died in battle.**
- i. 1 Samuel 31:6 (NKJV) “<sup>6</sup> So Saul, his three sons, his armorbearer, and all his men died together that same day.”
- d. **King Saul died due to his unfaithfulness to God.**
- i. 1 Chronicles 10:13,14 (NKJV) “<sup>13</sup> So Saul died for his unfaithfulness which he had committed against the LORD, because he did not keep the word of the LORD, and also because he consulted a medium for guidance. <sup>14</sup> But *he* did not inquire of the LORD; therefore He killed him, and turned the kingdom over to David the son of Jesse.”

## 13. References & Resources

1. Merriam-webster Dictionary
2. King James Bible
3. Reina Valera 1960 Bible
4. New King James Bible
5. Biblegateway.com
6. Amazing Discoveries Africa – Total Onslaught Ministries <https://amazingdiscoveries.co.za/>
7. [Amazingdiscoveries.org](https://amazingdiscoveries.org)
8. Pastor David Asscherick - Discover Prophecy Seminar: <https://youtu.be/kZGfqxKQe6I>
9. [Amazingfacts.org](https://amazingfacts.org)
10. [3ABN.org](https://3abn.org)
11. [Thegoodnewstruth.com](https://thegoodnewstruth.com)
12. [Thebiblenewskids.com](https://thebiblenewskids.com)

# DISCOVER PROPHECY

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The series is presented by pastor David Asscherick. He is an ordained minister of the gospel and a sought-after speaker both nationally and internationally. A former extreme sports enthusiast and punk rocker, David turned his life over to the God of the Bible at the age of 24. Since that time he has traveled around the world teaching and preaching the Good News of Jesus. He is happily married and a father of two.

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3. How near is the end?
4. Bible prophecies answer for human suffering
5. The war behind the wars - Part 1
6. The war behind the wars – Part 2
7. Does Jesus Christ have a twin?
8. The actual, certain, unavoidable identity of the Antichrist
9. The rock that simply will not roll – Part 1
10. The rock that simply will not roll - Part 2
11. How Jesus Christ will defy the skeptics and return to earth

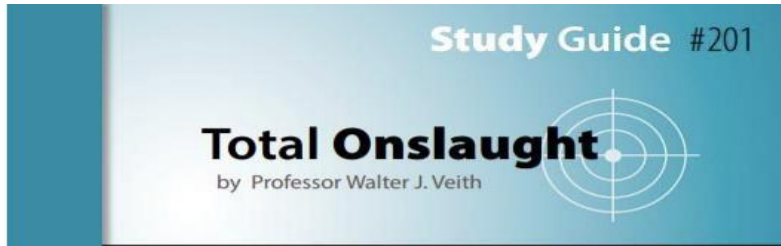
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13. There really is a final judgment
14. Perfect prophetic proof of Jesus Christ identity
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16. The good news about hell
17. How to postpone your funeral
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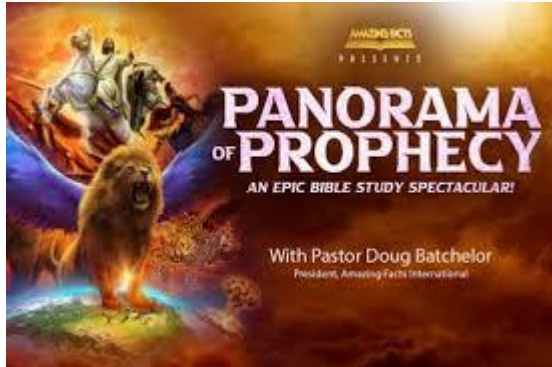
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- 06: The Revelation of Jesus Christ
- 07: Seven Churches
- 08: Seven Seals
- 09: When Trumpets Sound
- 10: The Beast from the Bottomless Pit
- 11: The Secret Behind Secret Societies
- 12: Hidden Agendas
- 13: Battle of the Bibles
- 14: Changing the Word
- 15: Revolutions, Tyrants & Wars
- 16: The Islamic Connection
- 17: The Crime of All Ages
- 18: Two Beasts Become Friends
- 19: The Wine of Babylon
- 20: A Woman Rides the Beast
- 21: A New World Order
- 22: The Mystic Realm of Death
- 23: The New Age Agenda
- 24: That All May Be One
- 25: Strange Fire
- 26: The UN & The Occult Agenda
- 27: Battle of the Giants
- 28: A Stone to Rest Your Head
- 29: God's Guiding Gift
- 30: Earth's Final Warning
- 31: The Loud Cry
- 32: 1844 & The Final Onslaught
- 33: Signs & Wonders
- 34: History's Coming Climax
- 35: The Long-Awaited Millennium
- 36: The Greatest Invitation

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13. The Final Firestorm
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16. A Woman in the Wilderness
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