

"Your Final Destination"

(What Happens When You Die?" - Part 4) - (2022-12-11)

1. Again, today you have a difficult decision: continue to believe the attractive but erroneous concepts invented by people, ... or believe what God really says in his Word. It is about the myths and lies regarding the issue that no one wants to face, but that we are all going to face one day, whether we like it or not. The taboo subject, but unavoidable:
2. [TITLE] **Your Final Destination... What Happens When You Die? (Part 4 - Conclusion)**
3. This is "part 4" (and final) of the series of messages: "What Happens When One Dies?" If you haven't seen parts 1 to 3 yet, you can find them here: <https://i-ccc.cl/Muerte/>
4. Why 'part 4'? Weren't the first 3 enough? After those 3, I received many questions, comments, and doubts... implying that there is still a lot to say about the "subject-of-which-nobody-wants-to-talk"! And the final conclusion is also missing...
5. 'Brief' summary of parts 1-3: When we die we do not fall "asleep", nor do we become angels, demons, ghosts... or "nothing". Life continues after death. Your soul is still alive, conscious, awake, lucid, without interruptions. Your body turns to dust.
6. *"Dust? Where did you get that? We are made of proteins, and fats, and bones, and nerves, and cells, and chemicals, and things like that."* According to science, the human body is made of only 19 chemical elements. Mostly: Carbon nitrogen calcium phosphorus sulfur potassium sodium magnesium iron zinc... and water. And soil is made mostly of: [the same].
7. Body = Soil
8. In both cases, remove the water and what remains is... Dust
- 9.

Genesis 3:19 "You will earn your bread by the sweat of your brow, until you return to the same land from which you were taken. For dust you are, and to dust you will return."

Ecclesiastes 12:7 "The dust returns to the ground from whence it came, and the spirit returns to God."

(Also: Genesis 2:7 Genesis 18:27 Psalm 103:14 Job 34:15 and various others)

10. Without your soul and spirit, your body cannot live. It's just mud. And without water, mud is... dust
11. This is how we human beings are: Made of three parts: 1) Body ("mud"), 2) soul, and 3) spirit. *"But!!! ... I think that "soul" and "spirit" are the same! They are not different things! Therefore we are only 2 things: Body and Spirit.*
12. There is no time to go deeper today, but when studying the Bible it is clear that: we are body, and soul, and spirit. Sometimes the Bible uses "soul" and "spirit" interchangeably, that's right....because they almost always go together! They are the 2 things that are necessary to give life to the body.
13. Don't you believe that we are 3 parts?

1 Thessalonians 5:23 "May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you completely, and preserve your whole being—spirit, soul, and body—blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

"Your whole being" consists of: Spirit, soul and body...

14. If you want more details: (Bible study: "Body, Soul, and Spirit") i-ccc.cl/Alma
15. But there is a simple way to understand: A computer also requires body spirit soul
16. "body", "spirit", "soul"...

17. Just like Man:

Genesis 2:7 “And the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living being..”

18. Your body ends up in the grave turning to dust, but... what about your soul and your spirit (the "spark")? Before Jesus, all souls (good and bad) went to the 'place of the dead'. It is called "Sheol" in Hebrew, "Hades" in Greek. It's not hell. It's not heaven. It is where the souls of all the dead, both "good" and "bad", went before Jesus.
19. "Hades" is divided into two zones: One for people who rejected God during their lives, and the other for those who put their faith in God during their lives.
20. In part 2 of this series, we saw that the Bible talks about this: Everyone's mortal bodies died, but their souls/spirits went to one of the two zones of Hades.
21. Interestingly, the people in Hades (good and bad), have some kind of body: They can see, feel, think, touch, hear, talk, walk, drink, ... and they need clothes.
22. It is clearly not his mortal body (which is still in the grave, on its way to dust). Nor is it his immortal and definitive body: he will not have that until his resurrection. It is a temporary body.
23. It seems that the soul and spirit always require some kind of body, to be a "person"! Physical body here on earth, glorified in eternity, and "temporary" in the "meantime"...
24. *"But. That's not what they taught me! I think that dying is simply "lights out"*
25. *"The lights are turned off. Darkness. Black. The thing is over. End. Nothing more. No 'resurrection', 'life after death', 'souls' or anything. There is nothing 'beyond'. This life is everything."* Actually, in the Bible the religious leaders of the Jewish people thought the same!
- 26.

Mark 12:18, 24-27 Jesus was then approached by some Sadducees, religious leaders who say there is no resurrection after death. They posed a problem: ...

(Woman married man with many brothers, who died one by one, Blah blah blah)... Jesus answers...

27.

Mark 12:18, 24-27 “Your mistake is that you do not know the Scriptures and you do not know the power of God! Well, when the dead rise, they will not marry or give themselves in marriage. (In this sense, they will be like the angels in heaven.) Now, as to whether the dead will be raised, have you never read about it in the writings of Moses, in the story of the burning bush?...

28.

Mark 12:18, 24-27 “Long after Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob died, God said to Moses, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' Therefore, he is the God of the living, not the dead! You have made a serious mistake.”

According to Jesus, it is a "grave mistake" to think that there is no life after death. And it is because "they do not know the Scriptures and do not know the power of God."

29. Undoubtedly, life continues after death.
30. So: Before the cross: all the dead went to Hades! And then? After the crucifixion, Jesus took all the people from the "Good Zone" of Hades, to the current heaven (also called "paradise"). With their temporary bodies! For those who die today: the non-believer goes to Hades, just like before. But the believer goes straight to paradise, without going through Hades! This dramatic change in the fate of believers is for one reason only:
31. On the cross, Jesus paid the terrible price for our sins, suffering the horrendous punishment that we deserve. Just because of this incredible act of love, we can go to heaven.

32. *"But.... If those in heaven are alive and conscious, and have eyes, minds, souls... Can they see us?"* Yes of course! The Bible doesn't say this explicitly, but in several places it implies that people in heaven are aware of what's going on here.
33. Hebrews 11, for example, talks about "the heroes of the faith", highlighting many OT characters for their great faith. And in the middle of the list, it says:

Hebrews 11:13 All these died still believing what God had promised them. And although they did not receive what was promised, they saw it from afar and gladly accepted it.

After they died, they finally saw the results of their faith. "From afar"...

34. And the following verses add something very interesting:

Hebrews 11:13-16 They agreed that they were foreigners and nomads here in this world. It is obvious that those who express themselves like this hope to have their own country. If they had missed the country they left, they might as well have returned. However, they were looking for a better place, a heavenly homeland. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

35. From afar they saw the fulfillment of the promises they had believed in faith during their lives, but had not seen fulfilled. And ... "they saw it from afar and gladly accepted it." Even more interesting is the comment of the next chapter...

36.

Hebrews 12:1 Therefore, we also, who have such a great cloud of witnesses around us, let us free ourselves from all weight and from the sin that besieges us, and let us run with patience the race that is before us.

That "cloud of witnesses" are the "heroes of faith" of chap. 11: Those who are already in heaven, watching while God's promises continue to be fulfilled... With us!

37. The picture here is this: A Greek stadium, where we are the athletes running the marathon, and the "crowd of witnesses" is the people in the sky, watching and cheering us on.
38. *"So, our loved ones who are already there, can they see us?"* Of course they can! The question is if they want to! They are with Jesus, in the very presence of God, surrounded by all the famous people of the Bible, and the wonders of paradise... I don't know if they will have much interest in spending their time looking at us!
39. Also: they are not God! They are not omniscient, nor omnipresent: Just like us, they can do only one thing at a time: They cannot see what EVERYONE is doing simultaneously! If I had to choose between focusing all my attention on someone on earth, or on Jesus...
40. However, they *can* see us if they want to from time to time.
41. *"But – wouldn't they be sad and disappointed if they saw how we are living our lives?"* Yes of course! Undoubtedly. Sad, embarrassed, disappointed, shocked, surprised, upset...perhaps horrified, shocked, even disgusted. They would certainly see us like this.
42. *"What? Sadness and lamenting and tears in the sky? That's impossible! The Bible says that those things will NOT happen in heaven!"* Correct. But wrong! It is found in Revelation:

Revelation 21:4 God himself will be with them and will be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death, no crying, no sorrow, no pain...

43. Clear, right? ...But what is the *context* of v4? Let's go back 3 verses, to the beginning...

44.

Revelation 21:4 "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had ceased to exist, just like the sea. ...

This hasn't happened yet! Neither v1 nor v4. This is all in the future

45. (Rev. 21) This is the second-last chapter of the entire Bible: It is about the beginning of eternity, with the NEW heaven. And only from that moment... "God himself will be...
46. Therefore, it is NOT applicable to the current heaven. Our loved ones who are in heaven today, really can feel sorrow and sadness for us...
47. So what would the "new heaven/earth" look like? Is it possible to know what our home is like for eternity? *"NO! That's impossible! It's prohibited! The Bible says so in 1 Corinthians 2:9."*

48.

1 Corinthians 2:9 "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him."

"See? You cannot know what heaven is like!!!" Oh! My poor friend Mr. Orange... He forgot to read the next verse! V.10...

49.

1 Corinthians 2:10 ...But it was to us that God revealed those things by His Spirit. For his Spirit investigates everything thoroughly and shows us the deep secrets of God.

Here, Paul is citing something from the Old Testament, but adds that things have changed: Now YES it can be known, because God himself has revealed those things... That's his whole point here! Paul wants us to know that the OT comment about NOT being able to know, is no longer correct, because in the NT, God himself has revealed it.

50. So how would it be? We return to Apoc. 21. But first, a little context: Much of this book is a vision that the Lord gives to John, with instructions to write everything down carefully. The whole vision has to do with the future, for John. Chapter 21 is the last part of the vision.

51. We already saw the beginning of the chapter: ...

Revelation 21:1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, because the first heaven and the first earth had ceased to exist...

But in verse 9, something interesting happens:

Apoc. 21:9 One of the 7 angels who had the 7 vials full with the last 7 plagues approached me. He spoke to me like this: "Come, I'm going to introduce you to the bride, the wife of the Lamb."

52. So who does the angel introduce John to? *"Obvious! It's the church! Everyone knows that the church is the bride of Christ."* This may be a surprise to many! Let's keep reading...

53.

Revelation 21:9 "...I am going to present you to the bride, the wife of the Lamb." He took me in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven. It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a precious stone, like a transparent jasper stone.

The bride of the lamb is the new Jerusalem!

54. Even a few verses before, John had already hinted about this. V2:

Revelation 21:2 I also saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from heaven from God, prepared like a beautifully dressed bride for her betrothed. I heard a powerful voice coming from the throne saying: "Here, among human beings, is the dwelling place of God! He will encamp in the midst of them, and they will be his people; God himself will be with them and will be their God..."

55. That is our eternal home! The new Jerusalem, which comes down from the new heaven, to the new earth. But what's it like? Do you want to know all the details of your future home? Here it goes...

56.

Revelation 21:10 He took me in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven. It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a precious stone, like a transparent jasper stone. It had a great and high wall, and twelve gates guarded by twelve angels, on which were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel...

57.

Revelation 21:10 The angel who spoke with me had a golden reed to measure the city, its gates, and its wall. The city was square; it was the same length as it was wide. The angel measured the city with the reed, and it was two thousand two hundred kilometers: its length, its width, and its height were equal. He also measured the wall, and it was sixty-five meters, according to the human measurements that the angel used. The wall was made of jasper, and the city was made of pure gold, like polished glass. ...

58.

Revelation 21:10 The foundations of the city wall were decorated with all kinds of precious stones: the first with jasper, the second with sapphire, the third with agate, the fourth with emerald, the fifth with onyx, the sixth with carnelian, the seventh with chrysolite, the eighth with beryl, the ninth with topaz, the tenth with chrysoprase, the eleventh with hyacinth and the twelfth with amethyst. The twelve gates were twelve pearls, and each gate was made of a single pearl. The main street of the city was made of pure gold, like transparent glass.

59.

Revelation 21:10 I did not see any temple in the city, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. The city needs neither the sun nor the moon to illuminate it, because the glory of God illuminates it, and the Lamb is its light. The nations will walk in the light of the city, and the kings of the earth will give it their splendid riches. Its doors will be open all day, for there will be no night there. And they will bring to it all the glory and honor of the nations.

60.

Revelation 21:10 Then the angel showed me a river of water of life, clear as crystal, which issued from the throne of God and of the Lamb, and ran down the center of the main street of the city. On each side of the river was the tree of life, which produces twelve crops a year, one a month; and the leaves of the tree are for the health of the nations. There will be no more curse.

61.

Revelation 21:10 The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city. His servants will adore him; they will see him face to face, and they will bear his name on their foreheads. There will be no more night; they will not need the light of a lamp or of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign forever and ever. The angel told me: "These words are true and trustworthy. The Lord, the God who inspires the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must happen without delay."

62. Does anyone want to live there? (Actually, it's much bigger than this photo! The new Jerusalem is about the size of the moon...)

63. But if you don't like this place, there is another option. Also mentioned in the same chapter 21 of Revelation, in the verses we have skipped...

64.

Revelation 21:5-8 The one who sat on the throne said, "I make all things new!" And he added: "Write, because these words are true and trustworthy." He also told me: "Everything is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the one who is thirsty I will give to drink freely from the fountain of the water of life. The one who wins will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son."

65.

Revelation 21:5-8 But the cowards, the unbelievers, the abominable, the murderers, those who commit sexual immoralities, those who practice magical arts, idolaters, and all liars will receive the lake of fire and brimstone as their inheritance. This is the second death."

66. *"Wait! I don't think there is such a place. Hell is a myth. Jesus himself never mentions "hell" in the Bible!"* You're right! Jesus never says "hell." Rather, he says "gehenna." Eg:

67.

Matthew 18:8-9 "If your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life one-armed or lame than to be thrown into eternal fire with your two hands and your two feet. And if your eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the fires of hell."

In the original Greek text, both "eternal fire" and "hell" are: Gehenna.

68. What is Gehenna? It is a physical and real place, and it exists today. Do you want to see it?
69. It is located in Jerusalem, among residential neighborhoods. But there are no buildings in Gehenna.
70. Because NO ONE who knows the history, wants to live or work in Gehenna...
71. In OT times, it was a place of human sacrifice. Even children. The OT references to "not putting your son through the fire", are references to Gehenna.
72. In the time of Jesus, it was the general garbage dump of the city, and always on fire. There dumped the corpses of all the animals sacrificed in the temple every day, and all the garbage of the city.
73. It was always burning, 24/7. Around the edges: rotting carcasses of dead animals, full of worms and maggots. In the center: a literal "lake of fire". Jesus used it as a perfect illustration of what the final hell will be like.

74.

Mark 9:43-49 "If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life one-armed than to go with both hands to hell, where the fire never goes out. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than to be thrown into hell with both feet. And if your eye causes you to sin, gouge it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to be thrown into hell with both eyes, where "their worm does not die, and the fire does not go out." The salt with which all will be seasoned is fire."

75. Just as Gehenna was a real, physical, and terrifying place at that time, so the final hell is a real, physical, and terrifying place. And it is the only other option for your "final destination", if you do not want to go to the new heaven.
76. *"But I thought that hell was only for Satan and demons! It's not for people..."* In his vision of the end times, John recorded another thing that he had seen, just before he saw the New Heaven and the New Earth.

77.

Revelation 20:12-15 Some books were opened, and then another, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done, according to what was written in the books. The sea returned its dead; death and hell returned theirs; and each one was judged according to what he had done. Death and hell were thrown into the lake of fire. This lake of fire is the second death. He whose name was not written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.

78. What is YOUR final destination? Heaven, or hell? Are you sure? And the final destination of your loved ones who are still living? There is only one solution:

Jesus said to him: "I am the way, the truth and the life; no one comes to the Father except through me."

(John 14:6)