Heaven and Hell

Introduction - wrong ideas?

Lesson 1

We are going to discuss over the next few lessons what the Bible has to say about Heaven, and Hell, because all of your neighbors have some idea or another about heaven; most of those ideas are wrong. All of your neighbors have an idea, about hell and most of those ideas are wrong also and a lot of saved people just assumed they know something about heaven or something about hell because of some exposure to a movie or to a Sunday school class or something of that nature.

But we ought to be able to open our Bible and show people just exactly what the scripture says about the life beyond this one. Strangely enough we have far more in our Bible about hell than we do about heaven because as Jesus said if He tried to tell us too much about Heaven, we wouldn’t believe Him.

1 Cor 2:9

9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

(KJV)

JESUS said “I have told you earthly things but you’ve believe me not. How would you believe if I told you Heavenly things?” Let’s just be honest about it, it would probably just short circuit every brain cell we had if God tried to explain Heaven to us in any more detail than what we have.

John 3:12

12 If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?

(KJV)

First we must establish some facts about life beyond this temporal existence in this mortal body and the Bible is very clear on these matters.

In Job chapter 14:10, the Bible says, “But man dieth, and wasteth away; yea, man giveth up the ghost, and where is he?” Now not only is that a great question, not only is it a great statement of fact, but it’s a very detailed doctrinal position. The question, “where am I after I die”; secondly, the statement of fact, I will be somewhere after I die. Job said I don’t know where, but somewhere, I’d just like to know where I’m gonna be. And then look at this great theological position here in this verse: “man (that singular entity) dieth (when that singular entity died),

1. he wasteth away (that’s his body),
2. he giveth up the ghost; (that’s his spirit);
3. and then I read “and where is he?” (that is your soul?)

When your body has wasted away, when your ghost or spirit has returned to the God that gave it, where will you be?

You know, there is a YOU down inside that little mobile home you’re dressed in this morning. Some of you got some nice siding on that thing; and some of you got some fancy clothes on it; some of you covered it up clothes from the second hand store; some of you even have it all painted up with Mary Kay. However, it’s just a temporary dwelling place. Down inside that temporary dwelling place, is the person and the individual that I’m talking
too. I'M NOT talking to your skin; I'm not talking to your bones;, HEY, I'm talking to YOU down inside there. And the Bible says that we are a living soul. And when that body that the world wants you to be so occupied with has wasted away; when that ghost or that spirit that enables us to understand one another, communicate with one another, when that's returned to the God that gave it, where are you going be? Where will you be? One hundred years from now, what will it matter what kind of car you drive? One hundred years from now, what will it matter who you rubbed elbows with? A hundred years from now, the only thing that will matter is where you are! Not where you've been, not what you did, not who you knew, not what you made, it will be “where are you?” When you give up your body, when you give up your spirit, where will you be? Great question!

1 Corinthians chapter 15:19, ‘If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.’” Think about it. What do you mean “most miserable?” As a Christian at least we have hope. But if you are not, then a miserable life and a forever after burning in a Lake of Fire.

In 1 Thessalonians 5 and Genesis Chapter Number One. 1 Thessalonians 5:23, “And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly (with the “W” on holy there and the extra “L”; that's not holy like to being separated; that's wholly as in entirely, completely, all of you) and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” The scripture said “I want your spirit sanctified, I want your soul sanctified, I want your body sanctified unto the Lord Jesus Christ, you see what you are, you are one person; but you are a spirit and a soul and a body. The three of you, make up one person. you may not understand it completely in this life, – well that’s okay.) Don't know anywhere in scripture that we are required to understand it.

Genesis Chapter 1:26. “And God said, Let us (now how many god's are there? There’s one God that one God said) Let us (He’s talking to himself – so if you do that, that’s one godly attribute you have) God said, Let us make man in our (look – “our” – there’s one God and he’s speaking the plural form), let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.” So when he’s talking about that man he’s talking one person. He said that one person was going to be made in my image.

GOD is in 1 John 5:7, He is the father, and the word, and the Holy Ghost and these three are one; our God exists eternally as the Father, as the Word, as the Holy Ghost and those three are one. I have the Father, the Word, the Holy Ghost; and He made a man – one man in His image and He made that one man in a spirit and a soul and a body. Now the fact is that you, the eternal part of your soul, lives inside your body and the spirit that God put inside that body was to enable you to communicate with other souls living inside other bodies.

Look at Genesis 2:7, “And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground…” Isn't that impressive? He just scraped up some dust. He said I'll take the weakest, most undesirable, least expensive, most good-for-nothing thing in my entire creation and I by my power and might, will make that the crown of all that I have made in the heavens and in the earth. GOD said:

Heb 2:7

7 Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands:

(KJV)
In fact, in Genesis Chapter 1:28, “And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.” How’s that? Dominion for Dust – Yeah! Why? So God gets the glory. You understand now where you came from? The expression for “dust thou art and to dust thou shalt return.” is a Bible truth, that’s all we are is dust.

Verse seven of chapter two, God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; man became a living soul. Now look at the theology. Again this is not only a statement of fact, but it’s so accurate. I have God forming a body; you got a body. I got breathing (life); breathing His spirit into that body; so now I got a body and a spirit; then I have God by a supernatural act of His power, formed me and creating a living soul within that body, that will make use of that body, that will make use of that spirit and that living soul, that’s the part of you that God’s concerned with. He said in a passage that we’ll look at later as we make our way through this study, He said what will it profit a man if He gained the world and lose his own soul? That’s what you have to be concerned about; remember our verse in Job ‘But man dieth, and wasteth away; yea, man giveth up the ghost, and where is he?’

Now, let’s take a look at some verses, showing that you live in your body. There’s a YOU inside that body. Look in Philippians 1:21, “For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.” Well you couldn’t say that if this life is all there is. The Apostle Paul, he’s living a good Christian life; but as far as he was concerned, he’d be better off dying going to Heaven than he would be living anymore of this wonderful Christian life.

Verse 22, ‘But if I live (look if I live) in the flesh, this is the fruit of my labour; yet what I shall choose I wot not.” Here’s Paul referring to himself as living in the flesh. Now that can’t mean living a carnal life all wrapped up and controlled by his lusts. NO, The Bible term in living a carnal life is phrased as “after the flesh.” All of us are “living in the flesh.” We’re just trying to make sure we don’t “mind the flesh” and make sure we don’t pursue after the things of the flesh.

In 2 Corinthians Chapter 5:1. The wording here is so clear and supportive of what we’re talking about. 2 Corinthians 5:1. ‘For we know [saved people, Christians know] that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this [In what? In this house you live in] we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven: If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked. For we that are in this tabernacle [that’s temporary dwelling place] do groan being burdened; not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality [mortal, mortician, mortuary – this temporal body, that this mortal, you see that?] mortality be swallowed up of life. Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit. Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, [watch, here’s how we know that accurate understanding of the passage] whilst we are at home in the body [so what is your body called, verse 1, an earthly house; verse 2, a tabernacle; verse 4, a tabernacle.] What are you living in? You, the real you is residing in a temporary dwelling place.

And one day, Praise God, the Lord says we’re going to move out!

You offer this world hope of everlasting life and they make fun of you. You offer a cheaper premium and they would do anything for you. It’s crazy!

That day you got saved the Lord Jesus Christ said, look at 2 Corinthians 5:6-8, ‘Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: (For we walk by faith, not by sight:) We are confident, I say, and willing
rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.”. I tell you what I’ll do for you. I’ll make you the Grand Prize Winner! I’ll give you eternal life, glorified body, a home in Heaven; you can have it. Isn’t that good? 

Let’s look at Hebrews 13:3, “Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body.” There again, there is you in a body. You can see in Galatians 2:20, ‘I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.” So there’s a you inside that body. And that you inside that body is living in the flesh, but is urged by God not to live after the flesh and the you inside that body is promised not only a present relationship with Jesus Christ, who in the person of the Holy Spirit; He comes to move in there (we’ll talk about that later) but he also promises you that one day when you step out of this body you will; you because – that’s not you laying there; when you step out of that you will have life, everlasting life, better life than this one right here. That’s our hope. That’s what we preach to the world.

notes
Heaven and Hell (Introduction)
Lesson 1

Name_____________________________________

1. Where have most of us gained our knowledge about heaven and hell? (according to the lesson)

2. What happen to your spirit when you die?

3. What happens to your soul when you die?

4. What happens to your body when you die?

5. What should the Christian be telling his/her lost neighbors?

6. What was the purpose of this Lesson?

7. What was the main character of this Lesson?_______
   a. body
   b. soul
   c. spirit

8. What is meant by living in the Flesh?

9. What is meant by living after the Flesh?

10. What does earthly house and tabernacle have in common? explain with scripture.

11. Explain Job 14:10

12. How could Paul make a statement like  For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain?
13. Explain why GOD used dust to make man?

14. Why doesn't GOD tell us more about heaven?

15. Who are the three entities of the Trinity?

16. Explain the word Wholly?

17. What is the purpose of us living in the flesh?

18. Explain 2 Corinthians 5:6-8

19. What is the definition of carnal?

20. What is the key verse of this lesson?

True/False
- GOD is LOVE so when we die we all go to heaven.
- There is three separate parts to man (related to this Lesson)
- It does not matter what we do with our bodies as a Christian, because we will eventually die and go to heaven anyway.
- Your spirit and your soul is the same thing.
- I do not need to tell my neighbor about Christ, GOD will save him by me living next door.
- As a Christian, GOD will keep our bodies healthy so they will be ready for heaven.

Scripture memorization (write these verses out on the back of this page) must be in KJV. Galatians 2:20; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; 2 Corinthians 5:1

any questions?