



## BIBLE TALK

**Mike King**

Question: Where are the dead?

Answer: Only the Bible can answer this question. It is important for us to understand the following points:

1. What is man? He is a dual being, body and soul (2 Cor. 4:16), "our outward man is decaying, yet our inward man is renewed day by day."

2. What is death? It is a separation (Jas. 2:26), "the body apart from the spirit is dead."

3. What happens at death? (Ecc. 12:7), "the dust returns to the earth as it was and the spirit shall return unto God."

4. Does the soul live after death? Yes. In Matt. 17:3, Moses and Elijah, long dead, appeared, talking to Jesus.

5. Where does the living soul go at death? Jesus told a dying man, "Today thou shall be with me in paradise" (Lk. 23:43). This was not the final reward, for Jesus said later, "I have not yet ascended to My Father" (Jn. 20:17). Where did the soul of Christ go at death? We are told in Acts 2:27, "Thou will not leave my soul to Hades."

At death, the soul goes to Hades, "the unseen abode of the dead." The word Hades is described in Lk. 16:19-31. Two types of men are seen. Righteous Lazarus was poor and sick. The wicked man lived sumptuously. Both died and went to Hades. Lazarus was in paradise in Abraham's bosom where all was happiness and joy while the wicked man was in torment. Both were conscious, and communicated. There is no altering of destiny after death!

Hades is not the end, there is yet to be a resurrection and judgment. "The hour comes when all that are in the tombs shall hear his voice and come forth; they that have done good, unto resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of judgment" (Jn. 5:28-29).

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