

2 *Thess 1:5-10* All this is evidence that God's judgment is right, and as a result you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering. God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the majesty of his power on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you. NIV

One Man's Approach to the Question: "What Happens to a Person After the Physical Death of Their Body?"

- **Truth #1 - A human being is composed of three separate and distinct parts**
1 Thess. 5:23; Heb. 4:12 **Finis Dake describes these parts as follows:**

The Body (sooma) of man - It is earthly, fleshly, and material. It is the house in which the soul and spirit dwell. At death the inner man – *the spiritual part, made up of the soul and spirit*- leaves the body to continue in a state of full consciousness either in heaven or hell (*James 2:26*), at which time the body goes back to dust again. In the resurrection, the body will be made immortal (*1 Cor. 15:35-58; Phil. 3:21*).

The Soul (psuke) of man – It is the part which feels: the seat of the emotions, passions, appetites, and desires. It may be considered the battle-ground of the flesh and spirit (*Rom. 8:1-13; Gal. 5:16-26*).

The Spirit (pneuma) of man – It is the part which knows: the seat of the intellect, will, and mind – all mental faculties (*1 Cor. 2:11*). The spirit and soul are to be understood as separate and distinct parts of the inner man.

- **Truth # 2 – From Adam to Jesus the immortal soul/spirits of those in relationship with God went to *Abraham's Side* (bosom) a place of comfort. The soul/spirits of the unrighteous dead went to torment in *hell* (hades). These two regions are separated by an impassable chasm *Luke 16:19-31*. (Eternal hell or the second death is usually indicated by the word *Gehenna*).**
- **Truth #3 – When Jesus ascended to heaven, He led the soul/spirits of the righteous dead from Abraham's Side to the *third heaven* (*2 Cor. 12:2* the central dwelling place of God) *Eph. 4:1-10; Ps. 68:18*. From this time forward Abraham's Side has been vacant, while hades continues to fill with the soul/spirits of the lost.**
- **Truth #4 – Since Christ's resurrection, the soul/spirits of deceased *saints* (true believers) have gone immediately to heaven to reside with Christ *Phil. 1:21-24*. The bodies of these believers *return to dust* (decompose).**

- **Truth #5** – At the *rapture* (harpozoo -to catch up) Christ and the soul/spirits of all deceased believers will descend from heaven with a loud command and a trumpet call. Instantaneously, the bodies of the deceased believers will be transformed into *resurrection bodies* (like that of the risen Christ) and will be reunited with their respective soul/spirits. Then, all believers living on the earth will also be caught up with the Lord in the air to spend eternity with Him *1 Thess. 4:13-18; 1 Cor. 15:51-55; 2 Cor. 12:2-4; Rev. 12:5.*
- **Truth #6** – The judgment of all the saved will occur at The Judgment Seat of Christ which will take place sometime between the rapture and the Second Advent of Christ *Rom. 14:10; 2 Cor. 5:10.* Crowns will be awarded here (*1Cor. 9:25; 2 Tim. 4:8; James 1:12; 1 Pet. 5:4; Rev. 2:10.*)
- **Truth #7** – The rapture will stimulate a tremendous revival and many people will be saved during the persecution of the tribulation including many *Jews* (144,000 *Rev. 7:1-10*) *Acts 2:16-21; Rev. 6:9-11, Rev. 7:1-21; Rev. 12:17.*
- **Truth #8** – Because the restraining action of the Holy Spirit has been removed by the Lord through the rapture, *the man of lawlessness* (the anti-christ) quickly ascends to power (*2 Thess. 2:1-10*), ushering in the 3 1/2 years of adversity called “the tribulation” and a second more horrible 3 1/2 years of horror called “the great tribulation” *Matt. 24:29; Rev. 7:13-14.*
- **Truth #9** – “The Great Tribulation culminates with the *Battle of Armageddon* (*Rev. 16:16-21*) and the *Second Advent* (parousia-coming, arrival, advent) of Christ. Satan, the dragon, is bound in the Abyss. *Zech. 14:1-5; Matt. 24:29-31; Matt. 25:31-46; Jude 14-15; Rev.19:11-21; Rev. 20:1-4*
- **Truth #10** – Christ’s Second Coming is followed by *His 1000 year reign on earth.* This period is called the “Millennium” and will end when Satan’s last rebellion is crushed and he, the demons, and all unbelievers will *bend the knee and confess Jesus Christ as Lord* (*Rom. 14:9-10; Phil 2:10-11*) at the Great White Throne Judgment *Rev. 20:1-10.* They will then all be thrown in to the “lake of fire” the last death *Rev. 20:7-15.*
- **Truth #11** The heavens and earth will melt away and be replaced by a New Heaven and a New Earth which will be illuminated by God the Father and the Lamb *2 Peter 3:10; Rev. 21:1-3.*
- **Truth #12** All of saved humanity will spend eternity in the presence of God Most High and experience a magnificent existence where there is no death, mourning, crying, pain, tears, or curse *Rev. 21:4; Rev. 22:3.*

