

*The Pocket Book of*  
**Bible Answers**



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How can we trust the Bible if it was written by men?

Answer: The Bible actually claims to be written by God. It says, “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God” (2 Tim. 3:16). That means that while men physically wrote the words in the Bible, these men were like pencils in the hand of God, “moved by the Holy Spirit,” to write out the very thoughts of God (2 Pet. 1:21). It’s like when an idea pops into your mind, and then you write it. God put the thoughts into the minds of these men. He showed them through visions, told them, and inspired them with the words to write. The fact that the Bible is inspired by God is affirmed on many levels. First, the Bible is affirmed by prophecy. God said, “I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet” (Isa. 46:9, 10). Jesus later said, “I have told you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe” (John 14:29). Then there is the evidence of changed lives. Millions of people across the globe have had a real experience with the living God through the words of Scripture, similar to the experiences the writers of the Bible had, because “the word of God is living” (Heb. 4:12). The Bible is also affirmed by scientific evidence. While scientific theories are always changing, the Bible has accurately explained scientific facts like the expanding universe, the hydrologic cycle, the division of light, and more, thousands of years before modern scientists understood them. While none of these things will convince someone who is determined not to believe, for those who are willing to look into it with an open mind, the Bible is full of evidence that it is completely inspired by God and is a trustworthy guide for us today.

## The Word of God Bible Study!

### 1. Who wrote the Bible?

While men wrote the Bible, God is the true Author. 2 Timothy 3:16 says, “All scripture is given by inspiration of God.” That means God put the thoughts in their minds or showed these men what to write, and then He allowed them to write those thoughts in their own words.

### 2. How can we be sure that the Bible was given by God?

Only the Bible has consistently predicted future events, like the rise and fall of nations (See Daniel 7). Through His word, God declares “the end from the beginning” (Isa. 46:10), so “that when it does come to pass, you may believe” (John 14:29).

### 3. What is the biggest proof of the Bible’s inspiration?

The most amazing evidence of the Bible’s inspiration is its power to change lives. God purifies us “with the washing of water by the word” (Eph. 5:26). As a result, we are “born again...through the word of God,” and we become “a new creation” (1 Pet. 1:23; 2 Cor. 5:17)

### 4. Hasn’t the Bible been changed or altered over time?

The Bible says, “The eyes of the Lord preserve knowledge” (Prov. 22:12). While wicked men have tried to destroy the Bible all through history, the Dead Sea scrolls have confirmed that God has miraculously preserved His word.

## 5. Are Bible principles still relevant to modern society?

Psalm 119:160 tells us, “every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever.” The principles of the Bible are timeless, and it would do us good to return to “the old paths” (Jer. 6:16). If people had obeyed the Bible, there would be far less pain and heartache today.

## 6. What makes the Bible so different from other books?

Hebrews 4:12 says, “the word of God is living and powerful.” The words of the Bible are alive because Jesus is “the Word,” and Jesus is alive (John 1:1). These words are powerful because when we try to obey, Jesus provides His power to our efforts (Phil. 2:13).

## 7. What must I do to tap into the power of God’s word?

Faith is the key that taps into the power of God’s word. We are told of Israel that “the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith” (Heb. 4:2). When we believe the Bible enough to obey it by faith, God will supply His power.

## 8. How should I read the Bible?

Don’t read as a skeptic, looking for an excuse to disbelieve. Instead, follow the example of the Bereans who “received the word with all readiness, and searched the scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so” (Acts 17:11).

How can Christians believe in a literal devil?

Answer: It's funny how most people will acknowledge some form of higher power that rules the world, but many people don't want to believe that there may be a lower power, a real literal devil. We must be careful to avoid believing or disbelieving on the basis of feelings. Instead, look at the evidence. We have been thrust into this world where we can clearly see that there is a battle between good and evil around us. We not only see it in our homes and in our nations, but we also see it in our own hearts when we wrestle between right and wrong. Beyond this, there is more evidence of a supernatural world all around us. All of us have heard stories of ghosts or spirits, or perhaps even seen supernatural things occur that can't be explained. While some may bury their heads in the sand and choose to disbelieve these things, the evidence of supernatural phenomenon is abundant. While we may choose not to believe in evil spirits, those devil worshippers who have talked to Satan and his angels know for a fact that they are real. In addition, it's clear that there is an invisible world beyond what you and I see, where radio waves and light rays exist, so could it be that somewhere in this invisible realm; in this supernatural world that exists, there is an evil power called Satan, warring against good. The truth is, there is a literal devil. The Bible tells us that Satan is "going to and fro on the earth, and... walking back and forth on it" (Job 2:2). He is as real as you, and just because you haven't seen him, that doesn't mean he is not there. The Bible warns, Satan "walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8). So be careful not to only believe in the things that you can see!

## The Great Controversy Bible Study!

### 1. Where did sin and evil begin?

1 John 3:8 says, “the devil has sinned from the beginning.” Sin started in heaven when Lucifer, also known as the devil or Satan, chose to sin against God’s law. Since Satan sinned from the beginning, he is the author of all the sin, pain, and evil in the world today.

### 2. Where did Satan come from?

Ezekiel 28:15 says, “You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, till iniquity was found in you.” Satan, who was originally named Lucifer, was created as a perfect angel, but the Bible says that he turned from His Creator and chose the path of iniquity, or sin.

### 3. What led the devil to sin?

Ezekiel 28:14 says God appointed Lucifer as the “anointed cherub,” or head of the angels, while verse 17 says, “Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty.” Pride began to swell up in Lucifer’s heart, and he began to think he deserved more.

### 4. What happened as a result of Satan’s sin?

Rebellion was the result. Isaiah 14:13 tells us that Satan intended to overthrow God’s government, saying in his heart, “I will exalt my throne above the stars of God.” As a result, Revelation 12:7 tells us that “war broke out in heaven.”

## 5. What did God do to the devil and his followers?

Once Satan rebelled, God gave the angels time to choose. After all the angels made their decision to either follow God or follow Satan, Revelation 12:9 says that Satan was removed from heaven and “was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.”

## 6. How did sin and suffering enter the human race?

Since the devil could no longer attack God, he went after the new creation, tempting Adam and Eve to sin. Romans 5:12 explains that “through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.”

## 7. What does the Bible say about this invisible war?

Ephesians 6:12 says this is a war “against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places,” and all heaven is watching (1 Cor. 4:9). This invisible war in the fourth dimension explains the supernatural phenomenon taking place around us that most people cannot explain.

## 8. What is the devil doing now?

1 Peter 5:8 says, “the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.” Job 1:7 tells us that right now, Satan is “going to and fro on the earth,” searching for people he can trap, and his efforts are very successful, so be on your guard (Matt. 7:14).



How can I be sure I will be saved and go to heaven?

Answer: Most people think they will go to heaven because they are basically good, but the Bible says that being a good person will not save you. Titus 3:5 says it is “not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us.” We cannot get to heaven by trying to be good people. That’s because our idea of good is not good enough. The Bible says, “all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags” (Isa. 64:6). That means our idea of goodness is not really good in God’s eyes. On the other hand, trying to attain to God’s idea of goodness is too hard for us to do without His help. Trying to attain to God’s standard of goodness on our own is impossible. The only way to achieve God’s level of goodness is by asking Him to come into our hearts and make us good. God has promised to do this. He says, “I will give them a heart to know Me” (Jer. 24:7). He says, “I will put my laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God” (Heb. 8:10). This experience is called being “born again” (John 3:3). We can receive this new heart simply by asking. It is a “free gift” (Rom. 5:15). Jesus said, “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you” (Matt. 7:7). The reason many do not find God is because they do not earnestly seek Him, desiring to follow Him with their whole heart, but those who search with a whole heart are assured success. “And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. I will be found by you, says the Lord” (Jer. 29:13, 14). When we invite Jesus into our hearts, He will then begin to make the changes in us that will prepare us for eternal life with Him in heaven.

## Salvation Bible Study!

1. If we follow our heart, won't we make it to heaven?

No. Proverbs 16:25 says, "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death." Just because something seems right doesn't mean it is right. Many broken hearts can testify to that. Jeremiah 17:9 tells us, "the heart is deceitful."

2. Do I just have to be a good person to get to heaven?

No. Galatians 2:16 says that "a man is not justified by the works of the law." First, our good works cannot make up for past sins, and second, our standard of good isn't enough. We must live a holy life, which is impossible to do without Christ (John 15:5).

3. Do I just have to believe in Jesus to get to heaven?

Just believing Jesus is God will not get you to heaven. James 2:19 says that "even the demons believe – and tremble!" Satan believes Jesus is God also, but he isn't saved. We must love God enough to act on our faith. If our belief doesn't change our life, it cannot save us.

4. Isn't having faith in Christ enough to be saved?

Yes, if it is true faith, but true faith will obey. James says, "faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead...I will show you my faith by my works" (Jas. 2:17, 18). As a child must trust their parent's rules even if they don't understand, our obedience shows that we trust God.

5. Will God really keep me out of heaven because of sin?

The problem is that most don't realize the seriousness of sin. It's like a deadly virus that rapidly spreads. If sin were allowed into heaven, it would defile heaven, leading masses to eternal death (Rev. 21:27). That's why Romans 6:23 tells us that "the wages of sin is death."

6. What did Jesus do for me?

Romans 3:23 says, "all have sinned," which means we all deserve the death penalty, but Romans 5:8 says that "Christ died for us," giving us a second chance to turn to Him and be saved. That's why Romans 6:23 says, "the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

7. What do I have to do to get to heaven?

1 John 1:9 says we must "confess our sins," admitting to God that we are a sinner. Ezekiel 18:30 says, "Repent, and turn from all your transgressions." Also, "Forgive, and you will be forgiven" (Luke 6:37). Then Acts 2:38 says, "be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ."

8. What occurs when I confess, repent, and get baptized?

In John 3:3, Jesus says He will give you His Spirit to become "born again." This experience is compared to birth because when you surrender your life to Christ, He washes away your past guilt and gives you a brand new start. After this birth, you then start to grow in your faith.

Once saved, do we have to keep the commandments?

Answer: Certainly, but when we accept God, obedience becomes much easier, because God places in our heart a newfound love for the law. When God puts His laws in our minds, we begin to view God's laws and rules differently. We no longer look at them as restrictions to our happiness, but as safeguards that protect us from danger, and we are ready to say with the Psalmist, "Oh, how I love Your law" (Ps. 119:97). Since the Bible says, "sin is lawlessness," God's true followers will seek His power to resist sin (1 John 3:4). While some claim that once we accept Christ and are under grace, we no longer have to keep the law, Paul contradicts this idea. He says, "Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace. Certainly not" (Rom. 6:15)! In fact, Jude warns against those who "turn the grace of our God into licentiousness," using grace to excuse their sin (Jude 1:4). You see, when we accept Christ, we not only want to obey, but God gives us the power to obey, "for it is God who works in you" (Phil. 2:13). Christ empowers us so "that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us" (Rom. 8:4). Obedience to God's law is what shows the world we have accepted Christ, proving that we are Christians. John says, "by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, 'I know Him,' and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him" (1 John 2:3, 4). This is affirmed all the way down to the very last chapter of the Bible, where we are told, "Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city" (Rev. 22:14).

## Ten Commandments Bible Study!

### 1. What is the purpose of the Ten Commandments?

In Romans 7:7, Paul tells us that he “would not have known sin except through the law,” adding in Romans 3:20 that “by the law is the knowledge of sin.” The purpose of the law is to show us that we are all sinners and in need of a Savior.

### 2. Why does the law show us that we are sinners?

Like a mirror shows the dirt on us so we can clean up, the law shows our sin so we will turn to Jesus to cleanse us. That’s why Galatians 3:24 says, “the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ.” Jesus then converts us. That’s why Psalm 19:7 says the law is perfect, “converting the soul.”

### 3. Once saved, do we have to keep the commandments?

Yes. In Matthew 19:17, Jesus said, “If you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.” Obeying the law is still required. Revelation 22:14 tells us, “Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life.”

### 4. Is keeping the Ten Commandments really possible?

Keeping the law is impossible without Jesus. In John 15:5, Jesus said, “without Me you can do nothing.” However, Philippians 4:13 then tells us, “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” Matthew 19:26 adds, “with God all things are possible.”

5. Didn't Jesus come to do away with the law?

No. In Matthew 5:17, Jesus said, "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy, but to fulfill," while Isaiah 42:21 adds that Jesus came to "magnify the law and make it honorable." Rather, Jesus pointed people to the importance of the law.

6. Didn't Jesus' death on the cross fulfill the law?

To fulfill the law doesn't mean getting rid of it. On the contrary! Romans 8:4 says, "the righteous requirements of the law might be fulfilled in us." Since we are too weak to keep the law on our own, Christ supplies us with the power to keep the law.

7. Isn't a relationship with Jesus better than obedience?

No. 1 John 2:3, 4 says, "by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, 'I know Him,' and does not keep His commandments, is a liar." 1 John 3:24 adds, "he who keeps His commandments abides in Him."

8. Aren't we excused from the law once under grace?

Of course not! Many today "turn the grace of our God into licentiousness," using God's mercy as an excuse to keep sinning (Jude 1:4). Just because God forgives us and extends grace to us, that does not mean we can keep sinning. Romans 6:15 asks, "Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not!"

Which day is the Sabbath, and was it only for the Jews?

Answer: While some say the Sabbath was only for the Jews, the command to keep the Sabbath holy was given at the beginning of time, long before the Jewish nation even existed, when God blessed “the seventh day,” which is Saturday, “and sanctified it” (Gen. 2:3). God then placed it in the heart of the Ten Commandments with the words, “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath” (Ex. 20:8-10). The command to worship on Sabbath has continued through the Bible. Jesus and His followers consistently went to church on Saturday (Luke 4:16, 23:56). While some say that Jesus changed the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday in honor of the resurrection, you won’t find this in the Bible. After the resurrection, Paul and the apostles continued to keep the seventh-day Sabbath each week, worshipping with both Jews and Greeks (Acts 13:14, 16:13, 17:2, 18:4). It wasn’t until long after the apostles died that the Catholic Church, “by virtue of her divine mission, changed the day from Saturday to Sunday” (*Catholic Mirror*, Sept. 23, 1893). They admit, “We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church, in the Council of Laodecia (A.D. 336), transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday” (Rev. Peter Geiermann, *The Catechism of Catholic Doctrine*, pg. 50). “Sunday is a Catholic institution... from the beginning to the end of scripture there is not a single passage that warrants the transfer of the weekly public worship from the last day of the week to the first” (*Catholic Press*, Aug. 25, 1900). In spite of popular opinion, God never changed the day. The Bible affirms that Saturday is God’s holy Sabbath.

## Sabbath Bible Study!

### 1. What day is the Sabbath on?

Genesis 2:3 says, “God blessed the seventh day,” which is Saturday. Exodus 20:11 confirms that God “rested” on Saturday, “the seventh day.” Even most dictionaries and encyclopedias confirm that from the beginning, God set aside the seventh day, Saturday, as a holy day.

### 2. How are we supposed to observe the Sabbath day?

Exodus 20:10 says that on the Sabbath, “you shall do no work.” Isaiah 58:13 adds, “not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure.” Leviticus 23:3 calls it “a holy convocation,” or church gathering time, when we are to get closer to God.

### 3. Isn't the Sabbath only for Jewish people?

Of course not! Mark 2:27 says, “The Sabbath was made for man,” not just Jews. The fact is, the Sabbath was instituted in the beginning, long before the Jewish nation even existed (See Gen. 2:3). Still today, many claim to keep the Sabbath, though most keep it on the wrong day.

### 4. Didn't Jesus break the Sabbath when He was here?

No. Luke 4:16 says, “as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day.” When He and His disciples were accused of breaking the Sabbath, Jesus said they were “guiltless” and said what they were doing was “lawful” (Matt. 12:7, 12).



5. Did Jesus change Sabbath to Sunday post-resurrection?

No, actually, the Catholic church admits that they “changed the day from Saturday to Sunday” (*Catholic Mirror*, Sept. 23, 1893), “a change for which there is no Scriptural authority” (Stephen Keenan, *A Doctrinal Catechism*, 3rd ed., p. 174).

6. Did the disciples worship on Sunday post-resurrection?

No. Acts 18:4 says that Paul, who wasn’t converted until after the resurrection, “reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and persuaded both Jews and Greeks.” Acts 13:42 says on another occasion that after the Jews left, the Gentiles begged Paul to preach “the next Sabbath.”

7. Doesn’t Paul say that we can worship God on any day?

No. When Romans 14:5 says, “one person esteems one day above another,” it never mentions the Sabbath at all, because Paul is talking about fast days, adding, “he who does not eat, to the Lord he does not eat” (Rom. 14:6). While some observed fast days, they were not mandatory.

8. Does it really matter what day we worship on?

Speaking of the Sabbath, Ezekiel 22:26 says, “they have not distinguished between the holy and the unholy.” God established the seventh day as holy, and yet many worship on the day set up by men, following “the commandments of men” (Matt. 15:9).

Is Jesus really going to come back to this earth?

Answer: Yes, Jesus said, “I will come again” (John 14:3). His return will be loud and visible. John writes, “He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him” (Rev. 1:7). Paul says Jesus “will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God” (1 Thes. 4:16). Peter affirms, “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” (2 Pet. 3:10). While it may seem like Christians have been talking about this for a long time, we now see the signs of His soon return more than ever. The rise of wars and terrorist networks is a sign that the world is nearing its end (Matt. 24:6). The increase in natural disasters and the rise of new virus strains are signs that the world is nearing its end, as well as the flood of riots and civil unrest (Luke 21:11, 25). The rise of technological discoveries and advances were also predicted in the Bible as a sign of the end, along with the rampant increase in sex, violence, and an overall decline in morals (Dan. 12:4; 2 Tim. 3:13). The Bible also foretold an age of increased skepticism, when people would start asking, “Where is the promise of His coming” (2 Pet. 3:4)? The Bible predicted that all these things would grow worse, like labor contractions, as the world neared its end (1 Thes. 5:3). These things are simply signs that the end is near. Jesus is about to return, and He appeals to us, “Watch” and “be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not expect Him” (Matt. 24:42, 44). While it may seem to delay, the event “will surely come, it will not tarry” (Hab. 2:3).

## Second Coming Bible Study!

### 1. Will Jesus really come back to earth again?

In John 14:2, 3, Jesus said, “I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you,” assuring us in Matthew 24:35, “My words will by no means pass away.” Jesus promised to return. He sealed that promise with the resurrection.

### 2. Can we know when Jesus will come back to earth?

While Matthew 24:36 says that “of that day and hour no one knows,” 1 Thessalonians 5:4 says we “are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief.” While we won’t know the day or hour, we can see it is close by looking at “the signs of the times” (Matt. 16:3).

### 3. What are some of the signs of the return of Jesus?

In Matthew 24:6, when asked about signs of the end, Jesus said, “you will hear of wars and rumors of wars.” In relatively recent history, we have seen two world wars, many mass genocides, and even the rise of multiple terrorist networks, all in fulfillment of Christ’s words.

### 4. Will there be any signs of the end in technology?

Yes. The Bible predicted the rise of the information age. Daniel 12:4 was sealed “until the time of the end” when “many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase.” Inventions in travel allow us to run to and fro, while knowledge and technology continue to advance.

## 5. Will there be any signs of the end in nature?

Long before cries of ‘climate change,’ God predicted that at the end of time, nature would go wild. Jesus warned of “earthquakes in various places,” with “the sea and the waves roaring” (Luke 21:11, 25). Natural disasters will “harm the earth” as a sign that the end is near (Rev. 7:2).

## 6. What will morals in society look like in the end times?

2 Timothy 3:13 says morals will get “worse and worse.” Society continues to push the limits as sexual perversion, violence, and immoral living continue to rise. While most claim to be moral by their own standards, Matthew 24:12 says, from God’s perspective, “lawlessness will abound.”

## 7. Will there be any other distinguishing signs?

Luke 21:25 says there will be “on the earth distress of nations,” like the social and political chaos we see today, with protests, riots, and other disturbances. Along with this, Jesus warns in Matthew 24:7 of “pestilences,” like the viruses and pandemics we see rise up time and again.

## 8. How many will be ready for Jesus’ return?

2 Timothy 3:1, 5 shows people “in the last days... having a form of godliness but denying its power.” While many will claim to believe, there will be a lack of true “faith on the earth” (Luke 18:8). That’s why Jesus appeals, “Watch therefore, and pray” that you will be ready (Luke 21:36).

What happens when a person dies?

Answer: Many have adopted the idea that God created humans with an immortal soul. As a result, most Christians today think the spirit goes straight to heaven or hell the moment we die, but the Bible does not teach that the soul is immortal. On the contrary! It only refers to people as “mortal,” while stating, the “Lord...alone has immortality” (Job 4:17; 1 Tim. 6:15, 16). According to the Bible, only God is immortal. When we die, we go to the grave and wait “in the dust,” in “darkness,” and “silence” (Job 17:16, 13; Ps. 115:17). We are told that when a man dies, “His sons come to honor, and he does not know it” (Job 14:21). That’s because “the dead know nothing, and they have no more reward, for the memory of them is forgotten. Also their love, their hatred, and their envy have now perished...for there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going” (Eccl. 9:5, 6, 10). The spirit does not go straight to heaven after the body dies. We are told that even godly David is not in heaven, but he is “both dead and buried,” still in his tomb waiting for the resurrection, “For David did not ascend into the heavens” (Acts 2:29, 34). This is why the Bible speaks so hopefully of the resurrection of believers. Speaking of the resurrection, Paul affirms that while “all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive... at His coming” (1 Cor. 15:22, 23). He then adds that the righteous will “sleep in Jesus” until the resurrection, when “the dead in Christ will rise” (1 Thes. 4:14, 16). It is only then, when “the dead” are “raised” that “this mortal must put on immortality” (1 Cor. 15:52, 53). At that time, “Death is swallowed up in victory” and “there shall be no more death” (1 Cor. 15:54; Rev. 21:4).

## State of the Dead Bible Study!

### 1. What happens when a person dies?

According to the Bible, when a man dies, “in that very day his thoughts perish” (Ps. 146:4, KJV). Ecclesiastes 9:6 adds, “Also their love, their hatred, and their envy have now perished.” Our thoughts and feelings all cease to exist the moment we die.

### 2. Where are the dead right now?

While many believe we go straight to heaven, Job says when we die, we rest in “the grave” (Job 17:13). Long after the faithful patriarch David died, Acts 2:29 said that David was still “dead and buried,” adding in verse 34 that “David did not ascend into the heavens.”

### 3. Is there any consciousness in death?

No, the Bible says, “the dead know nothing,” adding that “there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going.” (Eccl. 9:5, 10). Job 14:21 says that when a man dies, “His sons come to honor, and he does not know it.”

### 4. What is death like?

Psalms 115:17 describes death as “silence,” and Job 17:13 describes it as “darkness.” That’s why Jesus compared “death” to “taking rest in sleep” (John 11:13). Paul also refers to the dead as those who have “fallen asleep,” because death is like sleep without dreams (1 Thes. 4:13).

5. Doesn't the Bible say people have an immortal soul?

No. The Bible says man is "mortal," and the Lord "alone has immortality" (Job 4:17; 1 Tim. 6:16). Immortality is a gift the righteous receive in heaven, when "this mortal must put on immortality" (1 Cor. 15:53). In the end, God will "kill the soul" of the wicked "in hell" (Matt. 10:28).

6. Does the spirit go right to heaven after the body dies?

While Ecclesiastes 12:7 says "the spirit will return to God," the original word for spirit is literally translated as breath. That's why Job 27:3 is translated as both 'breath' and 'spirit' in different Bible versions. Solomon is saying the "breath" returns to God at death (Ps. 104:29).

7. Is it okay to talk to mediums of the dead?

God repeatedly warns His people not to have anything to do with "a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead" (Deut. 18:11). Since the dead are unconscious, these spirits of the dead are really "spirits of demons, performing signs," or working miracles (Rev. 16:14).

8. Will we ever see our dead loved ones again?

Yes! This life is not the end. John 5:28-29 tells us that when Jesus returns, all in the "graves will hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation."

Does the Bible say that hell will burn forever?

Answer: According to the Bible, the wicked are “reserved for judgment” (2 Pet. 2:4). If you reserve a table at a restaurant, you don’t get it now. You get it later. No one is burning at the present time. Hell is not burning now, nor will it burn forever. While a few verses seem to imply that hell burns forever, things are not always as they appear. For example, when Paul says that the wicked will be “punished with everlasting destruction,” this means their destruction lasts forever (2 Thes. 1:9). That’s why the Bible says the wicked are “destroyed forever” (Ps. 92:7). Everlasting destruction, and verses like it, mean the results will be everlasting. They will be “no more forever” (Eze. 28:19). That’s why David says, “For a little while and the wicked shall be no more; Indeed, you will look diligently for his place, but it shall be no more” (Psalm 37:10). Obadiah says the same thing, stating that the wicked “shall be as though they had never been” (Ob. 1:16). The fire will “burn them up,” it will leave “neither root nor branch,” and all that will be left of them are “ashes under the soles of your feet” (Mal. 4:1, 3). Isaiah 47:14 says after the fire burns them up, there “shall not be a coal to be warmed by, nor a fire to sit before.” In the end, “Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death” (Rev. 20:14). Why is hell called the second death? Because the wicked die, they are raised for “the judgment,” then they die a second time in the fires of “hell,” thus the second death (Heb. 9:27; Matt. 10:28). Besides, could we enjoy heaven while our lost loved ones were suffering? Fortunately, God’s people will not be enjoying the bliss of heaven while lost loved ones suffer in hell below. Hell will have an end.



## Hell Bible Study!

### 1. What was God's original punishment for sin?

God's original punishment for sin was not an eternal life of suffering, but eternal death. "The soul who sins shall die" (Eze. 18:4). In Genesis 3:3, God told Eve not to eat of the fruit, "lest you die." Romans 6:23 adds that "the wages of sin is death," not eternal suffering.

### 2. Is anyone burning in hell right now?

Job 21:30 says that "the wicked are reserved for the day of doom." 2 Peter 3:7 adds that they are "reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men." They are not burning in fire, but waiting on reserve in the grave until the Day of Judgment.

### 3. How will the wicked die, and how long will it last?

Revelation 20:9 says, "fire came from God out of heaven and devoured them," adding in verse 12 that "the dead were judged according to their works." They will burn according to how evil they were, but they will finally be devoured by the flames and die.

### 4. What will happen to the ungodly in the fires of hell?

Psalm 1:6 says, "the ungodly shall perish." 2 Peter 2:12 adds, they shall "utterly perish." They will utterly die. Psalm 37:20 says, "the wicked shall perish...Into smoke they shall vanish away." They will die until there is nothing left of them.

## 5. Doesn't the Bible say that hell burns forever?

Revelation 20:10 and 14:11 both use the word “forever” symbolically, showing that the wicked are “destroyed forever,” never to live again (Ps. 92:7). Ironically, some twist a few verses that seem to imply hell burns forever, while ignoring all the evidence that says otherwise.

## 6. What will be left when the fires of hell end?

“The fire shall burn them; they shall not deliver themselves from the power of the flame; it shall not be a coal to be warmed by, nor a fire” (Isa. 47:14)! After the fire goes out, we are told, “You shall trample the wicked, for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet” (Mal. 4:3). All that is left of the wicked is ashes.

## 7. What will become of the wicked after the fires go out?

Psalms 37:10 says, “yet a little while and the wicked shall be no more; Indeed, you will look carefully for his place, but it shall be no more.” Obadiah 1:16 adds that “they shall be as though they had never been.” It will be like they were never born.

## 8. What is the final destruction of the wicked called?

Revelation 20:14 calls hell “the second death” because the wicked are raised to die a second time in the judgment. Then, “death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire” (Rev. 20:14), which means death and hell will both end, and “there shall be no more death” (Rev. 21:4).

What is this thing called the millennium that I've heard some Christians talk about?

Answer: When we die, we rest in the grave until we are raised, “those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation” (John 5:29). These two resurrections are separated by a thousand-year period referred to as the millennium. The millennium starts with the return of Christ at the end of the world. At that time, “the dead in Christ will rise,” while the wicked, He will “destroy with the brightness of His coming” (1 Thes. 4:16; 2 Thes. 2:8). The righteous are then taken to heaven, where “judgment was committed to them” (Rev. 20:4). At this time, God’s people are given a chance to review the judgment books to see why the lost, including the evil angels, are not in heaven, before Christ returns to destroy the wicked (1 Cor. 6:3). God wants His people to see for themselves why the wicked are kept out of heaven. As they review the “books,” they conclude, “true and righteous are His judgments” (Dan. 7:10, Rev. 20:12; 19:2). After they review the books and see for themselves why the wicked cannot enter heaven, God brings the saints back to earth, safe within the holy city, for the final execution of judgment. At this time, “when the thousand years have expired,” “the rest of the dead” are raised back up, and Satan rallies his troops (Rev. 20:7, 5). In an attempt to overthrow Christ, Satan and the wicked “surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them” (Rev. 20:9). Finally, sin, pain, and death all come to an end, as God sets up “a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away” (Rev. 21:1).

## Millennium Bible Study!

### 1. What is the millennium that Christians talk about?

The word millennium means a period of one thousand years. Revelation 20:2 speaks of a “thousand” year period that will come at the end of time, starting at the return of Jesus and “the resurrection of life,” and finally ending at “the resurrection of condemnation” (John 5:29).

### 2. What happens to the wicked during the millennium?

When Jesus returns, 2 Thessalonians 2:8 says the wicked will be destroyed “with the brightness of His coming.” After the wicked are destroyed, Revelation 20:5 says that they would “not live again until the thousand years were finished.”

### 3. What happens to the righteous during the millennium?

As the righteous are taken to heaven, Revelation 20:4 says they “reigned with Christ for a thousand years.” While this special thousand-year period intervenes, 1 Thessalonians 4:17 says that from that time on, they “shall always be with the Lord.”

### 4. What special thing occurs during the millennium?

1 Corinthians 6:2 says, “the saints will judge the world.” During this thousand-year period, “judgment was committed to them” (Rev. 20:4). God lets the saints review the records of the wicked before returning to execute the final judgment.

5. What happens to Satan and his angels during this time?

Revelation 20:2 says that God took “Satan, and bound him for a thousand years” to the bottomless pit of this empty earth (See Gen. 1:2; Jer. 4:23). During this time, the devil and his angels are forced to contemplate all the pain they have caused.

6. What happens at the end of the thousand years?

As Jesus returns with the saints, at the end of one thousand years, to execute the final judgment, the wicked are raised up to “live again” (Rev. 20:5). Revelation 20:8 says that at this time, Satan again goes “out to deceive the nations” for one last time.

7. How does the millennium end?

The saints return to earth with the heavenly city, and Revelation 20:9 says the wicked “surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city.” As the wicked attack, “fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them” (Rev. 20:9), destroying the wicked forever.

8. What does God do after the wicked are destroyed?

After this, God sets up His kingdom on earth. In Revelation 21:1, John says, “I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away.” The saints then “inherit the earth” (Matt. 5:5), and there is “no more pain” (Rev. 21:4).

Is heaven a real place?

Answer: Absolutely. The Bible speaks of heaven as a reward for those who have given their lives to Christ. To such, Jesus said, "I will come again and receive you to Myself" (John 14:3). According to the Bible, Jesus will return and destroy sin once and for all. After sin is eradicated from the universe, God will bring the holy city to earth, and we will have a "new earth, for...the first earth had passed away" (Rev. 21:1). At that time, the meek "shall inherit the earth" (Matt. 5:5). God "has prepared a city for them" (Hebrews 11:16). It is described as a beautiful city with walls of "jasper," gates of "pearl," and streets of "gold," where God's people will live "forever" (Rev. 21:18, 21; 22:5). The Bible says of it, "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him" (1 Cor. 2:9). Heaven will be better than anything you could possibly imagine. In heaven, there will be "pleasures forevermore," and God will "give you the desires of your heart" (Ps. 16:11; 37:4). We are also told that in heaven, "there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain" (Rev. 21:4). We will never get tired because we will be given a new "glorious body" (Phil. 3:21). When we get to heaven, "the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped," "neither shall they learn war anymore" (Isa. 35:5; 2:4). While we may suffer in this life, we can rest assured that "the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory" we will experience in heaven (Rom. 8:18). No more pain, suffering, or death. Yes, heaven is real, and it is better than you could possibly imagine.

## Heaven Bible Study!

### 1. What is waiting for those who follow Jesus?

In John 14:2, Jesus said, “I go to prepare a place for you.” Not only is God preparing a home for His faithful followers, but Hebrews 11:16 says, “He has prepared a city for them.” This heavenly city, also called the New Jerusalem, awaits those who follow Jesus.

### 2. What will this heavenly New Jerusalem look like?

Revelation 21:18 says, “The construction of its wall was of jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.” It is beautifully decorated “with all kinds of precious stones” (Rev. 21:19), and “the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass” (Rev. 21:21).

### 3. Where will heaven be?

In Revelation 21:1, John says, “the first earth had passed away.” Verse 2 shows “the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven” to this earth. Heaven will come down to earth! That’s why Jesus said in Matthew 5:5, the meek “shall inherit the earth.”

### 4. How long will heaven last?

In heaven, God’s people will “put on immortality” (1 Cor. 15:53). That means there will be “no more death” (Rev. 21:4). Luke 1:33 says, “of His kingdom there will be no end.” Revelation 22:5 adds, “they shall reign forever and ever” with Christ.

## 5. What will we do in heaven for eternity?

Psalm 37:4 tells us that in heaven, God will give you “the desires of your heart.” Zechariah 8:5 shows “boys and girls playing in its streets.” Isaiah 65:21 adds that people will “build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.”

## 6. Won't people get bored in heaven forever?

1 Corinthians 2:9 says, “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.” It will be better than you could imagine, and Psalm 16:11 says there will be “pleasures forevermore.”

## 7. Will any death, sickness, or disabilities be in heaven?

No, we will have a “glorious body” that cannot get sick, maimed, or killed (Phil. 3:21). Revelation 21:4 promises, “there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying.” Isaiah 35:5 adds, “the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.”

## 8. Is heaven really worth all the sacrifices to get there?

Of course! The Bible says that the “things which God has prepared for those who love Him” are greater than we could ever imagine (1 Cor. 2:9)! Romans 8:18 says, “the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory” we will experience in heaven.



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