

WHY I BELIEVE:

In Life after Death

THE BIG QUESTION

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE DIE?

- Is there life after death?
- Can we know for sure?
- What does Jesus say?

SIX INDICATORS OF LIFE AFTER DEATH

1. NATURE

- **SEEDS DIE → NEW LIFE**
- Caterpillar → butterfly
- Plato: “There’s a cycle in nature that is obvious to us all. I’m not sure what’s after death, but nature seems to give us a picture of what it will be like. Some kind of new life after death.”

SIX INDICATORS (CONTINUED)

2. ANTHROPOLOGY

- EVERY CULTURE BELIEVES IN AN AFTERLIFE
- Death seen as transition, not end
- Eternity is embedded in the human soul

Six Indicators (continued)

3. Psychology

- Deep longing for meaning
- C.S. Lewis: “If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world.”

**HE HATH MADE EVERY THING
BEAUTIFUL IN HIS TIME: ALSO HE
HATH SET THE WORLD (ETERNITY)
IN THEIR HEART, SO THAT NO MAN
CAN FIND OUT THE WORK THAT GOD
MAKETH FROM THE BEGINNING TO
THE END.**

ECCLESIASTES 3:11

SIX INDICATORS (CONTINUED)

4. ETHICS

- **LIFE ISN'T FAIR—YET JUSTICE MATTERS**
 - **GOOD MUST BE REWARDED, EVIL PUNISHED**
- **ETHICS DEMAND A FINAL RECKONING**

SIX INDICATORS (CONTINUED)

5. PHILOSOPHY

THE ARGUMENT FOR AN AFTERLIFE FROM PHILOSOPHY REALLY TAKES THE ETHICAL ARGUMENT AND MAKES THE LOGICAL DEDUCTION THAT IF LIFE HAS TO BE FAIR AND IT'S NOT FAIR IN THIS LIFE, THEN AN AFTERLIFE IS REQUIRED TO BALANCE THE SCALES OF JUSTICE.

- Immanuel Kant:

“IF THERE IS A GOOD GOD AND THERE IS MORALITY, THERE HAS TO BE AN AFTERLIFE FOR ANY OF LIFE TO MAKE SENSE.”

**BUT THE LORD SHALL ENDURE FOR EVER: HE
HATH PREPARED HIS THRONE FOR JUDGMENT.
AND HE SHALL JUDGE THE WORLD IN
RIGHTEOUSNESS, HE SHALL MINISTER JUDGMENT
TO THE PEOPLE IN UPRIGHTNESS (EQUITY).**

Psalm 9:7-8

SIX INDICATORS (CONTINUED)

6. SCIENCE & NEAR-DEATH EXPERIENCES

**2014 STUDY: 40% OF CARDIAC ARREST
SURVIVORS HAD AWARENESS AFTER CLINICAL
DEATH**

Dr. Parnia said, “The findings of the study as a whole suggested that the recalled experience surrounding death now merits further genuine investigation without prejudice.”

JESUS AND THE BIBLE ON LIFE AFTER DEATH

I think the greatest evidence for life after death is Jesus. He is the ultimate authority on the subject because He is the only person who came from heaven, died, and came back to life. On our journey through the evidence of the resurrection, we learned that Jesus appeared to people for forty days in His resurrected body, with over five hundred eyewitnesses in twelve different locations. Thousands of people witnessed the resurrected Christ and His miracles.

BIBLICAL TRUTH #1

**AT DEATH, WE ENTER A CONSCIOUS ETERNAL
EXISTENCE**

BIBLICAL TRUTH #1

JESUS' PARADIGM OF THE AFTERLIFE

LUKE 16:22–29 : RICH MAN & LAZARUS

19 THERE WAS A CERTAIN RICH MAN, WHICH WAS CLOTHED IN PURPLE AND FINE LINEN, AND FARED SUMPTUOUSLY EVERY DAY:

20 AND THERE WAS A CERTAIN BEGGAR NAMED LAZARUS, WHICH WAS LAID AT HIS GATE, FULL OF SORES,

21 AND DESIRING TO BE FED WITH THE CRUMBS WHICH FELL FROM THE RICH MAN'S TABLE: MOREOVER THE DOGS CAME AND LICKED HIS SORES.

22 AND IT CAME TO PASS, THAT THE BEGGAR DIED, AND WAS CARRIED BY THE ANGELS INTO ABRAHAM'S BOSOM: THE RICH MAN ALSO DIED, AND WAS BURIED;

23 AND IN HELL HE LIFT UP HIS EYES, BEING IN TORMENTS, AND SEETH ABRAHAM AFAR OFF, AND LAZARUS IN HIS BOSOM.

BIBLICAL TRUTH #1

JESUS' PARADIGM OF THE AFTERLIFE

LUKE 16:24–29: RICH MAN & LAZARUS

24 AND HE CRIED AND SAID, FATHER ABRAHAM, HAVE MERCY ON ME, AND SEND LAZARUS, THAT HE MAY DIP THE TIP OF HIS FINGER IN WATER, AND COOL MY TONGUE; FOR I AM TORMENTED IN THIS FLAME.

25 BUT ABRAHAM SAID, SON, REMEMBER THAT THOU IN THY LIFETIME RECEIVEDST THY GOOD THINGS, AND LIKEWISE LAZARUS EVIL THINGS: BUT NOW HE IS COMFORTED, AND THOU ART TORMENTED.

26 AND BESIDE ALL THIS, BETWEEN US AND YOU THERE IS A GREAT GULF FIXED: SO THAT THEY WHICH WOULD PASS FROM HENCE TO YOU CANNOT; NEITHER CAN THEY PASS TO US, THAT WOULD COME FROM THENCE.

27 THEN HE SAID, I PRAY THEE THEREFORE, FATHER, THAT THOU Wouldest SEND HIM TO MY FATHER'S HOUSE:

28 FOR I HAVE FIVE BRETHREN; THAT HE MAY TESTIFY UNTO THEM, LEST THEY ALSO COME INTO THIS PLACE OF TORMENT.

29 ABRAHAM SAITH UNTO HIM, THEY HAVE MOSES AND THE PROPHETS; LET THEM HEAR THEM.

BIBLICAL TRUTH #1

JESUS' PARADIGM OF THE AFTERLIFE

LUKE 16:30-31: RICH MAN & LAZARUS

30 And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent.

31 And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

BIBLICAL TRUTH #1

PAUL'S PARADIGM OF THE AFTERLIFE

2 CORINTHIANS 5: 1-4

- 1 FOR WE 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.
- 2 FOR IN THIS WE GROAN, EARNESTLY DESIRING TO BE CLOTHED UPON WITH OUR HOUSE WHICH IS FROM HEAVEN:
- 3 IF SO BE THAT BEING CLOTHED WE SHALL NOT BE FOUND NAKED.
- 4 FOR WE THAT ARE IN THIS TABERNACLE DO GROAN, BEING BURDENED: NOT FOR THAT WE WOULD BE UNCLOTHED, BUT CLOTHED UPON, THAT MORTALITY MIGHT BE SWALLOWED UP OF LIFE.

BIBLICAL TRUTH #1

PAUL'S PARADIGM OF THE AFTERLIFE

2 CORINTHIANS 5: 5-8

5 NOW HE THAT HATH WROUGHT US FOR THE SELFSAME THING IS
GOD, WHO ALSO HATH GIVEN UNTO US THE EARNEST OF THE SPIRIT.
6 THEREFORE WE ARE ALWAYS CONFIDENT, KNOWING THAT, WHILST
WE ARE AT HOME IN THE BODY, WE ARE ABSENT FROM THE LORD:
7 (FOR WE WALK BY FAITH, NOT BY SIGHT):
8 WE ARE CONFIDENT, I SAY, AND WILLING RATHER TO BE ABSENT
FROM THE BODY, AND TO BE PRESENT WITH THE LORD.

BIBLICAL TRUTH #2

EVERYONE WILL BE RESURRECTED

ACTS 24:14–15:

But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets: And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.

BIBLICAL TRUTH #2

EVERYONE WILL BE RESURRECTED

REVELATION 20:11-13

11 And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

BIBLICAL TRUTH #3

JUDGMENT & ETERNAL FULFILLMENT

HEBREWS 9:27:

“AND AS IT IS APPOINTED UNTO MEN ONCE TO DIE, BUT AFTER THIS THE JUDGMENT:”

JOHN 5:24:

“ HE THAT HEARETH MY WORD, AND BELIEVETH ON HIM THAT SENT ME, HATH EVERLASTING LIFE, AND SHALL NOT COME INTO CONDEMNATION; BUT IS PASSED FROM DEATH UNTO LIFE.”

ROMANS 6:23

FOR THE WAGES OF SIN IS DEATH; BUT THE GIFT OF GOD IS ETERNAL LIFE THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD.

1 TIMOTHY 1:15:

“CHRIST JESUS CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE SINNERS.”

BIBLICAL TRUTH #4

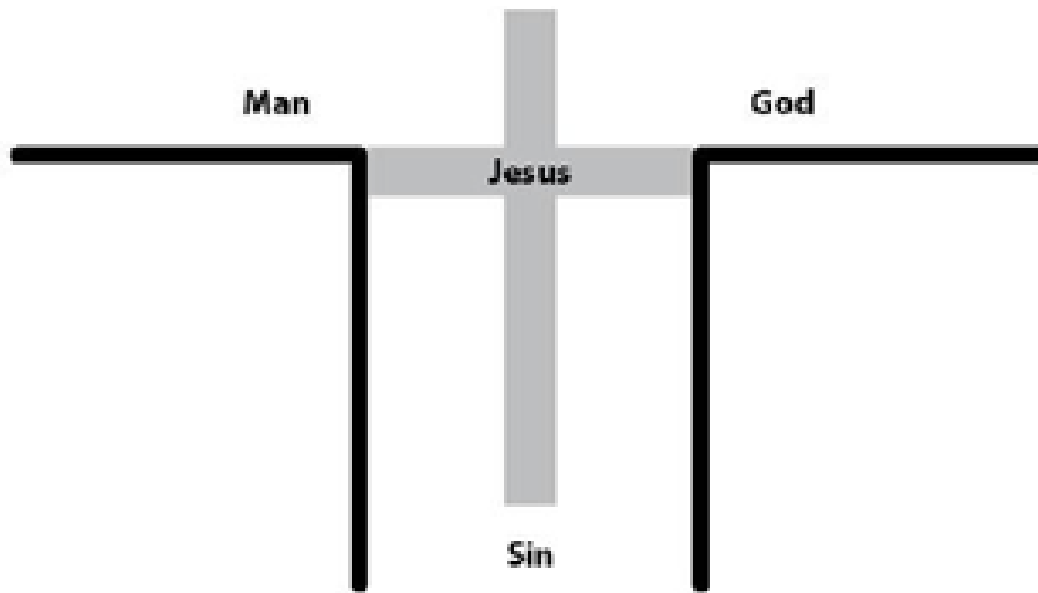
HEAVEN OR HELL—FOREVER

MATTHEW 25:46:

**“AND THESE SHALL GO AWAY INTO EVERLASTING PUNISHMENT:
BUT THE RIGHTEOUS INTO LIFE ETERNAL.”**

JOHN 1:12:

**“BUT AS MANY AS RECEIVED HIM, TO THEM GAVE HE POWER TO
BECOME THE SONS OF GOD,...”**



BIBLICAL TRUTH #4

HEAVEN OR HELL—FOREVER

JOHN 5:24:

**“ HE THAT HEARETH MY
WORD, AND BELIEVETH ON
HIM THAT SENT ME, HATH
EVERLASTING LIFE, AND
SHALL NOT COME INTO
CONDEMNATION; BUT IS
PASSED FROM DEATH
UNTO LIFE.”**

WHY HELL EXISTS

EX: A FIREMAN'S STORY

Jesus knocks on every door

Some reject rescue

Hell is the freedom to reject God

God honors our choices

HAVE YOU RECEIVED CHRIST?

JOHN 5:24:

**“HE THAT HEARETH MY WORD, AND
BELIEVETH... HATH EVERLASTING LIFE.”**

**ETERNAL LIFE BEGINS NOW
RECEIVE THE GIFT OF SALVATION**

LIVING WITH URGENCY

IF THIS IS TRUE...

WHAT ABOUT YOUR NEIGHBORS?

YOUR COWORKERS?

YOUR FAMILY?

LET'S LIVE LIKE ETERNITY MATTERS