

# Is There Life After Death? **Text: Job 14:14 / John 11:25**

*Is Death the End of Our Story?*

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## Introduction:

1. Death has been a dark mystery since time began...

What Happens when we die? –Is there life after death?

Does death have the last say? –Do we end in defeat on the final battlefield?

2. There is No More Universal Human Question Than This...

A question every seeker has asked... a question asked centuries ago by Job

***“If a man dies, shall he live again?” (Job 14:14)***

*Who hasn't pondered this question? Especially when a loved one dies?*

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## I. THE MYSTERY CONCEALED (Job 14:14)

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### A. STATISTICS

1. A 2013 Barna poll: 64% Americans believe the soul survives after death  
68% of Americans Believe Heaven Exists. 58% that Hell exists
2. A 1998 Harris Poll: revealed that 84% of those surveyed said they believed in the survival of the soul after death.
3. A 2021 Pew Research Center study found:  
24% of Americans Do Not Believe in Heaven or Hell.  
17% of Americans Do Not Believe in any after-life.  
83% believe in some form of after-life.

### B. CULTURES

1. It is interesting most people believe in Life After Death—but this is not new
  - a) The EGYPTIANS had an elaborate belief system in life after death
  - b) Indigenous NATIVE AMERICAN Tribes believed in the happy hunting ground
  - c) HINDUS, GREEKS, ROMANS, BABYLONIANS, ESSENES, JEWS, MUSLIMS,
  - d) PERSIANS, POLYNESIANS, SCANDINAVIANS, DRUIDS, CELTS, CHINESE.
2. It is almost impossible to find a culture—Ancient or Modern—that does not have some form of belief in life after death.

### C. UNIVERSAL LONGING OF THE SPIRIT

1. God placed Eternity within the heart of man (Ecclesiastes 3:11)
2. We have a longing for eternity—a universal longing of the spirit...
3. A Mystery concealed—but we keep searching for answers to understand

## **D. THIS LONGING KEEPS US SEARCHING FOR ANSWERS**

- 1. Sometimes we hear of scientists trying to find evidence of the human soul.**
  - a) WEIGHT: Such as measuring the weight of a person just before death and comparing it to just after death to see if the spirit can leave a trace...
  - b) IMAGING: Sometimes people post a photograph that happened to be taken at the moment of someones death. Like the picture of a Life-flight helicopter transporting an accident victim and a weird trace of light is captured at moment of death.
- 2. Sometimes We hear of Near Death Experiences**
  - a) and there are tens of thousands of them—of different types and experiences...
  - b) But they have one common trait—That Death is not the end.
- 3. We've all heard of Christians who just before passing look up and say something like Randy's best friend Kevin who had cancer**
  - a) Randy taught him the gospel and he was baptized into Christ
  - b) On his death bed he was motionless with his eyes closed...
  - c) But then he opened his eyes and leaned forward and said: "Yes, I'm ready" and then passed from this life into the next.
- 4. All of these are evidence that man is searching for answers to this mystery**

## **E. MEN WERE SEARCHING EVEN IN OLD TESTAMENT TIMES**

- 1. Many Did Not Know Because it Had Not Yet Been Fully Revealed by God**
  - Which is why Job asked... *"If a man dies, shall he live again?" (Job 14:14)*
- 2. But God did reveal some of the mystery by the Psalms & Prophets**
  - *"But God will redeem me from the realm of the dead; he will surely take me to himself." Psalm 49:15*
  - *"You will guide me with Your counsel, And afterward receive me to glory." (Ps. 73:24)*
  - *"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever." (Ps 23:6)*
  - *"For man goes to his eternal home, And the mourners go about the streets... Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, And the spirit will return to God who gave it." (Ecclesiastes 12:5, 7)*
  - **Daniel 12:1–3**

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## **II. THE MYSTERY REVEALED (John 11:25)**

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### **A. JESUS ANSWERS THE SADDUCEES**

- 1. By the Time Jesus arrived—Israel was divided into different factions—Sadducees were the political elites who did not believe in life after death**
  - a) So they devised a trick question for Jesus...
  - b) If a man had a wife and he died, and she married his brother and he died, and then the other brother and he died, then who's wife would she be in the resurrection?
- 2. Notice what Jesus said: (Matthew 22:29–32)**
  - a) Jesus blew up their entire paradigm in one beautiful statement!
- 3. God is not God of the Dead, but of the living!**

## **B. JESUS SPEAKS WITH MOSES & ELIJAH**

1. Jesus didn't just declare it—He shows us there is Life After Death!
2. On the Mount of Transfiguration (**Luke 9:28–31**)
3. Moses had been dead for over a 1,000 years! Elijah for at least 800 yrs!
  - a) And they're Talking With Jesus! About the Crucifixion awaiting Jesus.
  - b) Jesus the Son of God speaking with Moses & Elijah!
4. God is not God of the Dead, but of the living!

## **C. JESUS RAISES LAZARUS FROM THE DEAD**

1. Jesus knew Lazarus was dying—but He also knew He would raise Him!
  - a) (**John 11:21–26**) > Jesus said, 'take away the stone' (**John 11:43–44**)
2. Jesus Proves His Power over Life & Death by Raising Lazarus from Dead
  - a) From that point forward the chief priests, & pharisees were scared!
  - b) Jesus had shattered their false paradigms, their status and false power
  - c) and now they plotted to kill Jesus before losing everything (v.47-48)

## **D. JESUS DECLARED HIS OWN RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD**

1. 'Destroy this temple and in 3 days I will raise it up'—He spoke of Himself!
2. Jesus died for our sins and was laid in a borrowed tomb
3. On the Third Day He Rose Again!
4. The Tomb is Empty—And He is Alive Forever More! (**Revelation 1:17–18**)

## **E. THE MYSTERY HAS BEEN REVEALED—THERE IS LIFE AFTER DEATH!**

1. Death is Not the End of Our Story—Death Does Not Have the Final Say...
2. There will be Victory on the Final Battlefield—

The last enemy *that* will be destroyed *is* death. (1 Cor.15:26)

3. The Question is Not IF—but HOW! (**1 Corinthians 15:50-52**)
4. The Bible says We Will Be Transformed...

[Greek: metamorpho] Metamorphosis (**Phi 3:20–21**)

- a) God has given us a picture of this in His Creation...
- b) FIRST: A caterpillar > THEN to a Chrysalis > FINALLY to a Butterfly

## **CONCLUSION:**

1. With Christ, Death is no longer an End—it Becomes a Beginning...  
Because God is not God of the Dead—but of the living!

### **2. But How Can We Get To Heaven?**

Thomas said, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?"

<sup>6</sup> Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

3. Jesus is the only way to eternal life—because of His atoning sacrifice
4. Jesus Said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. (Jn 11:25)