

What happens to us after death part 2?

What is going to happen to true believers after death, or when Messiah returns? Are we going to heaven or be raptured at His return? Let's answer each of these questions and a few related ones as well.

1. Why do some believe they are destined to heaven or hell?

Satan has succeeded in selling his own aspirations as well as his final destination to his deceived audience, as their most important teaching. Satan wanted to go to heaven to take over Elohim's throne in rebellion, as recorded in Isaiah 14: 13 & 14 as follows: ***"But you said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of Elohim, and I will sit on the mount of assembly in the recesses of the north. (14) I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.'"*** Christianity, Moslems, Hindus and other religions believe that 'good' people go to heaven, beholding the face of Elohim for all eternity, and the wicked are thrown into an ever burning hell fire at the time of their death. The question is: Do you believe that you are going either to heaven or to hell when you die one day? Are those the options open to you? Many believers, even their teachers, pastors and elders have been deceived to believe this false doctrine. Are they correct in believing this doctrine, which is nowhere to be found in The Scriptures? Or are they simply deceived regarding this very important matter? We read from Revelation 12: 9, ***'And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.'*** Have you ever considered this statement carefully? Is it possible for Satan to have deceived all the inhabitants of the earth? How is this possible? Do you realize that most of the doctrines taught by most religions of the world, including Christianity are the exact opposite of what the word of Elohim teaches?

Do you know that Yahshua himself said in John 3: 13: ***"And no one has ascended into heaven, but He who descended from heaven, even the Son of Man."*** Do you believe Yahshua the Word of Elohim, who became flesh, or do you believe the minister who taught you that your soul goes to heaven at death? Yahshua our Messiah suitably warned believers about this very thing in John 5: 43 & 44, saying: ***"I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; if another shall come in his own name, you will receive him. (44) How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another, and you do not seek the glory that is from the one and only Elohim? Both father Abraham and King David, whom Elohim called "a man after My heart, who will do all My will" are still in their graves awaiting to inherit the Promised Land eternally. We read about Abraham in the faith chapter in Hebrews 11: 8 – 10, as follows: 'By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going. (9) By faith he lived as an alien in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs of the same promise; (10) for he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is Elohim.'*** Verses 39 & 40 of Hebrews 11 confirm that our fathers in the faith are still waiting to inherit what Elohim promised them, in this way: ***'And all these, having gained approval through their faith, did not receive what was promised, (40) because Elohim had promised something better for us, so that apart from us they should not be made perfect.'*** The last part of Hebrew 11: 35 reveals what is meant by the 'something better for us', as follows: ***'in order that they might obtain a better resurrection.'*** The first resurrection will be the better resurrection as will be shown shortly. Even though David is also mentioned in Hebrews 11 as one of those who will be in the first resurrection, Rav Kepha confirms that he is still in his grave in Acts 2: 26, 34 & 35, saying: ***"Brethren, I may confidently say to you regarding the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. (34) For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but he himself says: 'YHVH SAID TO MY MASTER, "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, (35) UNTIL I MAKE THINE ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR THY FEET.'"*** The question is: Do you believe in the resurrection of the dead? If you do, then why do you want to go to heaven if Yahshua is coming back to resurrect the dead?

Nevertheless, some hold that Yahshua was teaching that up to the time He was resurrected and ascended to heaven, no one ascended to heaven. But, afterwards all those who were kept in Abraham's bosom went up to heaven (something they imagine Yahshua to have taught in the parable of Lazarus and the rich man). But

Elohim did not promise Abraham and his children an abode in heaven, did He? We read about the promise in Genesis 17: 7 - 8 as follows: ***“And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be Elohim to you and to your descendants after you. (8) And I will give to you and to your descendants after you, the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their Elohim.”*** The land of Canaan is on earth not in heaven. Abraham’s descendants who remained loyal to YHVH and His Torah covenant, as well as those who are returning to YHVH through Abraham’s one seed, Yahshua are promised to inherit the land of Canaan eternally, not everlasting life in heaven.

Satan inspired the doctrine believed by Churchianity that good people go to heaven and the unsaved and wicked go to hell, but it cannot be found anywhere in the Scriptures. Satan is a fallen angel and like all other angels cannot die, as Yahshua told the Sadducees in Matthew 22: 30, saying: ***“For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.”*** Satan as a spirit being is immortal and has deceived mankind to believe they are also immortal. We know that Satan the devil will finally be thrown into the lake of fire and will be tormented day and night forever and ever, as we read from Revelation 20: 10, in this way: ***“And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are (had been thrown) also; and they will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.”*** Many in Christianity and some other religions teach accordingly, that the wicked will be tormented in an everlasting fire. But, human beings are made from physical matter and without having received the Set-apart Spirit of Elohim at repentance and immersion; they do not have eternal life in them and are not immortal. When anything physical is thrown into a fire, it burns until it becomes ashes. This is exactly what will happen to the wicked, who will not accept Yahshua as their Savior in the end, according to Malachi 4 :1 – 3, ***“For behold, the day is coming, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant and every evildoer will be chaff; and the day that is coming will set them ablaze.”*** says YHVH of hosts. ***“so that it will leave them neither root nor branch.”*** (2) ***But for you who fear My name the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings: and you will go forth and skip about like calves from the stall.*** (3) ***And you will tread down the wicked, for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day which I am preparing,”*** says YHVH of hosts.” A second witness to this is found in Isaiah 26: 14 as follows: ***“The dead will not live, the departed spirits will not rise (without the Spirit of Elohim given at immersion into Yahshua’s saving Name, the spirit of man is lost); Therefore Thou hast punished and destroyed them, and thou hast wiped out all remembrance of them.”*** This tells us that when the wicked are thrown into the fire, after the second resurrection, they will be wiped out from remembrance. So we see eternity in an ever-lasting fire cannot be the fate of un-repentant people. After the second resurrection, those who refuse to repent and go Elohim’s way, after He opened the Scriptures to their understanding, will be thrown into the lake of fire, an all-consuming fire that will completely destroy them from all memory.

2. What about Lazarus and the Rich Man?

Does the parable of Lazarus and the rich man prove that man will suffer eternally in an everlasting hell fire? We know that Yahshua used parables as a method to teach his disciples. We know that a parable is an allegory used to teach important lessons and that it is not to be understood literally, nor does it describe actual events taking place. When His disciples questioned Him as to why He uses this method of teaching, Yahshua explained to them in Mark 4: 11 – 12, saying: ***“To you has been given the mystery of the kingdom of Elohim; but those who are outside get everything in parables, (12) in order that WHILE SEEING, THEY MAY SEE AND NOT PERCEIVE; AND WHILE HEARING, THEY MAY HEAR AND NOT UNDERSTAND LEST THEY RETURN AND BE FORGIVEN.”*** The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia discusses the contemporary background of this particular allegory, as follows: ***“This parable follows a story common in Egyptian and Jewish thought, in which the wicked rich and pious poor have their positions reversed in the afterlife. It is told from the point of view of the rich man, who speaks with Abraham from his place of torment. Although this parable does not intend to give a topographical study of the abode of the dead, it is built upon and thus confirms common Jewish thought... In the Jewish conception of Hades... the good and the wicked could see each other but were separated by a great chasm. Across this chasm the rich man called to Abraham, begging that Lazarus be sent to comfort him. When he was assured of the impossibility of this, he begged that Lazarus***

be sent back to warn his brothers of their possible fate. Abraham said that if they would not believe Moses, they would not believe one returned from the dead. The parable warns the rich that their possessions do not guarantee their future state. The parable was apparently directed toward Sadducean satisfaction with this life, based upon the belief that there would be no life beyond. Thus, Abraham said that even one from the dead would not convince the living to repent.” (Eerdmans, Grand Rapids, 1986, Vol. III, page 94). This parable is talking about Jews who were taught Torah from childhood and were knowledgeable about salvation in the coming kingdom of Elohim as described in the Tanach. The rich man who was more concerned about his riches than living correctly, therefore sinned with full knowledge, whilst the poor man, even though he had to beg for food, remained righteous. This parable is not about those from the lost ten tribes including Gentiles, who have either forgotten or never knew what sin was and get to return to YHVH and His Torah through Yahshua, before they understand Torah and the rest of the Scriptures in the light of Messiah. After they are taught salvation truths from the Scriptures they are in the same position as their Jewish Brothers and knowing what sin is, they have to remain Torah observant, or will also suffer the same fate as the rich man. But those in the world who never knew about YHVH and His salvation through His written or living Torah are not part of this scenario, since they will only be enlightened during the millennium or after the second resurrection.

In this parable in Luke 16: 19 – 31 Yahshua used a familiar story of His day to point out a spiritual lesson to those who taught the law, but did not keep it fully. Basically the lesson teaches that eternal consequences depend on the kind of people we are and the choices we make. In the parable the rich man dies. When he is resurrected (being a wicked person, this is obviously during the second resurrection) he learns that because of the way he lived life, his fate is destruction by fire. His torment described in verses 23 & 24, is mental anguish, since he obviously could not bring his riches with him and has lost everything on account of not obeying YHVH. The great chasm between Lazarus and the rich man is the difference between the rewards that they will receive. Lazarus will receive eternal life at Messiah’s return and the rich man will be destroyed in the lake of fire, after Messiah’s millennium rule. The great chasm has to do with the time span of 1000 years between the first and the second resurrections. The conversation with Abraham is not literal, but an allegory to teach a vital lesson. The rich man facing eternal destruction because of the way in which he lived, requests that his family be warned to repent in order to avoid the same fate. However, the parable concludes that sufficient warning about the results of sin is given in the Scriptures. Jews and those reconciled to YHVH through Yahshua, who will not listen to what the word of YHVH says, will definitely also not listen to someone who was resurrected from the dead. The parable teaches that if we eventually choose to reject YHVH and His ways, we will definitely be destroyed in the lake of fire.

However, those who advocate an immortal soul insist that this is not a parable. For the sake of argument let us therefore look at the account of Lazarus and the rich man assuming that this is not a parable. The account commences with describing a certain rich man living in sheer luxury and splendor. It continues with describing a poor beggar named Lazarus, which was full of sores and lay outside the gate of the rich man’s house. He begged to be fed with crumbs which fell from the rich man’s table. In addition the dogs came and licked his sores. When the beggar dies he was carried by angels to Abraham’s bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. Notice that Yahshua said that Lazarus was taken by angels into Abraham’s bosom and not that he went to heaven. According to the law of inheritance described in the latter part of Galatians chapter 3 and in chapter 4, Jews and Gentiles who are in Messiah are Abraham’s offspring according to the promise made to Abraham (Galatians 3: 29). Elohim promised Abraham and his descendants after him, eternal life in the land of Canaan, also known as the Promised Land. The land of Canaan is on earth and not in heaven – therefore the beggar became Abraham’s seed through faith, and as a child of Abraham, the beggar is promised eternal life in the Promised Land and not in heaven. The picture of being carried into Abraham’s bosom means that he became one of Abraham’s children. We know that a son, who is heir to his father’s property, cannot possess the promise before his father inherits it. We know according to Hebrews 11: 39 & 40 that our fathers in the faith have not received their promised inheritance yet: **“And all these, having gained approval through their faith, did not receive what was promised, (40) because Elohim had provided something better for us, so that apart from us they should not be made perfect.”** Like Yahshua, our fathers in the faith will receive eternal life through the resurrection at His return. However, at this time we know that

both Abraham and the beggar are still dead. The beggar is carried to Abraham's bosom by angels. When according to The Scriptures do the angels come down from heaven? In Matthew 24: 31 we read **"And He will send forth His angels with a GREAT TRUMPET and THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER HIS ELECT from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other."** This will happen at the return of Messiah one day on the Feast of Trumpets, at the time of the first resurrection. So the beggar will only receive his inheritance one day when Yahshua returns.

Let us now consider what happens to the rich man. The Scriptures tell us that he the rich man died. We see that whilst he was in Hades or 'hell', he lifted up his eyes. Where is this 'hell'? Shockingly as it may sound, the rich man was in the same 'hell' where Yahshua was buried, meaning in his grave. However, Yahshua's body did not see corruption as we read in Acts 2: 31 **"he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that HE WAS NEITHER ABANDONED TO HADES (another word for grave), NOR DID His flesh SUFFER DECAY."** Also notice in the account of Lazarus and the rich man, that Yahshua did not say when the rich man in the grave, lifted up his eyes. The rich man is pictured as one of the wicked, or lost. According to The Scriptures we see that the unjust who knew or were taught salvation truths during this age, will only open their eyes during the second resurrection. Yahshua explained this in John 5: 28 & 29, saying: **"Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs shall hear His voice, (29) and shall come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment."** Yahshua is talking about two different resurrections in John 5. In Revelation 20: 4 we read of the resurrection of those in Messiah at His coming – the first resurrection. In verse 5 of Revelation 20 we read that the rest of the dead, those not resurrected at Messiah's return, did not come to life until the 1000 years were completed, the second resurrection. The resurrection of the rich man occurs with that of all the unjust and the unsaved after the millennium. Yahshua did not say when the rich man will open his eyes and be resurrected, but from other scriptures we understand that it will only be after the millennium - hence the great chasm of time of 1000 years between the two resurrections.

3. What about Elijah?

There are basically two feasible explanations to what happened to Elijah. The group that my wife and I used to belong to for 25 years, before we became Nazarene Israelites, taught as follows: The Scriptures clearly show that Elijah was taken up into heaven. However, we need to understand that there are three heavens mentioned in the Scriptures. The first heaven is the atmosphere surrounding earth to a depth of about forty miles, in the lower part in which birds fly and we read about it in Genesis 1: 20, in this way: **"Then Elohim said, "Let the waters teem with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth in the open expanse of the heavens."** The second heaven is the space of the whole universe, the starry expanse that is billions and billions of miles across, spoken about in Genesis 1: 14 – 16, as follows: **"Then Elohim said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years; (15) and let them be for lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth; and it was so. (16) And Elohim made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; He made the stars also."** A second witness to this is given in Ezekiel 32: 8, **"All the shining lights in the heavens I will darken over you and will set darkness on your land, declares YHVH Elohim."** The third heaven is the unseen place or throne from which Elohim controls the whole universe, as we read from Isaiah 66: 1, in this way: **"Thus says YHVH, "Heaven is My throne, and the earth is My footstool. Where then is a house you could build for Me? And where is a place that I may rest?"** We read further about it from 2 Corinthians 12: 2, as follows: **"I know a man in Messiah who fourteen years ago – whether in the body I do not know, or out of the body I do not know, Elohim knows – such a man was caught up to the third heaven."** Deuteronomy 10: 14 and Psalm 148: 4 refers to it as *'the highest heaven'*; and Ephesians 4: 10 refers to it, as *'above all the heavens'*.

The first heaven, or atmosphere, is the one into which Elijah was taken. We live and move in that heaven, inasmuch as we need oxygen to breath. According to this account Elijah was taken up to a high altitude, but still remained in the first heaven. He was taken from his previous dwelling in Israel, but he did not die at that time. He was taken to a place where he was not known, to peacefully live out the rest of his life there. Even

so, Elijah kept in touch with the happenings both in Israel and Judah. Four years after his departure, when Jehoram, an evil man was king of Judah, Elijah wrote to Jehoram, warning him that he would soon become diseased and die because of the terrible things he had done, as recorded in 2 Chronicles 21: 12, as follows: ***'Then a letter came to him from Elijah the prophet saying, "Thus says YHVH Elohim of your father David, "Because you have not walked in the ways of Jehoshaphat your father and the ways of Asa king of Judah.'*** Those who taught us this version about Elijah, maintained that some Bible commentaries tried to hide this fact, by writing that Elijah must have written this letter before he went to 'heaven'. According to this account of Elijah, he eventually died like all men do, and because he was a righteous man, he will be in the first resurrection, at Messiah's return. That is when all of those who were called-out of the world at this time, and who qualified will be resurrected and be taken into the clouds or the first heaven, to meet Yahshua coming down from the third heaven to rule earth for a thousand years.

But, let's now consider the second more feasible explanation about Elijah's trip to heaven, by a Jewish Rabbi. Whereas, everything else explained about death and the two resurrections from the dead remains exactly the same, the scenario about Elijah's trip to heaven is different. From what we've explained before, we know that when we as human beings die our bodies are buried (or discarded in some other way), our souls (or lives) come to an end, and our spirits go back to the Father who gave it (as per Ecclesiastes 12: 7). Those from the house of Judah who remained loyal to YHVH like Elijah did, after they returned from captivity in Babylon, together with those from the lost ten tribes whom YHVH is busy calling out of the churches of the world (Babylon) to return to Him through Yahshua, will if they qualify be in the first resurrection to become kings and Priests under Messiah and King David. When Messiah returns He will bring back the perfected Spirits of those of us who died in Him, resurrect our bodies and endow us with eternal life (or souls), as witnessed in 1 Thessalonians 5: 23, in this way: ***'Now may the Elohim of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Master Yahshua Messiah.'*** We read the account of Elijah's departure from 2 Kings 2: 8 – 14, as follows: ***'And Elijah took his mantle and folded it together and struck the waters, and they were divided here and there, so that the two of them crossed over on dry ground. (9) Now it came about when they had crossed over, that Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for you before I am taken from you." And Elisha said, "Please, let a double portion of your spirit be upon me." (10) And he said, "You have asked a hard thing. Nevertheless, if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you, but if not, it shall not be so." (11) Then it came about as they were going along and talking, that behold, there appeared a chariot of fire and horses of fire which separated the two of them, And Elijah went up by a whirlwind to heaven. (12) And Elisha saw it and cried out, "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" And he saw him no more. Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. (13) He also took up the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and returned and stood by the bank of the Jordan. (14) And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and struck the waters and said, "Where is YHVH, the Elohim of Elijah?" And when he also had struck the waters, they divided here and there; and Elisha crossed over.'*** This obviously encouraged Elisha knowing that he now had at least an equal portion of Elohim Spirit Elijah had before him.

Even though Elijah was filled with the Spirit of Elohim, he was still only a human being when taken up to heaven in a chariot of fire and his body burned up during the journey, whilst his soul or life came to an end. The chariot took his spirit to heaven, in a similar way to the spirits of those who died and remained faithful to Elohim to the end, go to heaven. When Messiah returns one day, He will bring back Elijah's spirit with all those who will be in the first resurrection. Even though this scenario of Elijah's trip to heaven sounds cruel, we know that YHVH being a merciful Elohim must have taken Elijah's life prior to consuming his body in fire. This scenario also gives hope to the families of all those millions who died in the Nazi gas ovens during World War II, but also to those of us who have seen family members cremated after death. If YHVH our Elohim is able to resurrect bones of our fathers in the faith buried thousands of years ago, He is certainly able to recreate bodies for those who were burnt to ashes. This is also why Yahshua said to those in Capernaum who saw His miracles and works but did not believe in Him in Matthew 11: 23 & 24, that those who were burned up in Sodom and Gemorrah will have a better chance than they will, during the great white throne judgment.

4. Are we going to be raptured?

Many believe in a so-called rapture into heaven, to occur when Yahshua returns one day. Rav Shaul understood Moses' descent from Mount Sinai, as a pattern of Yahshua's second coming as may be understood by comparing Exodus 19: 18 - 20 with 1 Thessalonians 4: 16 & 17, as follows: (18) ***'Now Mount Sinai was all in smoke because YHVH descended upon it in fire; and its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked violently.*** (19) ***When the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke and Elohim answered him with thunder.*** (20) ***And YHVH came down on Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain; and YHVH called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.'*** 1 Thessalonians 4: 16 & 17, ***'For the Master Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of Elohim; and the dead in Messiah shall rise first.*** (17) ***Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up to meet the Master in the air, and thus we shall always be with the Master.'*** We see the words 'YHVH descended' in Exodus 19: 18 and 'the Master Himself will descend from heaven' in 1 Thessalonians 4: 16. We read 'the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder' in Exodus 19: 19 and 'the voice of the archangel and the trumpet of YHVH', in 1 Thessalonians 4: 16. In Exodus 19: 20, we read: 'Moses went up' and in 1 Thessalonians 4: 17, 'Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Master in the air.' Rav Shaul who knew Torah and how Moses went up to Mount Sinai and returned 40 days later, understood this will be how Yahshua left and will return to rule the world many years later.

Even so, there are additional patterns of Yahshua's return, when Moses came down from Mount Sinai. Moses ascended and descended Mount Sinai 8 times, and each time left additional details about Yahshua's second coming. We read accordingly from Exodus 24: 13 – 18, ***'So Moses arose with Joshua his servant, and Moses went up to the Mountain of Elohim.*** (14) ***But to the elders he said, "Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a legal matter, let him approach them."*** (15) ***Then Moses went up to the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain.*** (16) ***And the glory of YHVH rested on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; and on the seventh day He called to Moses from the midst of the cloud.*** (17) ***And to the eyes of the sons of Israel the appearance of the glory of YHVH was like a consuming fire on the mountain top.*** (18) ***And Moses entered the midst of the cloud as he went up to the mountain; and Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.'*** Before Moses went up to the Mountain of Elohim, he said to the elders, 'Wait here for us until we return to you.' This is almost similar to the words that Yahshua used in Luke 24: 46, as follows: 'you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.' We also see from Acts 1: 9, ***'And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.'***

Moses ascended the mountain and remained there for 40 days, a prophetic view of the 40 Jubilees that Yahshua has remained in heaven, since His ascension (40 Jubilees = 40 times 50 years = 2000 years). The resurrected dead in Messiah and those believers still alive to be changed at Yahshua's return to meet Him in the air (as per 1 Thessalonians 4: 17), is a picture of the ancient Hebrew wedding ceremony, when the bridegroom returns, as we read in Matthew 25: 6, ***"But at midnight there was a shout, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.'*** We see from Acts 1: 10 - 12, ***'And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was departing, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them; (11) and they also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Yahshua, who has been taken up from you into heaven will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven."*** (12) ***Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away.'*** Yahshua will return to the Mount of Olives on Yom Teruah and as further explained Matthew 24: 30, He will return on the clouds of heaven, as follows: ***'And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory.'***

We also read about Yahshua's return to the Mount of Olives from Zechariah 14: 4, in this way: ***'And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west by a very large valley, so that half of the mountain will move toward the north and the other half toward the south.'*** Those who will meet Yahshua in the clouds

will be with Him forever where He is. We read further from Revelation 5: 10 and 20: 6 that those resurrected and changed at Messiah's return, will rule under Him for a thousand years, right here on earth. So, we see that if we qualify, we will be with Yahshua right where He is here on earth. We also see that those who will see His return in the clouds on the Mount of Olives, will be gathered together as recorded in verse 31 of Matthew 24, like this: ***"And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT TRUMPET and THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER HIS elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other."*** The angels will bring the elect from all over the world to Jerusalem, from where they will meet up with Yahshua the Messiah on the Mount of Olives, which will be covered by clouds. This is not the 'Rapture' taught by Christianity – no, these elect, will simply disappear from the area where they normally reside and re-appear at the Mount of Olives in Israel, similar to what happened to Philip after he immersed the eunuch in Acts 8: 34 – 40. We see in verse 39 after Philip immersed the man, the Spirit of YHVH snatched him away, and he was seen no more, but found himself in Azotus, and kept preaching the gospel of the coming kingdom of Elohim to all the cities, until he came to Caesarea. **Those resurrected/changed at Messiah's return will be spiritual and will be able to move to wherever they desire, at will.**

In addition we see that in every case where people are taken away, before those that remain are saved in the Scriptures, that it was not (and will also not) be faithful believers who will be taken (or raptured) away, but the sinners, as witnessed in:

- Isaiah 57: 13, ***"When you cry out, let your collection of idols deliver you. But the wind will carry all of them up, and a breath will take them away, but he who takes refuge in Me (YHVH) shall inherit the land (of Israel), and possess My holy mountain."***
- Isaiah 64: 6 & 7, ***"For all of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment; and all of us wither like a leaf, and our iniquities like the wind take us away."***
- Ezekiel 33: 4 (talking about the duty of a watchman): ***'Then he who hears the sound of the trumpet and does not take warning, and a sword comes and takes him away, his blood will be on his own head.'***
- Matthew 24: 37 - 39, ***"For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah. (38) For as in those days which were before the flood they were eating and drinking, they were marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, (39) and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so shall the coming of the Son of Man be."***
- Matthew 13: 40, ***'Therefore just as the tares are gathered up and burned with fire, so shall it be at the end of the age.'***

Many are often concerned with the location of the place of safety where YHVH will one day protect us during the Great Tribulation that is soon coming upon the earth. We have two Scriptural witnesses implying that we will possibly be protected at the Feast of Tabernacles, during that time of trouble, as we read in Psalm 27: 5, as follows: ***'For in the day of trouble He will conceal me in His tabernacle; in the secret place of His tent He will hide me; He will lift me up on a rock.'*** The second witness is found in Isaiah 26: 19 – 21, in this way: ***'Your dead will live; their corpses will rise. You will lie in the dust, awake and shout for joy, for your dew is as the dew of the dawn. And the earth will give birth to the departed spirits (this is talking about the first resurrection at the Feast of Trumpets). (20) Come, my people, enter into your rooms, and close your doors behind you; hide for a little while, until indignation runs its course. (21) For behold, YHVH is about to come from His place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; and the earth will reveal her bloodshed, and will no longer cover her slain.'*** We know that our Master will one day return on Yom Teruah, otherwise known as the Feast of Trumpets, when the dead in Messiah will be resurrected, after which Satan will be bound for a thousand years (on Yom Kippur). Then we will enter the millennium rule of Yahshua our Messiah, depicted by the Feast of Tabernacles. Halleluyah!

Where are we going when we die?

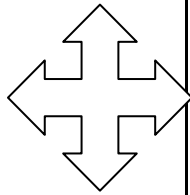
Yahshua said in John 3: 13, **'And no one has ascended into heaven, but He who descended from heaven, even the Son of Man.'**

Heaven?

We read accordingly from Psalm 115: 16, **'The heavens are the heavens of YHVH; but the earth He has given to the sons of men.'**

We read further from Proverbs 2: 21 & 22 **'For the upright will live in the land and the blameless will remain in it; but the wicked will be cut off from the land, and the treacherous will be uprooted from it.'**

YHVH made a covenant with Abram, which included a two-fold promise to him and his offspring that they will eventually dwell in the Promised Land (Canaan) eternally, provided that he and his descendants after him remain obedient to Him, including to circumcise every male child when he is 8 days old. The second part of the promise was that He would bring those of Abraham's seed who would be scattered into the world because of idolatry, back through Abraham's one seed Yahshua, through whom He will also eventually save the rest of mankind as second born children into Elohim's eternal Kingdom, after opening the Scriptures to their minds, giving them the opportunity to make an informed decision whether to follow Elohim's way or not. (Genesis 17: 7 – 11). Those who decide against following Elohim's way at that time will simply be destroyed by fire as per Malachi 4: 1.



Reading from Hebrews 11: 8 - 10, we see that: **'By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he lived as an alien in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs of the same promise; for he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is Elohim.'**

However, we see from Hebrews 11: 39 & 40, **'And all these, having gained approval through their faith, did not receive what was promised, because Elohim had provided something better for us, so that apart from us they should not be made perfect.'**

The land of Canaan is on earth and if Abraham was promised this piece of land as an everlasting possession, and if we are heirs of Abraham because of our faith in Messiah, we will also inherit the Promised Land, from where the Kingdom of Elohim will be administered, by Yahshua the Messiah and His saints.

Hell?

Notes:

When we die we are buried in hell (meaning the grave), our souls or lives come to an end and our spirits go back to Elohim who gave it as per Ecclesiastes 12: 7.

Even though our spirits go back to the Father at death, our consciousness comes to an end and we are not aware of anything any longer as per Ecclesiastes 9: 5 & 10.

Whilst the spirits of the righteous are in heaven, it will be made perfect as per Hebrews 12: 23.

At Messiah's return, He will bring the spirits of those who died in Him, resurrect their bodies (to life) and their spirits, souls and bodies will once again be complete without blame as per 1 Thessalonians 5: 23.