

Mortality and Immortality of Man

*(When quoting scriptures, from the Rotherham Emphasized Bible New Testament,
I will substitute the Hebrew word Yahshua for Jesus, Yahweh and Elohim for God and Anointed for Christ.)*

There is no confusion concerning the mortality of man's body, but what about his so called soul and or spirit? Do the soul and or spirit cease to exist upon death of the body or are they immortal as religions state? Can the soul and or spirit be separated from the body as in an out of body experience? Our Father's Written Word and not experiences are the only source of truth concerning these subjects. Yahweh's Word promises the believer life, death, resurrection, judgment and then immortality, while the unbeliever is promised life, death, resurrection, judgment and then the second death. Death or mortality begins in Genesis chapter three and ends in Revelations chapter twenty. Only then is death or mortality destroyed and swallowed up in the victory of immortality.¹

Platonism² (the immortality or the non death of the soul and or the spirit) became the cornerstone of the majority of the Christian Churches; "For Socrates, death itself is the separation of the body from the soul: Is it anything else than the separation of the soul from the body? So we believe that death is this, namely, that the body comes to be separated by itself apart from the soul, and the soul comes to be separated by itself apart from the body? Is death anything else than that?"³ The Catholic Church agrees; "The Church teaches that every spiritual soul is created immediately by God, it is not produced by the parents and also that it is immortal: it does not perish when it separates from the body at death, and it will be reunited with the body at the final Resurrection."⁴ Billy Graham also agrees with Plato; "Third, the Bible teaches that the soul of man is eternal...You have a body with eyes and ears and hands and feet, but your body is temporary. It will go to the grave. But your personality, your intelligence, your conscience, your memory – these live on forever. This is your spirit, and according to the Bible, our spirit will never die."⁵ Gloria Copeland states, "The Lord told Kenneth E. Hagin one time, 'I don't look at death the way people do. In fact, I never see My children dying, because they don't die.' Well, what do they do, Gloria? They leave! They just go home. To God, what we call dying is just our spirits changing addresses, moving from earth to heaven."⁶

¹ Lo! a sacred secret, unto you, do I declare:—we shall not, all, sleep, but we shall, all, be changed,— In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, during the last trumpet; for it shall sound, and, the dead, shall be raised, incorruptible, and, we, shall be changed. For this corruptible must needs clothe itself with incorruptibility, and this mortal, clothe itself, with immortality. But, whensoever, this mortal, shall clothe itself with immortality, then, shall be brought to pass the saying that is written—Death hath been swallowed up, victoriously; (1 Cor. 15:51-54)

² The philosophy or doctrine of Plato, or of his followers.

³ Life after Death, A History of the Afterlife in Western Religion by Alan F. Segal; pg. 225, 226

⁴ Catechism of the Catholic Church, article 366

⁵ What happens when you die? A message by Billy Graham; <http://www.billygraham.org/topic.asp?s=60>

⁶ You can only die once, by Gloria Copeland, BVOV April 2003, pg. 29

Plato's influence is still with us today even though he lived hundreds of years before Christ. Before there was Plato there were the Canaanites who also practiced the immortality of man through necromancy (seeking the dead).⁷ Before the Canaanites there was the serpent who promised immortality to Eve and Adam by stating, "Dying you will not die."⁸

In the Garden mankind was given the opportunity to choose between immortality by eating of the tree of life or mortality by eating the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Yahweh stated, "Of every tree of the garden eating thou dost eat; and of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, thou dost not eat of it, for in the day of thine eating of it—dying thou dost die" (Young's Gen. 2:16-17). The consequence of their sin was death and corruption (mortality); "In the sweat of thy face, shalt thou eat bread, until thou return to the ground, because therefrom, wast thou taken,—For, dust, thou art, And, unto dust, shalt thou return" (Gen.3:19). If, as the majority of Churches teach, man has a soul that can exist without the body, making it immortal, then the proceeding promise of life age-abiding (immortality) was not necessary; "Now, therefore, lest he thrust forth his hand, and take even of the tree of life, and eat, and live to times age-abiding" (Gen. 3:22). According the Church Fathers, everyone will live to times age-abiding, either in heaven, purgatory or hell.

The second record of mankind coming into existence occurs in Genesis 2:7; "So then Yahweh Elohim formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed in his nostrils the breath [neshamah]⁹ of life—and man became a living soul [nephesh]." According to the Word of Yahweh, man does not have a soul but he became a living soul (nephesh) after he received the neshamah (breath) of life from Yahweh Elohim. Animals are also called living souls.¹⁰ (For more information on ruwach and nephesh see the article Spirit and Soul.) Nowhere in the scriptures does it say that man, who is a living nephesh (soul), is immortal but on the contrary nephesh is associated with death or mortally.¹¹ Spirit or

⁷ Deu. 18:11, Is. 8:19, I Sam. 28:7, I Chron. 10:13, II Chron. 33:6

⁸ "And the serpent saith unto the woman, 'Dying, ye do not die,'" Gen. 3:4 (Young's Literal Translation of the Holy Bible)

⁹ 05397 נֶשְׁמָה n@shamah *nesh-aw-maw'*

1) breath, spirit 1a) breath (of God) 1b) breath (of man) 1c) every breathing thing 1d) spirit (of man)

¹⁰ Genesis 1:20 ¶ And Elohim said—Let the waters swarm with an abundance of living soul, and, birds, shall fly over the earth, over the face of the expanse of the heavens. Genesis 1:21 And Elohim created the great sea-monsters,—and every living soul that moveth—with which the waters swarmed after their kind and every winged bird—after its kind. And God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:24 ¶ And Elohim said—Let the land, bring forth, living soul, after its kind, tame-beast and creeping thing and wild-beast, of the land, after its kind. And it was so. Genesis 1:30 and to every living thing of the land—and to every bird of the heavens, and to every thing that moveth on the land, wherein is a living soul, every green herb for food. And it wins so.

¹¹ Psalms 33:19 To rescue, from death, their soul, and to keep them alive in famine.

Psalms 56:13 For thou hast rescued my soul from death, Wilt thou not *rescue* my feet from stumbling? That I may walk to and fro, before God, In the light of life.

Psalms 78:50 He leveled a path for his anger, Withheld not, from death, their soul, But, their life—to the pestilence, he delivered:

Psalms 89:48 Who is the man that shall live, and not see death? That can deliver his soul from the hand of hades. *Selah.*

Psalms 107:18 All manner of food, their soul abhorreth, and so they draw near unto the gates of death,

Psalms 116:8 For thou hast rescued my soul from death,—mine eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

ruwach is never mention in the account of mans creation. Ruwach is also associated with death and death is associated with Sheol.¹²

Sheol is a place or state of all who have died including our Savior. If men had souls which were immortality then Sheol has no function; a place only for our dust. Sheol is important in our Father's Word and is used sixty-five times in the Old Testament. (See Appendix A for a list of all the usages.) Sheol and the soul (nephesh) are interconnected in the Psalms:

Psalms 16:10 For thou wilt not abandon my soul to sheol, neither wilt thou suffer thy man of lovingkindness, to see corruption:

Psalms 30:3 O Yahweh! thou hast lifted, out of sheol, my soul, Thou hast brought me back to life, from among those who were going down to the pit.

Psalms 49:15 ¶ But, Elohim, will redeem my soul, out of the hand of sheol, For he will take me. Selah.

Psalms 86:13 For, thy lovingkindness, is great towards me, And thou hast rescued my soul from sheol beneath.

Psalms 88:3 For my soul, is sated with misfortunes, And, my life—unto sheol, hath drawn near;

Psalms 89:48 Who is the man that shall live, and not see death? That can deliver his soul from the hand of sheol. Selah.

In Sheol the dead can not praise Yahweh;¹³ there is no remembrance or giving of thanks;¹⁴ there is no work nor calculation nor knowledge nor wisdom.¹⁵ The dead, also known as the sleeping, await the resurrection in Sheol. E. W. Bullinger calls Sheol the state of death or the state of the dead.¹⁶

Man doe not have a soul but he is a living soul; when he dies he is a dead soul.¹⁷ The teaching that man is soul (immortal) and body (mortal), and the two can be separated, is a teaching of demons; our deceivers great lie. We all must choose life (immortality) or choose death (mortality)! The choice is not to choose between life in a good place or life in a bad place. Men are given the chose to live with Yahweh and Christ on the Third Earth or to perish; no longer exist; "For Yahweh, so loved, the world, that, his Only Begotten Son,

¹² Ecclesiastes 3:19 For, as regardeth the destiny of the sons of men and the destiny of beasts, one fate, have they, as dieth the one, so, dieth the other, and, one spirit [ruwach], have they all,—and, the pre-eminence of man over beast, is nothing, for, all, were vanity:

Ecclesiastes 8:8 No man, hath power over the spirit [ruwach], to retain the spirit [ruwach], and, none, hath power over the day of death, and there is no furlough in war,—neither shall lawlessness deliver them who are given thereto.

¹³ For, sheol, cannot praise thee Nor, death, celebrate thee,—They who go down to the pit cannot wait for thy faithfulness. The living, the living, he, can praise thee Is. 38:18-19 The dead, cannot praise Yah, nor any that go down into silence; Ps. 115:17

¹⁴ For, in death, is no remembrance of thee,—In sheol, who shall give thanks unto thee? Ps. 6:5

¹⁵ Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, with thy might, do,—for there is no work nor calculation nor knowledge nor wisdom, in sheol, whither, thou, art going. Ecclesiastes 9:10

¹⁶ A Critical Lexicon and Concordance to the English and Greek New Testament; pg. 369

¹⁷ Nu 6:6 All the days for which he hath separated himself unto Yahweh, to no dead person [nephesh], shall he go in. Le 21:11 And, unto no persons [nephesh] of the dead, shall he go in,—For his father or for his mother, shall he not make himself unclean;

he gave,—that, whosoever believeth on him, might not perish,¹⁸ but have life age-abiding” (Jn. 3:16). John 3:16 does not say, that the people who do not believe in him will live in a bad place or live in hell but rather that they will perish or be destroyed. Revelations 20:14-15 states the outcome for all of mankind; “And, death and hades, were cast into the lake of fire. This, is, the second death [death is the absence of life]—the lake of fire. And, if anyone was not found, in the book of life [Now, therefore, lest he thrust forth his hand, and take even of the tree of life, and eat, and live to times age-abiding]¹⁹, written, he was cast into the lake of fire [destroyed, perished]” (Rev. 20:14-15).

¹⁸ apollumi: 1) to destroy 1a) to put out of the way entirely, abolish, put an end to ruin 1b) render useless 1c) to kill

¹⁹ Gen. 3:22

Appendix A

Sheol (65 times)

- Genesis 37:35 And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to console him but he refused to be consoled, and said—Surely I will go down unto my son mourning to sheol! And his father wept for him.
- Genesis 42:38 *And he said, My son shall not go down with you,—For, his brother, is dead and, he alone, is left, and as surely as there befall him any mischief by the way wherein ye go, so surely shall ye bring down my grey hairs with sorrow unto sheol.*
- Genesis 44:29 And I have never seen him since. As surely as ye take, this one also, away from before my face and there befall him any mischief, so surely shall ye bring down my grey hairs, with misfortune to sheol.
- Genesis 44:31 so surely shall it come to pass that when he sooth that the lad is not with us, then will he die. So shall thy servants bring down the grey hairs of thy servant our father, with sorrow to sheol.
- Numbers 16:30 But, if, a cremation, Yahweh create, and the ground open wide her mouth and swallow them up, with all that pertain unto them, and so they go down alive unto sheol, then shall ye know, that these men have despised Yahweh.
- Numbers 16:33 so, they, and all that pertained unto them, went down, alive unto sheol,—and the earth, closed pen them, and they perished out of the midst of the convocation.
- Deuteronomy 32:22 For, a fire, is kindled in mine anger, And shall burn as far as sheol beneath,—And consume the earth with her produce, And set ablaze the foundations of the mountains:
- 1 Samuel 2:6 Yahweh, doth kill, and make alive,—Taket down to sheol, and bringeth up:
- 2 Samuel 22:6 the meshes of sheol, had surrounded me,—the snares of death had confronted me,
- 1 Kings 2:6 Thou, therefore, must do according to thy wisdom,—but will not let his grey hair go down in peace, to sheol.
- 1 Kings 2:9 Now, therefore do not hold him guiltless, for, a wise man, thou art, and wilt know how thou oughtest to deal with him, and wilt suffer his grey hairs to go down with blood, to sheol.
- Job 7:9 A cloud faileth, and is gone, So, he that descendeth to sheol, shall not come up:
- Job 11:8 The heights of the heavens, what canst thou do? Depths deeper than sheol, what canst thou know?
- Job 14:13 Oh that, in sheol, thou wouldst hide me! that thou wouldst keep me secret, until the turn of thine anger, that thou wouldst set for me a fixed time, and remember me:
- Job 17:13 If I wait for sheol as my house, in darkness, have spread out my couch;
- Job 17:16 With me to sheol, would they go down, If, wholly—into the dust, is the descent!
- Job 21:13 They complete, in prosperity, their days, and, in a moment to sheol, they sink down.
- Job 24:19 Drought and heat, steal away snow water, Sheol, them who have sinned.
- Job 26:6 Naked is sheol before him, and there is no covering to destruction;
- Psalms 6:5 For, in death, is no remembrance of thee,—In sheol, who shall give thanks unto thee?
- Psalms 9:17 The lawless, shall return, to sheol, all nations forgetful of Elohim.
- Psalms 16:10 For thou wilt not abandon my soul to sheol, neither wilt thou suffer thy man of lovingkindness, to see corruption:
- Psalms 18:5 The meshes of sheol, had surrounded me, The snares of death, had confronted me,
- Psalms 30:3 O Yahweh! thou hast lifted, out of sheol, my soul, Thou hast brought me back to life, from among those who were going down to the pit.
- Psalms 31:17 O Yahweh! let me not be ashamed, For I have called upon thee, Let the lawless ha ashamed, go down in silence to sheol!
- Psalms 49:14 Like sheep—into sheol, are they driven, Death shall shepherd them,—And the upright shall have dominion over them in the morning, Even their form, is to decay, Sheol, is all that remaineth of a habitation for him.
- Psalms 49:15 ¶ But, Elohim, will redeem my soul, out of the hand of sheol, For he will take me. Selah.
- Psalms 55:15 Desolations on them! Let them go down into sheol alive, For, wicked doings, are at home within them.
- Psalms 86:13 For, thy lovingkindness, is great towards me, And thou hast rescued my soul from Sheol beneath.
- Psalms 88:3 For my soul, is sated with misfortunes, And, my life—unto Sheol, hath drawn near;
- Psalms 89:48 Who is the man that shall live, and not see death? That can deliver his soul from the hand of sheol. Selah.
- Psalms 116:3 The meshes of death encompassed me, and the distresses of sheol, came upon me, Peril and sorrow, I found;
- Psalms 139:8 If I ascend the heavens, there, thou art! If I spread out sheol as my couch, behold thee!
- Psalms 141:7 As when one plougheth and furroweth the earth, Scattered about, are our bones at the mouth of sheol!
- Proverbs 1:12 Let us engulf them, like sheol, alive, While in health, like them who are going down to the pit;
- Proverbs 5:5 Her feet, are going down to death,—on sheol, will her steps take firm hold.
- Proverbs 7:27 Ways to sheol, are in her house, descending into the chambers of death.
- Proverbs 9:18 But he knoweth not, that the ssheol are there; In the depths of sheol, are her guests.
- Proverbs 15:11 ¶ Sheol and destruction, are before Yahweh, how much more then, the hearts of the sons of men.
- Proverbs 15:24 ¶ The way of life, is upwards to the prudent, that he may depart from sheol beneath.
- Proverbs 23:14 Thou, with the rod, shalt smite him, and, his soul from sheol, shalt thou deliver.

Proverbs 27:20 ¶ Sheol and destruction, are not satisfied, and, the eyes of a man, are not satisfied.

Proverbs 30:16 Sheol, and barrenness,—A land not satisfied with water, and fire, that saith not, Enough!

Ecclesiastes 9:10 Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, with thy might, do,—for there is no work nor calculation nor knowledge nor wisdom, in sheol, whither, thou, art going.

Song of Solomon 8:6 SHE Set me as a seal, upon thy heart, as a seal upon thine arm, For, mighty as death, is love, Exacting as sheol, is jealousy,—The flames thereof, are flames of fire, The flash of Yah!

Isaiah 5:14 Therefore, hath sheol enlarged her desire, And opened her mouth to its widest,—And their glory, and their multitude and their pomp. and he that is uproarious shall descend thereinto.

Isaiah 14:9 Sheol beneath, is excited about thee To meet thine arrival,—Rousing up, for thee Ssheol, All the he-goats of earth! Maketh rise from their thrones, All the kings of the nations.

Isaiah 14:11 Brought down to Sheol, thy pride. The hum of thy harps, Beneath thee, is spread out corruption, And, thy coverlet—worms!

Isaiah 14:15 Howbeit, to Sheol, shalt thou be brought down,—To the Recesses of the Pit!

Isaiah 28:15 Because ye have said—We have solemnised a covenant with death, And with sheol, have we effected a vision,—The overflowing scourge when it sweepeth by, shall not reach unto us, For we have made lying our refuge. And in falsehood, have we hid ourselves,

Isaiah 28:18 So shall be wiped out your covenant with death, And your vision with sheol, not stand,—When the overflowing scourge, sweepeth past, then shall ye be thereby beaten down:

Isaiah 38:10 I, said—In the noontide of my days, I must enter the gates of sheol,—I am deprived of the residue of ray years!

Isaiah 38:18 For, sheol, cannot praise thee Nor, death, celebrate thee,—They who go down to the pit cannot wait for thy faithfulness.

Isaiah 57:9 And hast gone to the king with oil, And hast multiplied thy perfumes,—And hast sent thy messengers afar, And...lowered thyself as far as sheol!

Ezekiel 31:15 Thus, saith My Lord Yahweh, In the day when he descended into sheol, I caused a mourning. I covered over him the roaring deep, And restrained the currents thereof And stayed were the mighty waters, So caused I gloom over him unto Lebanon, And all the trees of the field for him were covered with a shroud.

Ezekiel 31:16 At the sound of his fall, I made nations tremble, When I caused him to descend into sheol, with them who descend into the pit,— Then were grieved in the earth below—All the trees of Eden, The choicest and best of Lebanon All who had drunk the waters.

Ezekiel 31:17 Even they, with him descended into sheol. Among them who were thrust through with the sword, - Even his seed who dwelt in his shade in the midst of the nations.

Ezekiel 32:21 The chiefs of the mighty shall speak to him out of the midst of sheol, with his helpers,- They have descended They have lain down. The uncircumcised! Thrust through by the sword.

Ezekiel 32:27 Therefore shall they not lie with the mighty men The fallen ones from age-past times, Who descended into sheol with their weapons of war And their swords were placed under their heads. But their iniquities have come upon their bones Because of the terror of the mighty in the land of the living.

Hosea 13:14 Out of the hand of sheol, will I ransom them, out of death, will I redeem them,—Where is thy pestilence, O death? Where thy plague, O sheol? Repentance, shall be hid from mine eyes.

Amos 9:2 Though they break through into sheol, from thence, shall my hand fetch them,—and, though they ascend the heavens, from thence, will I bring them down;

Jonah 2:2 and said—I cried—out of my distress—unto Yahweh, and he answered me,—Out of the belly of sheol, called I, Thou didst hear my voice.

Habakkuk 2:5 ¶ Moreover also, when wine betrayeth, a man, is arrogant, and findeth no rest,—because he hath enlarged, like sheol, his desire, yea, he, is like death, and cannot be satisfied,—but hath gathered unto himself, all the nations, and assembled unto himself, all the peoples.