

October 10, 2021

Home of the Soul

By Michael Hickox

Olney Church of Christ

220 North Van Street
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Services

Sunday

Bible Study	9:30 am
A.M. Worship	10:20 am
P.M. Worship	2:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Class	7:00 pm
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Elders: Mike Gerber, Travis Hall

Deacons: John Frost, Dave Goff,
Roger Sholders

Visitors are welcome

We offer Bible classes for all ages

We also offer in-home Bible studies

We have Bible lessons on the radio
(92.9 FM) Sundays from 8:00-8:30 a.m.

The word “soul” can have different meanings in Scripture. One way it is used is to describe the part of us that exists in conjunction with our physical body. It is the part of us that will continue on for eternity.

If physical death comes before Christ’s return, our soul will go to Hades. This realm is described in **Luke 16:19-31**.

In Hades, there are some in “**torments**” (**Luke 16:23,28**). This is where the “**rich man**” of **Luke 16** was. He was in so much pain that he asked for Lazarus to “**dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool [his] tongue**” (**verse 24**).

There are others, like Lazarus, who are in a part of Hades described as “**Abraham’s bosom**” (**verse 22**). This place is called “**paradise**” by Jesus in **Luke 23:43**. Paradise is a place where souls are “**comforted**” (**Luke 16:25**). What determines whether one’s soul is in paradise or torment is whether one obeys God while on earth (see **verses 27-31**).

Like our physical bodies, Hades is a *temporary* home for the soul. On the Day of Judgment, “**all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation**” (**John 5:28b-29**).

Home of the Soul

(Continued)

This resurrection is the point at which our souls will be sent to an eternal home. All who have ever lived will stand before the Lord to be judged according to our deeds (**2 Cor. 5:10**). At this point, Christ will send the unrighteous “**away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal**” (**Matt. 25:46**).

Notice that Jesus stated that the unrighteous will face “**everlasting punishment**.” The Greek word for this place of eternal torment is “geenna” (*Strong G1067*). Eleven of the twelve times this word is used, it is used by Jesus. He described hell as a place of “**everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels**” (**Matt. 25:41**). It is a place of “**outer darkness**” where “**there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth**” (**Matt. 8:12**), and “**the fire that never shall be quenched**” (**Mark 9:43**).

We may wonder why our Lord spoke so much of hell. Perhaps the reason is that He loves us and wants us to be warned.

Instead of taking the path that leads to hell, Christ desires us to do the will of the Father, and thus be with Him in heaven for eternity (cf. **Matt. 7:21**).

Heaven is a *real* place where God resides (cf. **Matt. 6:9; 7:21b**). It is where Jesus ascended back to (**Luke 24:51**).

Heaven is a place where souls will be in the eternal presence of God (cf. **1 Thess. 4:17**). The “**new Jerusalem**” of **Revelation 21** is a place where there is “**no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof**” (**Rev. 21:23**). It is a “**holy city**” (verse 2) where “**there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain**” (verse 4).

While nothing good is said about hell, nothing bad is said about heaven. Heaven is a place where the redeemed of all ages will be together forever.

Reflecting on these different possible “homes” of the soul causes one to understand that there is much more to our existence than our time on earth. Our life on earth is “**even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away**” (**Jas. 4:14**). We must therefore use the time we have on earth to prepare for what comes next.

Christ’s return could come at any moment (**2 Pet. 3:10**). We must be ready at all times (**Matt. 24:42**).

During our brief time on earth, may we live in such a way that we will be comforted when our souls depart.

Area Gospel Meetings

Mattoon Southside Church of Christ:
October 11-17 (with Ken McDaniel)
Mon-Sat: 7:00 PM; Sun: 9:30, 10:30, 6:00

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God's Plan for Saving Man

God's Grace	Ephesians 2:8
Christ's Blood	Romans 5:9
The Holy Spirit's Gospel	Romans 1:16
Sinner's Faith	Acts 16:31
Sinner's Repentance	Luke 13:3
Sinner's Confession	Romans 10:10
Sinner's Baptism	1 Peter 3:21
Christian's Work	James 2:24
Christian's Hope	Romans 8:24
Christian's Endurance	Revelation 2:10

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Words to Consider

"But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

– Lamentations 3:21-23 (ESV)

Prayer List

Holly G
Sandy S
Cheryl S
Norma C
Raymond & Maxine
Barbara G (Cancer)
Robert C
Don C (Esophageal Cancer)
Ken G (Pancreatic Cancer)
Sharon G (Cancer)
Doans' Grandson, Wilson (Autoimmune Dis.)
Wayne W (Covid Recovery)
Carlyle B (Heart Issues)
Roger, Sharon, Annette & Families

Daily Bible Reading

October 10 – Isaiah 34-36; Colossians 2
October 11 – Isaiah 37-38; Colossians 3
October 12 – Isaiah 39-40; Colossians 4
October 13 – Isaiah 41-42; 1 Thess. 1
October 14 – Isaiah 43-44; 1 Thess. 2
October 15 – Isaiah 45-46; 1 Thess. 3
October 16 – Isaiah 47-49; 1 Thess. 4

"Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night." – Psalm 1:1-2 (ESV)

Prayer Leaders

Sunday, October 10, 2021

Bible Study: Dan H

Worship: Steve

Evening: Darrell

Wednesday, October 13, 2021

Michael

Clean Building

Cynde

Prepare Communion

Donna G

Upcoming Reminders

Wednesday adult class:

Create In Me a Clean Heart, O God

Lesson 5 (Greed) & Lesson 6 (Deceit)

Assignments

Sunday, October 17, 2021

Reading: Darrell

Announcements: Mike

Table: Steve

Serve: Mark

Travis

Jeff

Roger

Wednesday, October 20, 2021

Invitation: Jeff

Anniversaries

October 11 – Mike & Paula

October 27 – Carlyle & Donna

Birthdays

October 20 – Alita

October 21 – Dave

October 22 – Janice

October 23 – Craig

October 29 – Morgan