

TORAH, GOD'S INSTRUCTIONS
GENESIS 5B - HEAVEN OR HELL? IMMORTALITY OF THE SOUL?

Say - Welcome to Sabbath School class. Let's bow our head as we ask God for understanding in our study today. Our lesson today will focus on what happens after death and the doctrine of an "immortal soul". Many of the world's denominations teach one either goes to heaven or hell after death. Another doctrine taught by many denominations is that each of us has an immortal soul meaning a soul which lives on after death. We need to have a good understanding of these subjects so we will search the teachings of God; this is the only way we will be able to help others.

Say - Where did the doctrine of "heaven or hell" and the "immortality of the soul" begin? Sad to say it was in the Garden of Eden. Please read, "¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: ¹⁷But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" Genesis 2:16-17.

Say - But Satan entered into the Garden of Eden and told Eve, "⁴And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die" Genesis 3:4. This is the first false doctrine but God tells us, "...He (Satan) was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it" John 8:44.

Say - Here is some other information as to how the doctrine of "heaven and hell" and the "immortality of the soul" was passed from the Garden of Eden down through the ages. Herodotus of Halicarnassus (a Greek polis in Asia Minor), excerpts from *The Histories* (ca. 430 BC) said, "The Egyptians were also the first to claim that the soul of a human being is immortal, and that each time the body dies the soul enters another creature just as it is being born". Copy and paste into the address bar of your computer the following website:
<http://www.luc.edu/faculty/ldossey/Herodotus.htm>

Say - Please realize Philo, a Jewish philosopher, who lived in Alexandria, Egypt from 20 B. C. through 50 A. D., was influenced by Plato's Hellenistic teachings and began to introduce the idea of heaven or hell into the Jewish community and "he (Philo) laid the foundations for the development of Christianity in the West and in the East, as we know it today". Copy and paste into the address bar of your computer the following website:
<http://www.utm.edu/research/iep/p/philo.htm>

copy and paste into the address bar of your computer the following website:

<http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/view.jsp?artid=118&letter=I>
"Immortality of the Soul" by Kauffmann Kohler

Say - The ancient Egyptian and Babylonian pagan philosophers' believed in "heaven and hell" and an "immortal soul". Many non-Jews and Greeks brought their own concept of heaven and hell with them and discarded them as Paul taught them the truth of God. Unfortunately many non-Jews and Greeks went back to their former pagan doctrines of "heaven and hell" and the "immortality of the soul".

Say - What does the word "pagan" or "paganism" mean? The Bible uses the term "heathen" and means anyone who does not worship the True God and does not know the Truth of God. Sometimes a pagan is also called a Gentile. More often pagans worship many gods and goddesses and the religion is based on myth and superstition. For instance a pagan makes a god out of anything such as a sun god, a moon god, a river god, a frog god, etc.

Say - Let's begin to look at what the Most High God teaches us through His Word of Truth about "heaven and hell" and the "immortal soul" doctrines. I am going to do some of the remainder of this lesson as a worksheet so as a family you may look up the verses; I am using the King James Version of the Bible.

PART 1 - IMMORTAL SOUL?

SOUL

Say - The first word we will search for is the word "soul". First let's look at Strong's Concordance.

In the Old Testament, the word "soul" is H5315 - nephesh and means soul, self, life, body, creature, person, appetite, mind, living being with life in the blood, the man himself or person or individual, desire, emotion, passion. Also activity of the mind, will and character.

In the New Testament, the word "soul" is G5590 - psyche and means breath of life of animals and man, life, the soul meaning the seat of feelings, desire, affections

Say - We can see the word "soul" in the Old Testament and the New Testament mean the same thing, a physical, mortal, living being of flesh and blood. "Soul" has nothing to do with immortality or that the "soul" lives on after death.

Say - Now let's look at some verses in the Bible with the word "soul".

The next two verses show the "soul" lives.

Genesis 2:7 - ⁷And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul (nephesh, "soul"/living being).

Psalm 119:175 - ¹⁷⁵Let my soul (nephesh, my life) live, and it shall praise thee; and let thy judgments help me.

The next references show the "soul" dies.

Judges 16:30 - ³⁰And Samson said, Let me die (nephesh, living being die) with the Philistines.

Numbers 9:7 - ...We are defiled by the dead body (nephesh) of a man:

Numbers 31:19 - ¹⁹And do ye abide without the camp seven days: whosoever hath killed any person (nephesh, "soul"/person)...

Ezekiel 18:4, 20 - ⁴Behold, all souls (nephesh, "soul"/person) are mine; as the soul (nephesh, "soul"/person) of the father, so also the soul (nephesh, "soul"/person) of the son is mine: the soul (nephesh, "soul"/person) that sinneth, it shall die.

Matthew 10:28 - ²⁸And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul (psyche, "soul"/life): but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

James 5:20 - ²⁰Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul (psyche, "soul"/person) from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

Revelation 16:3 - ³And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead man: and every living soul died (psyche, "soul"/living being) in the sea. (these verses would not be in the Bible if the "soul" were immortal or unable to die)

The next two verses show the "soul" is life.

Isaiah 55:2 -hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul (nephesh, let your "soul"/life) delight itself in fatness.

Proverbs 6:30 - ³⁰Men do not despise a thief, if he steal to satisfy his soul (nephesh, "soul"/life) when he is hungry;

The next verse shows the "soul" thirsts.

Proverbs 25:25 - ²⁵As cold waters to a thirsty soul (nephesh, "soul"/person), so is good news from a far country.

The next verse shows the "soul" hungers.

Isaiah 29:8 - ⁸It shall even be as when an hungry man dreameth, and, behold, he eateth; but he awaketh, and his soul (nephesh, "soul"/person) is empty: or as when a thirsty man dreameth, and, behold, he drinketh; but he awaketh, and, behold, he is faint, and his soul (nephesh, "soul"/body) hath appetite: so shall the multitude of all the nations be, that fight against mount Zion.

The next verses show the "soul" is poured out.

I Samuel 1:19 - ...I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul (nephesh, "soul"/inner most feelings) before the LORD.

Lamentations 2:12 - ¹²They say to their mothers, Where is corn and wine? when they swooned as the wounded in the streets of the city, when their soul (nephesh, "soul"/"poured out" in the blood of death) was poured out into their mothers' bosom.

The next verse shows the "soul" weeps.

Psalms 119:28 - ²⁸My soul (nephesh, "soul"/person) melteth (weeps) for heaviness: strengthen thou me according unto thy word.

The next verse shows the "soul" is a body

Numbers 6:6 - ⁶All the days that he separateth himself unto the LORD he shall come at no dead body (nephesh, "soul"/body).

Say - From the study above, do we see the word "soul" is a person, a life, a body, a living being with emotions and feelings which weeps, thirsts, hungers, lives and dies? Thus we have a MORTAL soul, a soul which will experience death not live on as the doctrine of the IMMORTALITY of the soul teaches. The doctrine of the immortality of the soul is pagan and not what the Most High God teaches.

PART 2
THE TRUTH ABOUT HEAVEN AND HELL
DEAD, SLEEP, GRAVE, PIT

Say - The first words we will search for is the word "dead", "sleep", "grave", "pit" and see what we find.

Psalms 88:3-6

³For my soul is full of troubles: and my life draweth nigh unto the grave (means hell or pit, Strong's H7585). ⁴I am counted with them that go down into the pit (those who go down to the sepulchre as the dead, Strong's H353): I am as a man that hath no strength: ⁵Free among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave, whom thou rememberest no more: and they are cut off from thy hand. ⁶Thou hast laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness, in the deeps.

Psalms 88:10-12

¹⁰Wilt thou shew wonders to the dead? shall the dead arise and praise thee? Selah (for the answer read Psalm 115:17 "¹⁷The dead praise ___ the LORD, neither any that go down into silence (Strong's H1745, a place of silence, Hades)").

¹¹Shall thy lovingkindness be declared in the grave? or thy faithfulness in destruction (for the answer read Psalm 6:5 ⁵For in death there is ___ remembrance of thee: in the grave who shall give thee thanks?)".

¹²Shall thy wonders be known in the dark (no)? and thy righteousness in the land of forgetfulness (no)?

How can we be so sure the answer is "no" above? In Ecclesiastes 9:5 is a contrast between life and death, while alive, there is hope but when dead there is nothing for "the dead know not _____".

Isaiah 26:14 - God through the Prophet Isaiah tells us about the state of the dead

¹⁴They are dead, they shall not live (unless they are resurrected); they are deceased, they shall not rise (unless there is a resurrection and God puts life into them): therefore hast thou visited and destroyed them, and made all their memory to perish.

Read Isaiah 26:19 for proof of the resurrection.

¹⁹Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the _____ shall cast out the dead. (This is God's plan and what the resurrection is all about. We can see Isaiah preached the dead were not in heaven or hell fire but in the grave.)

More proof of the resurrection in Daniel 12:2 and says the same in the New Testament in John 5:28-29.

²And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall _____, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

More proof of the resurrection in Ephesians 5:14.

¹⁴Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the _____, and Christ shall give thee light (God will give His divine light/TRUTH to the resurrected).

More proof of the resurrection in John 5:25.

²⁵Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the _____ shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall _____.

NOW LET'S LOOK AT THE RESURRECTION CHAPTER **I CORINTHIANS 15:12-58**

¹²Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead (means arouse from the sleep of death), how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead?

¹³But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen (it's that simple): ¹⁴And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain (there is no such thing as immortal soul, this is paganism. The pagan philosophers preached why does the body have to be raised, it's the soul or spirit they say that is alive. But we need both the body and the spirit).

¹⁵Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. ¹⁶For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: ¹⁷And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain (is futile or useless); ye are yet in your sins (Because the only way Christ could atone for our sins is to die and rise again for our sins to be forgiven upon one's repentance).

¹⁸Then they also which are fallen asleep (died) in Christ are perished. ¹⁹If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable (if no resurrection).

²⁰But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept (and we will follow Him at the resurrection the Bible tells us, see verse 23 below). ²¹For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive (in their time sequence, read the following verse for the order of the resurrection).

²³But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. (even though some were resurrected when Christ was, He is speaking about eternal life at the "last trump", the 7th trumpet celebrated on the Feast of Trumpets)

²⁴Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God (after the 1000 years, Revelation 20:5), even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power (of men).

²⁵For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.

²⁷For he (God the Father) hath put all things under his feet (Jesus Christ). But when he (God the Father) saith all things are put under him (Jesus Christ), it is manifest (evident) that he is excepted, which did put all things under him.

²⁸And when all things shall be subdued (subject) unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him (God the Father) that put all things under him, that God may be all in all (literally, this is the plan revealed through God's Holy Days).

²⁹Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? why are they then baptized for the dead (if we are going to baptize people and Christ is not risen, what good is it to baptize, all of the promises of eternal life would not do any good.)?

³⁰And why stand we in jeopardy every hour? ³¹I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily. ³²If after the manner of men I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantageth it me, if the dead rise not? let us eat and drink; for to morrow we die (this is what Sodom and Gomorrah were all about, just "be merry").

³³Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners ³⁴Awake to righteousness (God's Laws of love, Romans 13:10), and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame (the doctrine of the immortality of the soul shows the lack of knowledge of God which eventually became the doctrine of Christianity because of the deception by Satan through his false prophets and false philosophers, Revelation 12:9, just as He did to Eve in the Garden of Eden for many do not have the truth of God because they do not have His spirit. For proof of this statement read I Corinthians 2:9, 10, and 14).

³⁵But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come? ³⁶Thou fool (don't you know how nature works), that which thou sowest is not quickened (made alive), except it die (unless it dies):

³⁷And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain: ³⁸But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body. ³⁹All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds. ⁴⁰There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another. ⁴¹There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory (God uses the physical to explain the spiritual).

⁴²So also is the resurrection of the dead (Now God explains the resurrection of the dead). It is sown in corruption (the body is physical and will decompose

or perish); it is raised in incorruption (the body raised from the dead will be totally different than what was put in the grave. Just like a seed put in the ground, when it comes up it is totally different than the seed which was put in the ground. Seeds put in the ground, depending on their "make-up" will resurrect to a bean, tomato or pumpkin. So God is saying when we are put in the ground as physical, based on our "spiritual genes", He will resurrect us to spiritual. For God tells us "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see **him** as he is" I John 3:2. Remember also the body of Christ that went into the grave did not look like the one resurrected that is why they did not recognize Him.):

⁴³It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory (with splendor and brightness as God): it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power (with the spirit of God which is His power): ⁴⁴It is sown a natural body (physical body); it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body (the two are not alike, some say I saw a ghost which is a pagan doctrine for there is no such thing, the spirit and physical do not look alike).

⁴⁵And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul (psyche); the last Adam was made a quickening spirit (Jesus Christ, life-giving spirit). ⁴⁶Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual (first God created us physical as Adam then we can become spiritual at the resurrection).

⁴⁷The first man is of the earth, earthy (made from dust); the second man is the Lord from heaven (made spiritual). ⁴⁸As is the earthy (man of dust), such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. ⁴⁹And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly (will be resurrected in the image of God our Creator who is spiritual, I John 3:2).

⁵⁰Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

⁵¹Behold, I shew you a mystery (not a mystery to those God has called and given His spirit to but it is a mystery to many because they do not believe the truth of God for it has not been given to them by God's spirit, I Corinthians 2:9-10, 14); We shall not all sleep (die), but we shall all be changed, (when, read on?) ⁵²In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible (imperishable, immortal), (how?) and we shall be changed (from physical to spiritual beings). ⁵³For this corruptible (physical) must put on incorruption (spiritual or immortality), and this mortal (person, soul, body) must put on immortality (Only God has immortality now, not any human being). **Oh if the pagan philosophers had read this verse!!!**

⁵⁴So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption (at the last trump as we just read), and this mortal (physical person of flesh and blood) shall have put on immortality (spiritual), then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory (Just as Isaiah recorded in Isaiah 25:8; it is the same doctrine all the way through the Bible). ⁵⁵O death, where is thy sting? O grave (hell), where is thy victory? ⁵⁶The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. ⁵⁷But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ (death, the pit, grave or hell, cannot hold us over the "last trump" and the sound of God's voice at the resurrection; this is the GOOD NEWS to comfort one another)

⁵⁸Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord. (must walk in obedience to God and His laws and love Him with all our heart, mind and being and put God and His way above all else. Later in this study we will read of many who did just that.)

Say - As we can see it was not preached from God's prophets, disciples or apostles that anyone went to heaven or hell at death nor did they teach the "immortality of the soul". It was common knowledge of the resurrection in the Old and New Testament; you have just read it with your own eyes. As we discussed above it was brought into the Jewish community by Jewish scholars influenced by pagan Greek philosophers. However it is true some Jews brought the concept of heaven or hell back from Babylonian captivity but were brought back to the truth through God's servants. Also read Roman 6:4-5, 13:11.

Say - Let's look at some additional verses.

Matthew 9:24, Mark 5:39

²⁴He (Jesus) said unto them, Give place: for the maid is not dead (meaning the 2nd death or eternal death), but _____ (a natural death, The Bible tells us "And as it is appointed unto men **once** to **die**..." Hebrews 9:27). And they laughed him to scorn.

John 1:18 - ¹⁸_____ man hath seen God at any time, the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

John 11:11-14

¹¹These things said he (Jesus speaking): and after that he saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus _____; but I go, that I may awake him out of _____.

¹²Then said his disciples, Lord, if he _____, he shall do well.

¹³Howbeit Jesus spake of his death: but they thought that he had spoken of taking of rest in sleep.

¹⁴Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead

Note (Do you see Jesus Christ, the Son of God is telling us "dead" and "sleep" mean the same thing, we could say that every time we fall asleep we are experiencing death metaphorically. A metaphor is a figure of speech in which one thing, in this case "death", is spoken of as if it were something else, "sleep".).

In the next verse you will read of the FIRST time anyone ascended to heaven.

John 20:17 - ¹⁷Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.

Say - Now we want to look at some Bible Prophets and Kings and see where God tells us they are now.

King David

Acts 2:29

²⁹Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both _____ and _____, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day.

³⁰Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne (where is the throne of David, Jerusalem, Micah 4:1-2, not in heaven, 2 Samuel 7:12-16, Ezekiel 37:17-24, Psalm 89:3-4, Luke 1:32);

³¹He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul (Psyche, body) was not left in hell (the grave or Hades not hellfire or the place of final punishment), neither his flesh did see corruption.

³²This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.

³³Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost (holy spirit), he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.

³⁴For David is _____ ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself...

Abel

Hebrews 11:4

By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh (God is saying by the correct sacrifices and offerings Abel had offered to God, they were a witness to Abel that "he was righteous", obedient to God and loved Him with all his heart and being.)

Enoch

Hebrews 11:5

⁵By faith Enoch was translated (transferred, carried over, Strong's G3346) that he should not see death (at that time); and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God. (There is more written of Enoch below along with Elijah.)

Noah

Hebrews 11:7

⁷By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

Abraham

Hebrews 11:8-10

⁸By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. ⁹By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles (temporary dwellings) with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: ¹⁰For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God (and that promise will be the first resurrection)

Sara

Hebrews 11:11

¹¹Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

Where is Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Sara today; read Hebrews 11:13 below and fill in the blank from your Bible?

¹³These all died in faith, _____ having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them (assured of the promises), and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

¹⁴For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country (a homeland, the ultimate one, the one at the resurrection but also the one that descends 1000 years later, heavenly Jerusalem).

¹⁶But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly (Jerusalem will descend from Heaven a heavenly blessing coming from God): wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city (just like He said, "I go to prepare a place for you" John 14:2).

Say - **But let's read on in Hebrews 11 to find out where Jacob, Joseph, Moses, the harlot Rehab, Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthae and Samuel and the prophets or anyone who worshipped the true God.**

²⁰By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come. ²¹By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, leaning upon the top of his staff. ²²By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones.

²³By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment. ²⁴By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; ²⁵Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; ²⁶Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward (obeying God was more important than anything else to Moses and his goal was the "reward", the first resurrection and the Kingdom of God).

³⁰By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.

³¹By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.

³²And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets: ³³Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought (worked) righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions. ³⁴Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

³⁵Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection (There's a better resurrection than the 2nd resurrection, it is the 1st resurrection if we stay true to god as these examples, then we too will be in the first resurrection):

³⁶And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: ³⁷They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; ³⁸(Of whom the world was not worthy;) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth (most people want the easy way of life so they choose the "broad way" not the "strait and narrow way" of God as His followers must do).

³⁹And these all, having obtained a good report through faith (through the testimony of Jesus Christ), received not the promise (did not go to heaven, but at the first resurrection will receive the "promise" of eternal life and 1000 years later will see the Heavenly Jerusalem):

⁴⁰God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect (when God has all humanity as spirit beings and sin is wiped away, then the heavenly Jerusalem comes down, the ultimate "promise") Hebrews 11:4-40.

PART 3
NOW LET'S LOOK AT THE WORD "DUST"

Job 7:21 - ²¹... for now shall I sleep in the _____(earth); and thou shalt seek me in the morning, but I shall not be.

Job 17:16 - ¹⁶They shall go down to the bars of the pit, when our rest together is in the _____(earth).

Job 21:26 - ²⁶They shall lie down alike in the _____(earth), and the worms shall cover them.

Job 34:15 - ¹⁵All flesh shall perish together, and man shall turn again unto _____(earth).

Psalms 104:29 - ²⁹Thou hidest thy face, they are troubled: thou takest away their breath (Strong's H7307, "ruwach", air, wind, breath, spirit) they die, and return to their _____(earth).

Ecclesiastes 3:20 - ²⁰ _____ go unto one place; all are of the _____, and all turn to _____ again.

Ecclesiastes 12:7 - ⁷Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was (that's what we are made of): and the spirit (Strong's H7307, "ruwach", air, wind, breath, spirit) shall return unto God who gave it. (It is the same message throughout the Bible; just like it said in Genesis 3:19, ¹⁹In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return).

Psalms 103:14-16, Isaiah 40:5-7 - ¹⁴For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are _____. ¹⁵As for man, his days are as _____.: as a _____ of the field (dead without God's spirit), so he flourisheth. ¹⁶For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more (dry ground, withered, parched until God brings us back to life in the first resurrection).

James 1:9-11 - ¹⁰But the rich, in that he is made low: because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away (die). ¹¹For the sun is no sooner risen with a burning heat, but it withereth the grass, and the flower thereof falleth, and the grace of the fashion of it perisheth (money is a physical thing, it can be destroyed; in God is total riches that last forever. God is saying we have a choice, do we want riches that fail or last forever): so also shall the rich man fade away in his ways (God is not saying that it is not O. K. to be rich; He is saying we must love God more than money).

I Peter 1:24 - ²⁴For all _____(mankind) is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

Say - In 5A we discussed verse Genesis 5:24 which says, "And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him (God "took him" or "transported" or "carried" him to a different place because people were looking for him to persecute him because he worshipped God. Please make note that a false doctrine of "heaven and hell" as we have just studied above, sprang from this verse and from 2 Kings 2:11 about Elijah which says nearly the same thing, please read the following verses about Elijah. "11And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven" 2Kings 2:11.

Say - Today we drive, take a train or we fly in an airplane into the heavens. The chariot of fire with horses was angels. As we have discussed above, the false doctrine is that when one dies they go to heaven or hell. Many churches teach and many believe that Enoch and Elijah were taken and became spirit beings or made immortal or spirit beings and are in heaven with God. But God through the Bible, as we have read above, teaches us differently; please read the following:

Say - Concerning Elijah, let's take the verse apart and discuss it for understanding. It says, "Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven". Remember when we discussed the firmament in Genesis 1, page 5; we said the firmament is the expanse, the canopy of clouds. The firmament begins 1 inch above the ground and includes the moisture, the fog in the heavens, the air, the sky and the atmosphere or everything we can see. "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork" Psalm 19:1. This is where Elijah was taken up by a whirlwind, the visible part, where the clouds are and was taken to the southern kingdom of Judah that is why they could not find him. How can we be sure of this?

Say - You will learn in the books of 1st and 2nd Kings, the Bible tells us Elijah was a prophet to the Northern Kingdom of Israel and it was during the reign of an evil King Ahab and Queen Jezebel who worshipped the false god, Baal, and had led the Northern Kingdom or ten tribes of Israel into the same idol worship, that Elijah confronted King Ahab and told him of the calamities which were to come upon his kingdom because of his idolatry and King Ahab did not want to hear this so he was not happy with Elijah. If Elijah had been taken to heaven he would not have been a Prophet to the Northern Kingdom nor could he have warned them of the calamities that were to come upon them unless they repented and turned in obedience to God; you can read of this account starting in 1Kings 17:1, 18. With many events in between, to make a long

story short, God took Elijah from the Northern Kingdom to the Southern Kingdom, Judah, composed of the tribes of Judah and Benjamin (I Kings 12:21), and that is why they could not find him.

Say - Another proof that Elijah did not go to heaven is that many years later in 2 Chronicles 21:12, a letter came from Elijah. Had Elijah been "in Heaven" where God and the Son reside, he would not have written a letter.

Say - The verses in Matthew 17:1-9 say the following: ¹And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, ²And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. ³And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him. ⁴Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. ⁵While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him. ⁶And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid. ⁷And Jesus came and touched them, and said, Arise, and be not afraid. ⁸And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only. ⁹And as they came down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, saying, Tell the vision to no man, until the Son of man be risen again from the dead. (They did not see Moses and Elijah for verse 9 tells us this all happened in a vision, not reality. Think of it like a movie, not real but looks real).

Say - And last but not least another proof from the pages of your Bible that we do not go to heaven or hell when we die can be found in "13And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he (Jesus Christ) that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven" John 3:13.

Say - As we have just studied, no one goes to heaven or hell when they die nor do we have an immortal soul. As we have read, it was common knowledge from Genesis through Revelation of the resurrection.

MEMORY VERSE

Elijah went up by a whirlwind into the heaven

2 Kings 2:11

BELOW IS THE SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON FOR TOTS

FOR THE FULL STORY OF ELIJAH PLEASE READ I KINGS 16:29-2
KINGS 2:18

ELIJAH, A PROPHET OF GOD

A PROPHET OF GOD WAS ELIJAH TO THE TEN TRIBES OR
NORTHERN KINGDOM OF ISRAEL;
BUT EVIL KING AHAB AND QUEEN JEZEBEL REIGNED OVER
THEM AND WORSHIPPED THE FALSE GOD BAAL AND
FORGOT GOD'S COMMANDMENTS AND FOR THE
PEOPLE THAT WAS NOT WELL.

ELIJAH WANTED THE TEN TRIBES OF ISRAEL TO REPENT
OF THEIR SINS AND WORSHIP THE ONE TRUE GOD;
HE WARNED THEM IF THEY DID NOT REPENT, GREAT
DISASTERS SUCH AS FAMINE ON ALL WOULD FALL.

EVIL KING AHAB AND QUEEN JEZEBEL DID NOT WANT TO
LISTEN TO GOD'S PROPHET ELIJAH;
SOON THERE WAS A GREAT SHOWDOWN BETWEEN THE
TRUE GOD AND THE FALSE GOD BAAL;

TO THE FALSE GOD BAAL THEY PRAYED ALL DAY AND CUT
THEMSELVES WITH KNIVES BUT THERE WAS NO
ANSWER FROM THE FALSE GOD BAAL FOR HE
WAS NOT A GOD;

THEN ELIJAH PRAYED TO THE **ONLY** TRUE GOD AND "FIRE
FELL, CONSUMED THE WOOD, THE STONES, THE DUST
AND WATER AND ALL THE PEOPLE FELL ON THEIR
FACES AND SAID "HE IS GOD"!

SOON IT WAS TIME FOR ELIJAH'S JOB TO BE DONE FOR
GOD AND ELISHA TOOK HIS PLACE;
A CHARIOT AND HORSES OF FIRE CAME AND TOOK ELIJAH
TO THE SOUTHERN KINGDOM FOR THERE HE WOULD
BE SAFE.

...THERE APPEARED

A CHARIOT OF FIRE,...



AND
ELIJAH

WENT UP

BY

A

WHIRLWIND INTO HEAVEN.

2KINGS 2:11

B.R.B.