

A Mortal Soul

By Randall Ricker October 26, 2019
Sabbath Church of God



Overview of Beliefs THE PURPOSE OF LIFE

We believe in the resurrection of the dead rather than an immediate departure of the soul to heaven or hell (John 5:29). Eternal life is a gift of God (Romans 6:23), not something we inherently possess.

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We do not have an immortal soul that goes to heaven.

Ecclesiastes 12:7

Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, And the spirit will return to God who gave it.

Defining “soul”

soul in New Testament 5590 *psuche*: breath, spirit

Matthew 22:37

Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your **soul** [5590], and with all your mind.'

Quotes Deuteronomy 6:5

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your **soul** [5315], and with all your strength.

soul in Old Testament 5315 *nephesh*: a breathing creature, i.e., animal of vitality

Defining “soul”

Genesis 1:21

21 So God created great sea creatures and every **living thing** [5315] that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good... 24 Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth the **living creature** [5315] according to its kind: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, each according to its kind"; and it was so.

Genesis 2:7

And 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 being** [KJV: soul 5315].

Defining “spirit”

spirit in New Testament 4151 *pneuma*: a current of air, breeze, figuratively a **spirit**, vital principle, mental disposition

Luke 4:18

"The **Spirit** [4151] of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,

Quotes Isaiah 61:1

"The **Spirit** [7307] of the Lord GOD is upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

spirit in Old Testament 7307 *ruwach*: wind, breath, figuratively life, by resemblance **spirit**, but only of a rational being

The dead are not conscious

Psalm 146:4

His spirit departs, he returns to his earth; In that very day his plans [KJV: thoughts 6252 **thinking**] **perish**.

Ecclesiastes 9:5-6, 10

5 For the living know that they will die; But **the dead know nothing**, And they have no more reward, For the memory of them is forgotten. 6 Also their love, their hatred, and their envy have now perished; Nevermore will they have a share In anything done under the sun... 10 Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might; for there is **no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave** where you are going.

The spirit in man

Job 32:8

But there is **a spirit in man**, And the breath of the Almighty gives him understanding.

Zechariah 12:1

The burden of the word of the LORD against Israel. Thus says the LORD, who stretches out the heavens, lays the foundation of the earth, and forms **the spirit of man** within him:

1 Corinthians 2:11

For what man knows the things of a man except **the spirit of the man** which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.

Eternal life is a gift, not inherent

Ezekiel 18:4, 20

4 "Behold, all souls are Mine; The soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is Mine; **The soul who sins shall die**... 20 **The soul who sins shall die**. The son shall not bear the guilt of the father, nor the father bear the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but **the gift of God is eternal life** in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1 Timothy 6:14-16

14 that you keep this commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord **Jesus Christ's** appearing, 15 which He will manifest in His own time, He who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords, 16 **who alone has immortality**, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen.

We will not go to heaven

Acts 2:34

For **David did not ascend into the heavens**, but he says himself: 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand,

John 5:28-29

28 Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice 29 and come forth--those who have done good, to the **resurrection** of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation [2930 decision for or against, a tribunal, justice].

We will not go to heaven

Ecclesiastes 12:7

Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, And the spirit [**not immortal soul**] will return to God who gave it.