

**General Topics :: WAS PARADISE UP OR DOWN?****WAS PARADISE UP OR DOWN? - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/3/24 17:11**

hi , my wife was emailed the other day informing her that Jesus didnt descend into hell after his crucifiction.What is your take on this?.....Thanks, David

Re: WAS PARADISE UP OR DOWN?, on: 2007/3/24 18:51

Quote:

psalm1 wrote:
hi , my wife was emailed the other day informing her that Jesus didnt descend into hell after his crucifiction.What is your take on this?.....Thanks, David

I think that's in one of the creeds, but there probably isn't any definite Scriptural evidence for it.

The only verse I can think of, that may *possibly* be interpreted that way is 1Peter 3:18f

﻿

18﻿ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring ﻿﻿us to G od, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, ﻿19﻿ by whom also He went and preach ed to the spirits in prison, ﻿20﻿ who formerly were disobedient, ﻿when once the Divine longsuff ering waited in the days of Noah.

This passage is a bit of a puzzle. It could perhaps mean Jesus went into hell, if that's where the "spirits in prison" were. Personally I've never understood this verse (anyone help??) Anyway its a pretty shaky thing to build a doctrine on.

So probably the one who told your wife this was right.

Jeannette

Re: WAS PARADISE UP OR DOWN? - posted by cthom, on: 2007/3/24 20:05

I read this in Zac Poonen's book A GOOD FOUNDATION Chapter 10. This seems to settle the issue:

"While on the cross, Jesus told the repentant thief that he would be with Him in paradise that very day. Both Jesus and t hat thief went to paradise as soon as their souls left their bodies. Jesus had said that after His death, He would be in `th e heart of the earth' for 3 days and 3 nights (Matt. 12:40). From this we know that paradise, at that time, must have been in the heart of the earth. But when Christ was resurrected "from the lower parts of the earth.... and ascended on high.. H e led captive a host of captives" (Eph. 4:8,9). He took paradise and all the souls in it up to the third heaven.

In 2 Corinthians 12, when we compare verses 2 and 4 together, we see that paradise is now located in the third heaven. This is where the disciple of Jesus goes as soon as he dies (Phil. 1:23)."

Re: - posted by staff, on: 2007/3/24 20:15

Hi,
just like to agree with the analysis below of the thief on the cross and add that when the women entered the tomb and saw Jesus he said touch me not for I have not yet ascended;which means paradise must have been below.The sacrafice could not be touched on the way into the holy of holies.In this case Jesus.

"While on the cross, Jesus told the repentant thief that he would be with Him in paradise that very day. Both Jesus and that thief went to paradise as soon as their souls left their bodies. Jesus had said that after His death, He would be in `the heart of the earth' for 3 days and 3 nights (Matt. 12:40). From this we know that paradise, at that time, must have been in the heart of the earth. But when Christ was resurrected "from the lower parts of the earth.... and ascended on high.. He led captive a host of captives" (Eph. 4:8,9). He took paradise and all the souls in it up to the third heaven. In 2 Corinthians 12, when we compare verses 2 and 4 together, we see that paradise is now located in the third heaven. This is where the disciple of Jesus goes as soon as he dies (Phil. 1:23)."
Rgds Staff

General Topics :: WAS PARADISE UP OR DOWN?

Re:, on: 2007/3/24 21:01

Quote:

staff wrote:
Hi,
just like to agree with the analysis below of the thief on the cross and add that when the women entered the tomb and saw Jesus he said touch me not for I have not yet ascended; which means paradise must have been below. The sacrifice could not be touched on the way into the holy of holies. In this case Jesus.

Interesting point Staff, shall have to rethink a bit on that one! But I still think Zech Poonan is stretching the interpretation a bit!

As I said to cthom on a PM (with a little editing):
Zach Poonan's reasoning here doesn't make sense to me

Quote:
----- "Both Jesus and that thief went to paradise as soon as their souls left their bodies. Jesus had said that after His death, He would be in 'the heart of the earth' for 3 days and 3 nights (Matt. 12:40). From this we know that paradise, at that time, must have been in the heart of the earth."-----

His BODY was in the tomb for 3 days, that is figuratively "in the heart of the earth". But it doesn't mean his soul was, or that Paradise was!!!

The context of Mtt 12:40 is the "sign of Jonah" to those who rebelled against His Word. As Jonah was a sign to the Ninevites (he must have been in quite a state when he staggered into Nineveh after being in the fish which may have scared them into repenting!), so Jesus' death and resurrection would be a sign to those in Israel who refused to repent.

Anyway, that's my personal take on it. However Godly a man Zech Poonan may be I think that this time he's probably talking rubbish!

Blessings

Jeanette

Re: WAS PARADISE UP OR DOWN? - posted by cthom, on: 2007/3/24 22:50

Hi
I don't want to get into an argument here. But just one small point of disagreement with Jeanette. Joseph of Arimathea's tomb was on the SURFACE of the earth, not in the HEART of the earth. Jesus meant EXACTLY what He said: "the heart (centre) of the earth". It was not "figurative", as Jeanette states. Also Jesus Himself was NOT in the tomb for 3 days. Only His body was there. He was ALIVE in paradise in the centre of the earth for those 3 days - just as Jonah was alive in the fish's belly.
So I would not be so quick to categorise what a godly man has said as "talking rubbish" (to quote Jeanette again).
I shall not be continuing this discussion.
God bless you all and may we all meet in paradise one day, when we shall get clear answers.
CThom

Re: - posted by SteveHale (), on: 2007/3/25 0:43

He was assigned a grave with wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.

Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the Lord makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand.

After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light of life and be satisfied, by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify

General Topics :: WAS PARADISE UP OR DOWN?

fy many, and he will bear their iniquities.
Isaiah 53:9-11

Re: - posted by staff, on: 2007/3/25 7:09

Hi Jeannette,

Just one thing to add that to the best of my understanding, paradise was also called Abraham's Bosom and was a compartment within hell. So was hell below? You would have to get into Hebrew and Greek for that one. Jesus said today you will be with me in paradise; so he definitely went to paradise. What did he do there? Paradise was captive in hell. He led captivity captive. But for the rest of the time?

Rgds Staff

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/3/25 11:32

Hi cthom, I seem to agree with Zac. I was taught this many many years ago and never ran into any alternative teaching until recently. Actually thought it was clear doctrine, but it's good to get challenged! I still have no reason as of yet to believe any differently due to scripture. It seems clear at this point that Jesus did descend into hell and it seems clear he stripped the devil and took those patriarchs in the adjacent area with him to heaven. I know one creed has this and one doesn't. Not that it really matters but I wonder why they would leave it out? Does anyone know?

?..... Thanks, David

Re: WAS PARADISE UP OR DOWN? - posted by cthom, on: 2007/3/25 12:27

Hi David,

I had planned to exit from this discussion, but want to come back to make just one clarification. Jesus finished the work of our redemption on Calvary. He said so on the cross: "It is finished". He defeated Satan on the cross itself (Col. 2:15 and Heb. 2:14). Jesus never went to Hell at any time. The word HADES (Greek) and SHEOL (Hebrew) have been wrongly translated as "Hell" in the KJV. HADES is "The place of departed spirits" and has two sections - Hell (where the rich man went) and Abraham's bosom (or paradise, where poor Lazarus went). Jesus and the repentant thief went to HADES, but to the PARADISE section of HADES. The proclamation Jesus made to the demons about their final defeat (1 Pet. 3:19) was made from the Paradise section of Hades. When Jesus ascended, He took Paradise up to the third heaven. Finally, the important thing is that we all endure to the end and meet in paradise one day. May it be so for all who are in this discussion.

CThom

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/3/25 16:47

Hi CTom, I looked at those scriptures. I guess my question is not whether anything or everything was accomplished on the cross. "It is finished" can signify what it is supposed to or we can ascribe anything we want to it. Obviously he had more to do after he released his spirit. It seems you are taking a position that on the cross Satan was defeated through Jesus' death and only Jesus' death, that nothing more needed to happen. You may be right. I am still looking hard at this. On the Hades or Hell issue, my Greek Bible translates it as Gehenna and also Tartarus. But I have no problem if you want to call it Hades. The main point is Paradise had a place next to it with fire and people burning up in it. Since you assume Jesus did not cross over to Hades, you can't say for sure he didn't, you can only assume he didn't. That part to me is pointless because you only assume he didn't cross over. Again I am still looking at this. At this point, what is in question is did Jesus actually do anything to the devil "Physically so to speak", in Hades, Sheol, Gehenna, Tartarus, Hell? The scriptures you gave "support your position" I am looking for scripture that supports or contradicts the other position. Your position assumes a lot and I guess the other position does too. Would love to see more scripture. Thanks for your input. I do appreciate your insight..... David

Re: - posted by staff, on: 2007/3/25 19:20

hi,

Just a point on 1 Peter 3:19

By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison;

The spirits at the time of Noah mentioned above were not in prison at the time he preached to them but looking back from Peter's time to Noah's time we can say they are in prison now. The previous verse below mentions "quicken'd by the spirit" at the end and at the beginning of 19 he says "by which" (in reference to the spirit). What he is saying is he preached in the spirit not in person.

1pet 3:18

For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

I'm not categorically saying Christ didn't cross over into the bad side of hell but 1 Peter 19 doesn't describe Christ preaching to spirits in hell. You would have to find scripture elsewhere to support that point of view,
rgds Staff

Re:, on: 2007/3/27 14:54

Quote:

psalm1 wrote:

hi CTom,I looked at those scriptures.I guess my question is not whether anything or everything was accomplished on the cross."it is finished" can signify what it is supposed to or we can ascribe anything we want to it. Obviously he had more to do after he released his spirit.It seems you are taking a position that on the cross satan was defeated through Jesus death and only Jesus death,that nothing more needed to happen.You may be right.I am still looking hard at this.On the hades or hell issue my greek bible translates it gehenna and also tartarus. But I have no problem if you want to call it hades .The main point is paradise had a place next to it with fire and people burning up in it.Since you assume Jesus did not cross over to hades you cant say for sure he didnt, you can only assume he didnt.That part to me is pointless Because you only assume he didnt cross over.Again I am still looking at this.At this point What is in question is did Jesus actually do anything to the devil "Physically so to speak", in hades,sheol,gehenna,tartarus,hell?The scriptures you gave "support your position" I am looking for scripture that support or contradict the other position.Your position assumes a lot and I guess the other position does too.Would love to see more scripture.Thanks for your input. I do appreciate your insight.....David

But is there any evidence that either hell or paradise, or "Abraham's bosom", are actual physical, geographical places? The grave (Heb, sheol) is a physical place where the physical body is put after death, but the person is not there, and I can't see the that Paradise was ever connected with the grave!

I always thought of heaven and hell as spiritual places.

Mmmm, or maybe paradise is a physical place, akin to the Garden of Eden???

It seems that theologians have never been too sure or fully agreed about it!

Strong's says:

3857 παράδεισος n m. Of Oriental origin cf 6508; TD NT 5:765; TDNTA 777; GK 4137; Three occurrences; AV translates as "paradise" three times. 1 among the Persians a grand enclosure or preserve, hunting ground, park, shady and well watered, in which wild animals, were kept for the hunt; it was enclosed by walls and furnished with towers for the hunters. 2 a garden, pleasure ground. 2a grove, park. 3 the part of Hades which was thought by the later Jews to be the abode of the souls of pious until the resurrection: but some understand this to be a heavenly paradise. 4 the upper regions of the heavens. According to the early church Fathers, the paradise in which our first parents dwelt before the fall still exists, neither on the earth or in the heavens, but above and beyond the world

Jeannette

Re: - posted by iansmith (), on: 2007/3/27 15:07

He bore the punishment for my sin upon himself, in Gethsemane, on the Cross and into death.

The Punishment for sin isn't just physical death, it's eternal separation from God. Well Jesus conquered that death, but he did receive it's punishment for 3 days.

Now I believe the heart of the earth is just a way of saying he was going to be physically dead (as has already been stated)... I think Zac Poonen may be wrong on this one.

Spiritually he bore our sins before the cross and on the cross, he had been bearing our sins for two days, even if he only spent one more day in punishment that would have been three days. He could have still made a trip on over to Paradise within one day of the cross -I know I'm gonna be called heretical for this.

Thank Jesus for the cross!

General Topics :: WAS PARADISE UP OR DOWN?

Re: - posted by staff, on: 2007/3/27 18:09

Hi,

Just on the scripture below Jesus was in paradise the very day he died. How long he was there? It doesn't say.

Luk 23:43 And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.

rgds staff

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2007/3/28 0:55

I don't think anyone here is a heretic, I'm sorta glad to get challenged! Ok there was a definite place next to Hades or Hell. We know this from the story of Lazarus and the rich man. The place Lazarus was is also where the patriarchs were. Jesus told the thief "Today you will be with me in paradise." So they went. I'm hoping someone could explain the "devil got defeated" part. I do realize the cross is "key" here but I guess I had it in my head that Jesus crossed over and put his foot on Satan's neck and took back what victory Satan had. I could be and probably am wrong. Sometimes we need to get challenged to air out false supposition. The scriptures brought out so far are good I just don't know if there is more. What do you think?.....David

Re: - posted by staff, on: 2007/3/28 18:41

Hi David,

I suppose part of the victory was that he led captivity captive and we should look at why he couldn't do this before his death at the cross,

Rgds staff