

### 30- WHO? ME LIE?

We suppose it all boils down to what you think **bearing false witness** means! Personally, we agree with "AMG's Complete Word Study Bible". We believe that the combined Hebrew words עָנָה וְשָׁקַר עַד found in Exodus 20:16 refers to us responding or answering another person with an untruth, that is, with an answer that is not true. "<sup>16</sup> *Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.*" Exodus 20:16 (King James Version)

We find that David stated that He would not gaze at the face of Christ until he would arise in the image, likeness or similitude of Christ.

"<sup>15</sup> *As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, **when I awake**, with thy likeness.*" Psalm 17:15 (King James Version)

Please note that David said in Psalm 17:15 (printed above), under inspiration of the Holy Spirit, that he would not behold the face of Christ until he was resurrected at the Catching Up or that event some people call the Rapture.

Paul agreed with David when he wrote that our lowly, material bodies would **not be** transformed into a heavenly, glorified body until our Savior, Jesus Christ, comes back to catch us up at that event some people call "the Rapture".

"<sup>20</sup> *For our citizenship is in Heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,* <sup>21</sup> *who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.* Philippians 3:20-21 (New King James Version)

"<sup>42</sup> *So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown corruptible; it is raised incorruptible.* <sup>43</sup> *It is sown dishonorable; it is raised glorious. It is sown weak; it is raised powerful.* <sup>44</sup> *It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual one.* <sup>45</sup> *So, too, it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being," the last Adam a life-giving spirit.* <sup>46</sup> *But the spiritual was not first; rather the natural and then the spiritual.* <sup>47</sup> *The first man was from the earth, earthly; the second man, from Heaven.* <sup>48</sup> *As was the earthly one, so also are the earthly, and as is the Heavenly one, so also are the Heavenly.* <sup>49</sup> *Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one, we **shall** also bear the image of the Heavenly one.* <sup>50</sup> *This I declare, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does corruption inherit incorruption.* <sup>51</sup> *Behold, I tell you a mystery. We shall not all fall asleep, but we will all be changed,* <sup>52</sup> *in an instant, in the blink of an eye, at the last trumpet. For **the trumpet will sound**, the dead will be raised **incorruptible**, and we shall be changed.* <sup>53</sup>

*For that which is corruptible must clothe itself with **incorruptibility**, and that which is mortal must clothe itself with **immortality**.* <sup>54</sup> *And when this which is corruptible clothes itself with incorruptibility and this which is mortal clothes itself with immortality, then the word that is written shall come about: "Death is swallowed up in victory.* <sup>55</sup> *Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"* <sup>56</sup> *The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.* <sup>57</sup> *But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Corinthians 15:42-57 (New American Bible)*

Please note that in Philippians 3:20-21 (printed above), the Lord instructed us through Paul that although Paul's citizenship was in Heaven (the Throne Room of the Self-Existent, Eternal, Three Mighty Ones), **Paul would not go there** until the Savior came down and transformed his body to a body like the Savior's glorious body. **We must have that kind of body in order for us to go to the Throne Room called the Third Heaven!**

According to 1 Corinthians 15:42-47 (printed above), neither David, Paul nor the rest of the saved will receive a body that is incorruptible and that has immortality until the Catching Up

(the Rapture). That means that David will not gaze at the face of the resurrected, glorious body of Jesus Christ until Jesus Christ returns to gather the saved and we are caught up to the Third Heaven. If Jesus Christ had emptied Paradise and brought them up to Heaven, wouldn't David be looking at the face of Jesus Christ right now? If Jesus Christ had emptied Paradise and brought them with Him, wouldn't David have seen the face of Jesus Christ when David left Paradise with the rest of the saved? But David stated that he would not see the face of Jesus Christ until he awoke in the likeness of Jesus Christ.

If Paradise was emptied and the saved are in the Third Heaven now, why did Paul tell Timothy (at that point in time) Christ was the only one who had immortality and was the only one dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto? By the time Paul wrote his letters to Timothy, Jesus Christ had already ascended back to Heaven. If Jesus Christ had brought the dead in Christ back to Heaven with Him, they would have also been "dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto"!!

<sup>13</sup> *In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you <sup>14</sup> to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup> which God will bring about in his own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, <sup>16</sup> who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen." 1 Timothy 6:13-16 (The New International Version)*

If Paradise was emptied and the saved are in the Third Heaven now, why did Paul state that the Old Testament saints will not be made perfect (complete with **immortality** and **incorruption**) without us? <sup>36</sup> *Others endured mockery, scourging, even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup> They were stoned, sawed in two, put to death at sword's point; they went about in skins of sheep or goats, needy, afflicted, tormented. <sup>38</sup> The world was not worthy of them. They wandered about in deserts and on mountains, in caves and in crevices in the earth. <sup>39</sup> Yet all these, though approved because of their faith, did not receive what had been promised. <sup>40</sup> God had foreseen something better for us, so that without us they should not be made perfect. Hebrews 11:36-40 (The New American Bible)*

Jesus ascended back to Heaven seven days before Pentecost (3 nights and 3 days + 40 days + 7 days = 50 days). Pentecost was always fifty days after Passover. If Paradise was emptied and the saved are in the Third Heaven now, why did Peter state on the day of Pentecost that David had not ascended into the Heavens? If Jesus emptied Paradise when he ascended to Heaven, did He leave David behind?

<sup>34</sup> *For David is not ascended into the Heavens: but he saith himself, The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, <sup>35</sup> Until I make thy foes thy footstool." Acts 2:34-35 (King James Version)*

Some might say, "But This Changes Everything!" WE AGREE! The entire theory that Christ emptied Paradise when He ascended to Heaven is based upon one scripture and that scripture does **not** say He emptied Paradise. In *Ephesians 4:8*, Paul said Christ led captivity captive when He ascended on high. What Paul said was that when Jesus Christ's glorious body was resurrected from the dead He took as His captive the thing that (up to that time) had us as its captive. What had us as its captive? DEATH! Jesus Christ had victory over death and took death as His captive.

*"14 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is,*

the devil, 15 and **release those** who through fear of death were all their lifetime **subject to bondage.**" Hebrews 2:14-15. (King James Version)

"<sup>51</sup> Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, <sup>52</sup> In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. <sup>53</sup> For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. <sup>54</sup> So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, **Death is swallowed up in victory.** <sup>55</sup> O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? <sup>56</sup> The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. <sup>57</sup> But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Corinthians 15:51-57 (King James Version)

"<sup>8</sup> He will swallow up **death in victory**; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken it." Isaiah 25:8 (King James Version)

Until Jesus Christ's glorious body was resurrected, we had no hope of ever returning from the dead, **never to die again.**

In John 14:1-4, Jesus comforted His local Church in Jerusalem with the promise that He was going away to prepare a place for **them** and they would have a permanent home with Him on the New Earth for eternity when He came back after His Bride and for the rest of the Family of God. Please note that He never gave that promise to the disciples of John the Baptist even though they were just as saved as we are.

"<sup>1</sup> "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. <sup>2</sup> In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to **prepare** a place for you. <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also." John 14:1-3 (The New King James Version)

"<sup>1</sup> And I saw a new Heaven and a new earth: for the first Heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. <sup>2</sup> And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of Heaven, **prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.** " Revelation 21:1-2 (The King James Version)

"<sup>24</sup> And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it. <sup>25</sup> Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). <sup>26</sup> And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it." Revelation 21:24-26 (The New King James Version)

Paul taught that when we get on that New Earth, the saved will see eight different things. "<sup>22</sup> But you have come to (1) Mount Zion, to (2) the city of the living God, the Heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to (3) thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, <sup>23</sup> to (4) **the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in Heaven.** You have come to (5) God, the Judge of all, to (6) **the spirits of the righteous made perfect,** <sup>24</sup> to (7) Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to (8) the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel." Hebrews 12:22-24 (The New International Version)

The permanent place where His Bride will spend eternity is the Holy City Jerusalem on the New Earth (Revelation chapters 21 & 22). We will only be in the Third Heaven for 7 years. No one except Jesus is in the Third Heaven now. The dead in Christ are in Paradise and it will not be emptied until that event that we call the Rapture. **That Is Why Paul Spoke Of The Dead In Christ Rising Out Of Paradise, Not Coming Down From The Third Heaven.**

If you desire more scriptures proving that Paradise **was not** emptied when Jesus Christ ascended back to the Throne Room of the Self-Existent, Eternal, Three Mighty Ones, you may read the paper on our website, <http://www.bayourouge.net>, titled "03-Future Things-The Catching Up-Where Are The Saved".

Again, when we proclaim the Lord's Word, whether we proclaim it in a sermon, in a Bible class or at a funeral, we should remember it all boils down to what "bearing false witness means"! **Personally, we believe that the combined Hebrew words ענה שקר על found in Exodus 20:16 refers to responding or answering another person with an untruth, that is, with an answer that is not true.** We realize that most people are not teaching the truth but what do you think you should do? Should you be a false witness or should you teach God's truths.

*<sup>1</sup> I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; <sup>2</sup> Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. <sup>3</sup> For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; <sup>4</sup> And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables." 2 Timothy 4:1-4 (The King James Version)*