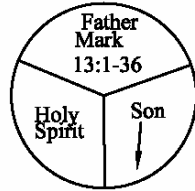


**"No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Be on guard! Be alert!" Mark 13:32-33**

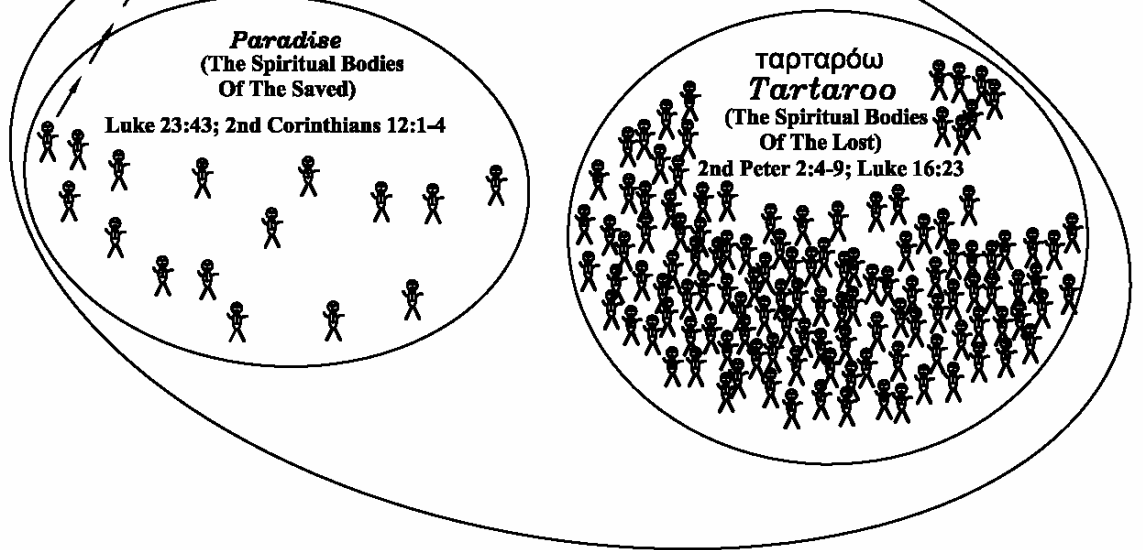


**The Catching Up (The Rapture)**

1 Cor. 15:51-54; 2 Cor. 4:14; John 6:40-44; Ps. 71:20; 1 Cor. 4:1-6

16 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. 1st Thessalonians 4:16-17

**Sheol (Hebrew) or Hades (Greek)  
THE PLACE OF THE DEPARTED DEAD**



*Paradise*  
(The Spiritual Bodies  
Of The Saved)

Luke 23:43; 2nd Corinthians 12:1-4

ταρταρόω  
*Tartarōo*  
(The Spiritual Bodies  
Of The Lost)

2nd Peter 2:4-9; Luke 16:23

## Where Do The Saved Go When They Die?

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 there when He came back after His Bride and for the rest of the family of God. The permanent place where we will spend eternity is the Holy City Jerusalem on the New Earth - Revelation 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.

If Paradise was emptied and the saved are in the  
Third Heaven now:

1- Why did Peter state that David (as of the day of Pentecost) had not ascended into the heavens? If Jesus emptied Paradise when he ascended to Heaven, did He leave David behind? Acts 2:29-34

2- 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? 1st Timothy 6:16

3- When will we be made in the likeness of Christ (incorruption and immortality will be given to us)? 1st Corinthians 15:42-54. David stated that He would not gaze at the face of Christ until he would arise in the image, likeness or similitude of Christ. Psalm 17:15; Philippians 3:20-21

4- Why did Paul state that the Old Testament saints will not be made perfect (complete with immortality and incorruption) without us? Hebrews 11:38-40

5- Why did Christ tell the Church in Jerusalem that they would not go to the place He was preparing for them until He came back for them? John 14:1-4

6- Why did Paul tell the Church at Thessalonica that the dead in Christ were still asleep in Christ and God would bring them with

Christ when He RETURNED to the Third Heaven after coming back for the entire Family of God at that event we refer to as the Rapture? 1st Thessalonians 4:13-18. According to verse 14, we will all rise together at the same time and ever be with the Lord.

7- Why did Paul tell about visions (more than one) and revelations (more than one) when he spoke of visiting the Third Heaven (*The Greek words are pronounced "tree'tos oo-ran-os"*) and of visiting Paradise (*The Greek word is pronounced "par-ad'-i-so"*) if they were not two different places? 2nd Corinthians 12:1-4

8- Christ had ascended to Heaven before Paul was saved. If Paradise had already been emptied, how did Paul hear unspeakable words which it was not lawful for a man to utter? If Paradise had already been emptied, there should not have been anyone still there to utter any words for Paul to overhear. 2nd Corinthians 12:4

9- Why did God show Paradise to Paul if no one was there? 2nd Corinthians 12:1-4

10- If Paradise truly was a paradise, why would Christ empty it and negate its function after it had served its purpose successfully for so many years? Some may say that it was so that they could be with Him but since Christ was and is God, He is omnipresent and is everywhere at the same time. We know that Jesus Christ is in Heaven serving as our High Priest and yet He is also on this earth dwelling with His scriptural Churches (Matthew 28:18-20). Why is so difficult to understand how Christ could be in heaven serving as our High Priest and also be in Paradise with the dead in Christ at the same time?

11- Why did Paul say in 2nd Corinthians 4:14 that we will all be presented in the Third heaven at the same time (after that event we call the Rapture).

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 Christ took as His captive the thing that (up to that time) had us as its captive. What had us as its captive? DEATH. Until Christ's resurrection, we had no hope of ever returning from the dead, never to die again.

*"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.*

## THE CATCHING UP (The Rapture)

Although the word "Rapture" is not found in the Bible, the fact of the Rapture is most certainly taught.

*"13 Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope. 14 We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. 15 According to the Lord's own word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage each other with these words. " 1st Thessalonians 4:13-18*

*"51 Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed-52 in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. 53 For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality." 1st Corinthians 15:51-53*

*"42 So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; 43 it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; 44 it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body." 1st Corinthians 15:42-44*

*"10 I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead." Philippians 3:10-11*

*"2 Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is." 1st John 3:2*

*"1 Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. 2 In my Father's house are many rooms (abodes); if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am." John 14:1-3*

One day God the Father will say to God the Son, "Son, its time to go and get our children." God's children will be those who have;

1-Gone to God in prayer and repented of their sins,  
2-Asked that the sacrifice Jesus Christ gave on the cross pays the sin debt they owe.

If the material body of one of God's children has died, their spiritual body is, at this moment, in a compartment in Sheol/Hades called Paradise.

Contrary to popular teaching, Sheol / Hades is not The Lake of Fire. It is simply the place of the departed dead (both saved and lost).

1-Job prayed for God to hide him in Sheol until His wrath had passed. The Hebrew word for Sheol was mistranslated into the English word "grave" in most translations. If Sheol was the Lake of Fire, why would Job want to be hid there? Job 14:13

2-Job said in Job 21:13 and in Job 24:19 that the lost would also end up in Sheol when they died.

3-David said in Psalms 16:10 that God would not leave the soul of the Messiah in Sheol. Again the Hebrew word for Sheol was mistranslated into the English word "grave" in most translations. (Please check this out in any good concordance such as Strong's Exhaustive Concordance Of The Bible or Young's Analytical Concordance To The Bible)

4-Jesus said in Luke 16:23 that the rich man was in a place of torments in Hades. The Greek word for Hades was mistranslated into the English word "Hell" in most translations. The truth is the rich man was in a compartment of Hades that Peter called Tartaroo or Tartaros. (2nd Peter 2:4-9)

5-Peter, in Acts 2:31 said that the Messiah was not left in Hades. Again, the Greek word for Hades was mistranslated into the English word "Hell" in most translations. The truth is that Christ spent three days and three nights in a compartment in Sheol / Hades called Paradise. He told the thief on the cross that He was going to Paradise that very day. Christ did not say He was going to Hell. (Luke 23:43) Paul was even allowed to visit Paradise. (2nd Corinthians 12:4)

Christ will leave the Third Heaven and will appear in mid-air over the earth. At the sound of a trumpet, the spiritual bodies of the saved will rise into the air to meet Christ. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye we will receive heavenly, glorified bodies that our spiritual bodies will dwell in through eternity just as they dwell in material, carnal bodies on this material earth.

*"I Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built*

*by human hands. 2 Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, 3 because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. 4 For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. 5 Now it is God who has made us for this very purpose and has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come." 2nd Corinthians 5:1-5*