

GLEANINGS

WHERE DO THE SAVED GO WHEN THEY DIE?

We find in Genesis 4:1-8 that the Lord (Jehovah) accepted Abel and his offering (please read article GE-3-God's Plan Of Salvation). Abel was restored back into fellowship with the Lord because he asked that the payment of the coming Messiah pay his sin debt. Satan, however, used Cain as his tool to murder Abel, the man he thought was his archenemy. Perhaps Satan thought that Abel was the seed of the women that had been promised in the Garden of Eden. Abel's material body returned to the dust but his spiritual body was conveyed to a compartment in the place of the departed dead that Jesus called "Paradise" in Luke 23:39-43 and the apostle Paul called "Paradise" in 2nd Corinthians 12:1-4. You may read article GE-06 (God's Image) for more explanation of why we have a material body and a spiritual body.

Please remember that Jesus Christ had ascended back to Heaven over twenty years before the apostle Paul wrote the second letter to the church in the city of Corinth. In 2nd Corinthians 12:4, however, the apostle stated someone was still in Paradise speaking words that no mortal man could repeat with the human tongue. If Jesus Christ emptied Paradise when He ascended back into the Third Heaven, who did the apostle Paul hear speaking in Paradise?

Please also note that according to 2nd Corinthians 12:1-4, Paul tells us that he visited two different places. Paul said that he visited the Third Heaven first and then he visited Paradise second. That means that over twenty years after Jesus Christ had ascended back into Heaven, Paradise and the Third Heaven were still two different places.