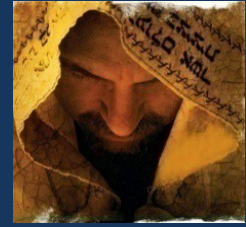




# Jews For Yeshua

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*To the Torah & the Testimony  
If anyone does not speak according to these  
words, It is because they have no light in them.  
Yesh'yahu (Isaiah) 8:20; Revelation 12:17; 14:12*



## Hell and the Grave

What is Hell? Is Hell a real place of torment? A temporary or permanent place of suffering? A place that we need to be saved from? Or is it just the hole in the ground we call a grave? What about the Wicked One, the Scriptures portray him as real. He was able to tempt Yeshua; **Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 4:1-11**, and offer Him the Kingdoms of this world as the “god” of this world; **verse 4:8-11; 2 Corinthians 4:4**.

Demons are also portrayed as real in Scripture, and identified Yeshua as the Son of the Most High Elohim, and He in turn was also able to identify them by name and grant their specific request to be cast into a herd of pigs; **Mark 5:1-13**. Believers who have been delivered from demon possession will likewise tell you that they are real.

Where do they live? Witches and satanists, when they call on demons, call them “up” from below – never “down” from above. Yeshua also in rebuking certain religious leaders stated that He is from “above”, and they are from “below”; **Yehochanan (John) 8:23**, and that “they” worship their father “the Devil”; **Yehochanan (John) 8:44**.

I have heard some preachers say that Yeshua spoke more about Hell and the Lake of Fire than about any other subject, and Yeshua describes Hell as a real place where real people go; **Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 5:29; 16:18; 23:29-33; Luke 16:19-31**.

Some preachers say that Hell is only figurative, and that when we die we go into a literal “sleep” like state, and that people are not punished with fire until after judgment day when cast into the Lake of Fire and quickly “burned up”, but not at all tormented forever.

But if that is the case, then what do the Scriptures mean then when they speak of “the bottomless pit”, of “the waterless pit” and of the “lowest parts of the earth” reserved solely for people who die in their sin? And place where the wicked are tormented forever; **Revelation 14:9-11**?

There is a point in my walk where I believed that the issue of Hell, and our understanding or perception of it, was not really relevant in effecting our walk as saved individuals. But over the decades I have observed some disturbing trends that have caused me to realize that the doctrine of Hell fire, and of our perception of demons and of what we think spiritual warfare looks like, has actually had a profound effect on how people live out their lives as professing believers.

This English word “Hell” comes from the Hebrew word “Sheol” and is translated into the Greek with the word “Hades”. And the Hebrew concept of the “lowest parts of the earth” is reflected in the Greek word “Tartaros”, with both the concepts of “Hell” and of the “Lowest parts of the earth” interchangeably used in Scripture in tandem with the concept of a deep and waterless pit.

Before going any further, let me share just a sample of the many Scriptures describing, in great detail, this place that in English, we refer to as “the Lower parts of the earth”, “the Pit” and “Hell”.

**D'varim (Deuteronomy) 32:22:** *(Hell has different levels)* “And I will kindle a fire in My anger, and it shall burn to the lowest Hell.”

**I Shemuel (I Samuel) 2:9:** *(Hell is a place of darkness)* “He will guard the feet of His saints, but the wicked shall be silenced in darkness.”

**Yyob (Job) 10:21,22; 11:8; 33:18,24,28,30;** *(It is a dark place, and land, from which no one returns and chaotic)*

**10:21** “Before I go to the place from which I will not return, to the land of darkness and shadow of death.”

**10:22** “A land as dark as darkness itself, as the shadow of death and without any order, where even the light is like darkness.”

**11:8** *(It has depth)* “God's limits are higher than Heaven – how can you reach them? They are deeper than Hell, how can you search them out?”

**33:24** *(It is a pit in the earth that we must be ransomed from)* “...deliver him from going down into the pit, for I have found a ransom for him.”

**33:28** “He will redeem his soul to prevent his soul from going down into the pit.”

**33:30** “To bring back his soul from the pit, so that he may be enlightened with the light of life.”

**Mizmor (Psalm) 9:17; 16:10; 28:1; 55:15; 74:20; 116:3**

**9:17** *(It is a place where the wicked, and the nations who forget God go);* “The wicked shall be routed into Hell, as well as all the nations who forget God.”

**16:10** *(It is a place where Yeshua would not be left abandoned)* “For you will not abandon My soul in Hell, nor will you allow your Holy One to see decay.”

**28:1** *(It is a place where people go who God turns a deaf ear to)* “To you I will cry O'Yehovah my Rock, do not be silent towards me, for if You are silent towards me, I might become like those who go down into the pit.”

**55:15** *(It is a place where a wicked person lives even after death has taken hold of them)* “Let

death seize them, that they may go down alive into Hell – for wickedness is in their dwellings and among them.”

**74:20** (*It is a place of torment*) “Have respect for the Covenant, for the dark places of the earth are full of the habitations of cruelty.”

**116:3** (*It is an influence that can effect those living on earth*) “The pains of death have surrounded me, and the torments of Hell have found me and grabbed hold of me.”

**Mishle (Proverbs) 1:12; 5:5; 7:27; 9:18; 15:24; 20:20; 27:20**

**1:12** (*Those who go down to Hell, are accepted as going down there fully conscious*) “Let us swallow them alive like Hell – swallow them whole, like those who go down to the pit.”

**5:5** (*It is associated with the death of immoral people*) “Her feet (of the immoral woman) go down to death, her steps lay hold of Hell.”

**7:27** (*It contains chambers*) “Her house is the way to Hell, descending to the chambers of death.”

**9:18** (*It is where the spiritually dead go*) “He does not know that the dead are there, that her guests are in the depths of Hell.”

**15:24** (*Even as the way of life goes “upward” the way of Hell goes “downward”*) “The way of life winds upwards for the wise, so that he may turn away from Hell below.”

**20:20** (*There is a place of deep darkness for those who curse their parents*) “Whoever curses his father or his mother, his lamp shall be put out in deep darkness.” For this lamp of the soul see **Yehochanan (John) 1:4,9**.

**27:20** (*It is a place that is never full*) “Hell and destruction are never full, even as the eyes of man are never satisfied.”

**Yesh'yahu (Isaiah) 5:14; 14:9-15; 38:17,18.**

**5:14** (*It is a place that has expanded over time, and a place that the sinful and those who live to party “descend into”*) “Therefore Hell has enlarged itself and opened its mouth beyond measure, so that their glory and their multitudes, and their pomp and jubilation shall descend into it.”

**14:9-15** (*It is a place where Lucifer has been cast down into*) “Hell from beneath is excited about you, to meet you at your coming... you shall be brought down to Hell – to the lowest depths of the pit...”

**38:17** (*It is a place that those whose sins are forgiven are delivered from entering into*) “...you have lovingly delivered my soul from the pit of corruption, for You have cast all my sins behind your back.

**38:18** (*It is a place where its inhabitants cannot praise God or thank Him or receive hope through His truth*) "...Hell cannot thank You, Death cannot praise you. Those who go down into the pit have no hope through Your truth..."

**Yechezk'el (Ezekiel) 26:20; 31:14; 32:18,24,25, 29,30**

**26:20** (*It is a place of desolation deep inside the earth*) "...I will bring you down with those who go down into the pit, to the place of the people of old – I will make you dwell in the lowest part of the earth, in the places that have been desolate since ancient times with those who go down into the pit..."

**31:14** (*Death, the lower parts of the earth, and the pit are all equated with each other*) "...they have all been delivered to death, to the depths of the earth, to be among the children of men who go down into the pit." See also **32:18**.

**32:24,25,29,30** (*It is a lower part of the earth where the uncircumcised go, and a place where people bear their shame*) They "have gone down uncircumcised to the lower parts of the earth...now they bear their shame with those who go down into the pit."

**Zechar'yahu (Zachariah) 9:11** (*It is a pit with no water that those under the blood of the Covenant are delivered from being sentenced to*) "... because of the Blood of Your Covenant, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit."

**Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 12:40** (*It is the place in the center of the earth where Yeshua went for 3 days and nights to pay the penalty owed for our sins*) "For even as Jonah was in the stomach of the great fish for 3 days and 3 nights, even so shall the Son of Adam be 3 days and 3 nights in the core of the earth."

**16:18** (*Hell has gates*) "And I also say to you that you are Peter (a pebble), but on this boulder (Yeshua) I will build my Assembly of Called out ones, and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it."

**18:8,9** (*We have hands and feet there separate from our physical body*) "...it is better for you to enter into life unable to walk or maimed, than for you to be cast into the fires of Hell for having two hands or two feet that lead you into sin... and better to enter into life with only one eye, than to be cast into the fires of Hell with two eyes that lead you into sin..."

**23:33** (*It is a place where the condemned go*) "Snakes, nest of poisonous snakes! How can you escape the condemnation of Hell?"

**Luke 12:5; 16:19-26**

**12:5** (*It is a place that God cast people into "after" they die, who fear and conform to the standards and expectations of others, in place of fearing and conforming to Him and His standards and expectations*) "But I will show you who you should fear – fear Him, who *after* He has caused your life to depart from your body, has power to cast you into Hell. Yes, I say to you – fear Him!"

**16:19-26** *(It is a waterless place of flames and torment where the wicked are identified by the sin that led them to Hell, rather than by their name. We can also speak there, and have eyes and tongues.)* “The rich man... being in torment in Hell... saw across a great canyon of separation - Abraham far off and Lazarus being comforted, and pleaded with Abraham to have Lazarus come and bring him just one drop of water...” [paraphrased] . *Take note that the Pharisees accepted Hell as a real place, so that if what Yeshua was describing was a fictitious place, He would have been encouraging the Pharisees to believe in a lie – something of course that Yeshua as the bearer of Truth never did.*

**Maaseh/Acts 2:27,31** *(It is a place where the soul of the sinner departs to, but from which Yeshua's soul escaped after paying for our sins)* “...You will not abandon My soul in Hell...” and so Yeshua's “...soul was not left in Hell...”.

**2 Kepha (2 Peter) 2:4,17** *(It is the dwelling place of the fallen angels, and a place that is always dark)* For “God did not spare the Angels that sinned, but cast them down to the deepest parts of Hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness...to the gloom of darkness forever.”

**Revelation 9:1,2** *(The pit is extremely deep, as if it were bottomless, and is full of smoke)* “And to the Angel was given the key to the bottomless pit... and smoke arose out of the pit like the smoke of a great furnace.”

**11:7; 17:8** *(The beast dwells in the bottomless pit)* “... the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against the two witnesses, and overcome them and kill them.”

**20:1-3** *(During the Millennial reign of Yeshua, the Accuser will not be allowed to come out of the bottomless pit for a thousand years)* “And the Angel grabbed hold of the dragon, that ancient Serpent, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for 1000 years.”

**20:14** *(In the end the occupants of both death and Hell will be cast into the Lake of Fire)* “Then Death and Hell were cast into the Lake of Fire. This is the second death.”

When you add to this the Lake of Fire (Gehenna in the Hebrew) which is like a permanent Hell like place that Hell itself will eventually be cast into, it becomes very clear that Hell is intended in Scripture to be understood as both real, and to pose an absolute danger to all born into this world who are of the age of accountability and unsaved.

But yet you rarely ever hear this taught in the churches today. Even the Messianic/Hebrew Roots community has for the most part, treated the subject lightly.

However, over the decades I have noticed that when believers in the “old days” taught “Hell” as the baseline destiny of all unsaved souls, that this is when they were willing to go into the jungles of Africa and of the Amazon, and risk their lives to save the souls of head hunters, cannibals, witch doctors, and those involved in voodoo and human sacrifice.

But that today where “Hell” as the baseline, has been replaced with “Church doctrine” and “Culturally cushy expectations” as the baseline, that believers are now reluctant to minister

the hope of the Gospel to anybody too far out of touch with their own level of sin experience, or social, economic, and educational status.

With “Hell” as the baseline of all unsaved people, there was no pride in those believers. All sin was evil, everyone was guilty of it, all people with it were headed to Hell, and as such not even the vilest of sinners caused them to shrink away in their desire to see those sinners saved, because they knew that the destiny of the smallest sinner to the vilest sinner apart from Yeshua was the same – was the flames and torments of Hell.

But with “Hell” on the back burner, or as just the hole in the ground we are buried in, or a temporal place where no eternal consequence is attached to our sin, we are left in this generation with believers not seeing themselves as equally condemned to Hell fire apart from Yeshua as others. Instead, is what we have now is “who is acceptable to allow into the denominational community of believers” vs. “who is not acceptable to allow in”.

Is what I mean by this, is that this generation, because of their lack of awareness of the severity of the eternal consequences attached to their own sin, has a tendency today to “rank” their sins compared to others based on how severe those sins are treated by the people and culture around them, rather than by how God sees them.

That is, instead of being worthy of Hell fire concerning their own sins, no matter how minor, they instead see their sins as “not so bad” because the people and culture around them sees them as “not so bad”, and in many cases as even “acceptable”.

This system of ranking one's own sins, and the sins of others can be placed into 4 categories as follow:

**Category 1**, *the acceptable sinner who can be saved. For example, like those we would consider peers. People whose sins are similar to our own, and therefore forgivable.*

**Category 2**, *the small sinner who can be saved. For example, someone who has lived a fairly good life, but who used to smoke or lie or cuss. These sinners are forgivable, because their sins, in their perception and opinion, were just “little sins”.*

**Category 3**, *the big sinner who can be saved. For example, someone who had a drug, alcohol, or sexual addiction, or maybe had some minor legal troubles as a teenager, or maybe one felony as a young adult. These sinners are forgivable, because it is addiction based, or a sin of one's youth, or only one big sin committed long ago that was not too taboo or enduring.*

Then you have,

**Category 4**, *the unacceptable sinner who can never be saved. For example, the head hunter, the witch doctor, the cannibal, or in today's generation, the person with ring piercings all over their face, devil horns surgically implanted into their head, the child molester, the serial killer. This category is unforgivable in the eyes of this generation of believers, because they are socially, and culturally, unacceptable sins to have ever committed – and so in their minds, “God would never save a sinner like that”.*

In prior generations when “Hell Fire” was understood as the baseline destiny of all unsaved people, they would have given their lives to be able to witness to such people as represented in this last group of people in **Category 4**. But in today's generation, with that baseline replaced with cultural and denominational rankings of sin, very few would accept any of these people as saved, much less give their lives to try to introduce them to the Gospel, allow them into their congregations, or treat them as normal, or as equal, within their congregations if ever saved.

That is because, apart from the baseline of “Hell Fire”, it becomes easier for us to see ourselves as “not so bad” when comparing ourselves against other categories of sinners as defined by the people and culture around us.

In other words, when we know that apart from Yeshua and repentance, we will end up in the fires of Hell just as thoroughly and quickly as the cannibal and serial killer, then we understand that our own sins are no less severe from an eternal perspective than the sins of the cannibal. Just look at Adam and Havah (Eve), our whole world today resulted from them simply eating a piece of forbidden fruit. How harmless did that seem? But yet all the evil in the world today has come about as a result of that one seemingly “harmless, small” sin.

On the other hand, when Hell is reduced to a metaphor, to a hole in the ground, or to a place where only people like Hitler and Stalin and the Devil go, then the standard becomes: “whose sins are forgivable like my own sins”, that is,

**Category 1**, which I call “the good Ol' boys club” because they can all relate to each others sins, and therefore see themselves as “forgivable in each others eyes”.

**Category 2:** Those whose sins are small, that is, who is a good candidate “to become a member” of the good ol' boys club, and therefore not cause potential embarrassment to the current members of the club. And,

**Category 3:** The acceptable big sinner, that is, “who is likely to naturally overcome the sins of their youth through the natural process of maturity” to become a member of the good ol' boys club, and therefore also to not likely embarrass anybody within the club.

But **Category 4:** *This is forbidden*, because the criteria is “looking good” to everybody else in the good ol' boys club, rather than saving souls from the fires of Hell. And so having a former cannibal or serial killer who has been saved in the congregation is unacceptable because, “Well, what would people think?”.

So with this I have been convicted to write this study to bring us back to the baseline – back to the subject that Yeshua Himself spoke about more than any other topic – back to the baseline of Hell fire as the destiny of all unsaved flesh, and that no sinner, no matter how small a sinner they or anybody else thinks they are, can escape apart from His glorious, life transforming, death and resurrection power.

Yehovah is one, His people are one, and His standard for His people, the Torah, is one. And likewise, there is only one acceptable commentary on the Tenach (the Old Testament), and that is the writings, from the Hebrew perspective, of the renewed covenant, renewed in the

blood of Yeshua, the Lamb of Yehovah His Son.

So what do the Hebrew Scriptures teach about the soul?

They teach that the soul is separate from the body and spirit. That man is composed of body, soul, and spirit, thus the commandment to love Yehovah your Elohim (God) with all your mind (spirit), soul (emotions) and strength (body), and why there is in Heaven a Father (the soul); **Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 12:18** [my soul is well pleased], the Holy Spirit (the Spirit); **Yehochanan (John) 14:15-17**, and Yeshua the Son – the body (the divine manifested in the flesh); **Yehochanan (John) 1:14**.

One example in Scripture I can give of this concept is in relation to Yeshua Himself where the Scriptures state that at death His Spirit returned to His Father, **Luke 23:46**, that His body was placed in a tomb, **Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 27:57-60**, and that his soul was temporarily left in Hell; **Ma'aseh (Acts) 2:30,31**.

During our life, our soul either attaches itself to the things of the flesh - to the things of darkness, which is like attaching oneself to negative energy (to that which destroys, deteriorates, and is temporal); or it attaches itself to the things of the Ruach (Spirit), to the things of the light, which is like attaching oneself to positive energy (to that which creates, that builds up, and which is eternal.)

At the time of death, if our soul is attached to the things of the flesh, then when the flesh returns to the soil, the soul departs into the realm of darkness. But if at the time of death our soul is attached to the things of light, then our soul departs with the ruach (spirit), to return upward to the Father in Heaven who gave it; **Ecclesiastes 12:6,7**, into the realm of light.

But the flesh reacts to the concept of Hell as God being mean, but that is like people calling law enforcement mean for arresting criminals, and judges being mean, because they sentence those criminals to prison.

Another way put, if I told your child not to go into a certain section of the jungle because a pride of lions has been identified there and has already killed and eaten 3 children in the village, would you not be thankful that I gave you this information, and have your children pass, instead, through the section of the jungle you know is safe?

But if I treated this scenario the same way others treat the word Hell, and ignorantly informed, or purposely misinformed you, that the pride of lions doesn't really exist, and that no children have been killed or eaten, and you believed my lie or misinformation, then you would send your children through that section believing that it was safe, when in fact it was dangerous.

Then to top it all off, when one of the village elders came and told you not to listen to me, and told you that I was lying or misinformed about the danger in that section of the jungle, would you then become upset with the village elder for telling you the truth, and for trying to expose the lie or misinformation so that you could keep your children safe?

Would you turn around and say to the other villagers "how can you follow any elder who would tell a tale of such a dangerous place in the jungle to where my children have to walk around in fear?"



We can see in this example the absurdity of someone reacting in this manner to the elder's exposure of the lie through truth, and to his loving and concerned warning. But people do this all the time with Hell, and in their attitudes towards our Creator.

But Yehovah is simply warning us about this very real place of danger, and has even gone so far as to explain to us the alternative route that will take us through the safe section of the jungle, and even sent His Son to die in our place in that dangerous part of the jungle in order to secure the safe section of the jungle for us.

So with that analogy, let me provide some more examples to explain what Sheol is similar to, and see if I can paint a more clear picture of what it is, and of why it exist.

Heaven and Hell are similar to a battery in that one half of it contains pure positive energy, and the other half pure negative energy. That is, in Hebrew thought in the spiritual realm there are two compartments, one containing pure light, and the other pure darkness; because in the spirit world it is impossible for light and darkness to co-exist. It is only in the physical realm that light and darkness can co-mingle, the physical world acting as a medium between the two allowing this co-mingling to take place.

And this is what Yeshua was referring to when He related to us the parable of the rich man and Lazarus. But once the soul separates from the physical world, it separates immediately into the realm that it has attached itself to at the time of death. Hell is a conscious place of existence, and the soul, according to the Hebrew, is the seat of your conscious awareness, of your emotions, and of your sense of right and wrong.

Also, there is a veil that separates the spiritual world from the physical world that the soul passes through at the time of death; and even as we know nothing about what goes on in the spiritual world, even so, those in Hell know nothing about what is going on in the physical world.

In Hebraic thought, the whole function of the Torah and the Testimony is to turn the soul away from the things of the flesh, to circumcise it if you will, away from the things of the flesh, in order to unite it, that is, to make it one, to make it "echad", with the ruach (with the spirit). For the soul is not only the seat of our consciousness and emotions, it is also the place of our will, and the soul must choose between the way of the flesh and the way of the Ruach (Spirit).

The body is like the negative energy, and the spirit like the positive energy, and the soul the neutral energy that has to attach itself to one or the other.

Another form of expression of the Hebrew Scriptures is the presentation of things in terms of marriage and conception, birth and death, of planting and harvesting, of fruitful and unfruitful, of pure and impure, and so on. There is an opposite for everything.

You also have patterns of three in the Hebrew Scriptures that parallel the tri-unity nature of man contained in his body, soul, and spirit. For example, you have the fertilized seed of a tree, the tree, and the resulting fruit of that tree. This concept parallels the virtuous woman; the fertilized womb of the virtuous woman; and the resulting fruit, or child, of the virtuous woman.

Another parallel of three is that of a father, a mother, and of the offspring of the father and mother; which in Hebrew parallels the concept of Yehovah the Father, Wisdom (Chokmah) the Ruach haKadosh (the Holy Spirit), and Yeshua the Son. *See our study entitled, "Who is the Holy Spirit" for more on who the Holy Spirit is from the Hebrew perspective.*

There are also three components of an atom - the proton, the neutron, and the electron.

The time of day, likewise, has three components, the components of seconds, minutes and hours. And the time of year is made up of the three components of days, weeks, and months.

The biblical cycles of Jubilee are likewise composed of 1 year cycles, 7 year cycles, and 50 year cycles; and the minimum number of people required to create a biblical family unit is 3.

There are also 3 sabbath cycles, the 7<sup>th</sup> day of the week, Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement) that takes place in the 7<sup>th</sup> Moon, and the 7<sup>th</sup> year rest of the land.

Time in our 3 dimensional realm is made up of height, width, and depth, and experienced as past, present, and future events.

The Scriptures likewise, refer to God as the God of Heaven, of the earth, and of all things beneath the earth; **D'varim (Deuteronomy) 4:39**. Different aspects of Heaven are also associated with 3 words, "Heaven", "Paradise", and "Avraham's Bosom", and the different aspects of Hell described with 3 words, "Hell", "The Pit", and "the Lower Parts of the earth".

And in the middle realm of existence, the physical realm where man lives - he is born, lives, and then dies, and his days are composed of night time, dusk, and day time. And every living thing first ascends in life towards heaven, then flourishes at its peak, and then descends into the dust. Then there is positive energy, negative energy, and neutral.

So to say that there is no heaven or hell, or to say that there is a heaven, but no hell, is to be blind to the plainly observable Construct of our 3 dimensional existence within the realm of polar opposites. Simply put, God and the holy angels live in Heaven above, the devil and the fallen angels live in Hell below, and man lives on earth in between, and must decide in this life which abode, upon death, he wants to make his home.

And as Yeshua pointed out in His parable about the rich man and Lazarus, Hell is where the evil dead go, and where the rich man was at. And Abraham's bosom, that we would associate with Heaven or Paradise, is where the righteous dead go, where Lazarus was at, with the two locations separated by a canyon that cannot be crossed; **Luke 16:19-31**.

Concerning this account given by Yeshua about the rich man and Lazarus, many people who do not believe in a literal "hell" (Sheol) declare Yeshua's account to be fictional. There are three main errors in this position however.

The first being that the Pharisees did believe in a literal "hell" and "Paradise"; but the Sadducees did not believe in either. The consequence? If Yeshua's account had been fictional, then His witness would have inadvertently endorsed a lie believed and perpetuated by the Pharisees, and cast down a truth believed and perpetuated by the scribes. However,

Yeshua never endorses lies or speaks against truth.

This brings us to our second point. In all of the other parables that Yeshua presents, He never identifies any individuals by name, but in this one He does.

Note in this parable that He provides the names of both Lazarus and of Abraham who are in the place of life, but does not provide the name of the rich man who is in the place of death. Yeshua by doing this is alluding to the fact that those in "Abraham's bosom" are those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life, but that those in Hell are those whose names have been blotted out of it; **Shemot (Exodus) 32:32,33** and so become "nameless" and only identifiable by the sin that led them to Hell.

Likewise, it would be very odd for Yeshua to assign a name to a specific individual in a parable if that parable was fictional, especially in the absence of any names provided in any other parables. And even more unusual to assign a name to a fictional person in a parable while identifying a real person, Avraham, by name in the same parable.

And thirdly, Yeshua never lies. He stated, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."; **Yehochanan (John) 14:6**.

Yeshua speaks truth only. This means that every parable He taught was a true story of an actual event in history that ran parallel to another truth that He was presenting.

A couple more examples that are descriptive of this conscious existence of the righteous prior the resurrection are in **B'eresheet (Genesis) 4:10** where it is written,

**4:10** "And Yehovah said [to Cain], What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me from the ground?"

And **Revelation 6:9** where it is written,

**6:9** When He opened the 5th seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been killed for the Word of Elohim and for the Testimony which they held,

**6:10** And they cried with a loud voice saying, "How long, O Master, Set-Apart and True until you judge and avenge our blood upon those who dwell on the earth?"

**6:11** And a white robe was given to each of them, and it was said to them, that they should rest a little while longer until both the number of their fellow servants, and their brothers of the womb, who would be killed as they were, was completed.

In both instances, the soul of righteous people who had been killed were crying out.

In the first example, Abel's voice was crying out from his blood, and in the second example, the souls are crying out from under the altar where the blood is poured.

In **V'yikra (Leviticus) 17:11** it is written that "...the soul of the flesh is in the blood".

**Yechezk'el (Ezekiel) 18 and 33** indicates that the soul is the seat of our will when it says that the "soul" that dies in its sin shall die, but the "soul" that dies doing what is right shall live.

For those who teach that the soul and the body are the same thing, take note that Yehochanan (John) saw the "souls" under the altar in Heaven. Their bodies are no doubt in the grave and decayed at the time they make their plea with God. Also take note that V'yikra (Leviticus) 17:11 states that the soul is "in" the blood. Again, a clear separation of the soul from the flesh indicating that even as the "blood" is in the flesh, even so, the "soul" is in the blood - but clearly the flesh is not in the blood, only the soul is.

And so the soul has a separate existence from the body upon death of the body, so that when the body dies, and the blood "in" the body stops flowing, then the soul "in" the blood departs.

The soul is also the seat of our emotions; **Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 12:18; 26:38**; separate from our physical body; **Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 10:28; 16:26; Luke 12:19,20; Maaseh (Acts) 2:31**; and separate from our spirit; **Evreem (Hebrews) 4:12**.

Your English translations will often translate soul as "life". However, the Hebrew word for life is "Chai", and the Hebrew word for soul that is used in the text of the Tenach above is the word "nefesh". And there is a very distinct difference between the two words.

It is also important to note that this "abode" of the dead is not to be confused with "purgatory" which is the demonic counterfeit of this truth, even as the "Queen/Mother of Heaven" that is worshiped by Catholics and pagans throughout the world is the demonic counterfeit of the Ruach haKadosh (Holy Spirit).

Purgatory is a teaching that implies that the wicked can escape their place of torment through mass and/or prayers, or through the purchase of indulgences, or through the simple passage of time, etc...

However, even as the righteous can only go from Avraham's Brook (Bosom) or Paradise into the Kingdom of Yehovah, even so, the wicked in their place of torment, commonly referred to as Hell, can only be transferred into the Lake of Fire. There is no hope for those who end up in Hell. Likewise, the ruach (spirit) of those who die, and the flesh of those who die, depart to different places.

Like I stated earlier concerning Yeshua, that when He died on the execution stake His ruach (spirit) departed to the Father, **Luke 23:46**; His body was laid in a tomb, **Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 27:57- 60**; and His soul departed to Hell; **Ma'aseh (Acts) 2:30,31**

All Hebraic terms and concepts. So why do theologians so frequently give these concepts meanings outside of their Hebraic context? Outside of the context of the Hebrew language that they were written in?

For one, because many of them are simply building upon other people's work who were, likewise, just as unaware of the original Hebrew meanings and concepts understood by the first century Israeli adherents as they themselves are.

Catholicism openly admits in the abundance of its historical records that it did much to remove many of the original practices and doctrines of the 1st century assembly out of their sense of anti-semitism. The Protestant movement, likewise, has been successful in restoring only a portion of that which was lost through those changes instituted through the Catholic church, and continues to this day to unwittingly perpetuate doctrines of the Catholic church that the 1st century assembly never would have participated in.

For example, E-ster, which is the celebration of the fertility goddess Isht-r, who was celebrated with temple prostitution to ensure fertility of the crops; and honored with rabbits because of their reproductive abilities; and with eggs dipped in the blood of sacrificed infants to represent rebirth from the dead.

But now, because of the ancient hostility of the Universal (Catholic) Church of Rome against the Torah based system of the early assembly, and because of the ignorance of the Protestant Church concerning these matters, this indecent festival has come to represent the resurrection of our Messiah.

The sad thing is that many theologians are no longer ignorant about these things, but choose to continue to celebrate them anyway for the sake of tradition, and for the sake of not losing adherents to the contemporary Christian faith.

This is the primary reason why the Messianic movement is rising up to restore this ancient understanding of the Hebrew Scriptures, because the Church is failing to step up to the plate to do it itself. The days of Protestant reformation appears to be coming to a close, and because of this is being replaced with the Messianic reformation.

In this age of information, the ignorance of false traditions handed down to us is being stripped away and enabling people to reach for, and grasp, the more complete understanding of the truth.

But if the theologians are no longer ignorant of these things, then why are they not changing the theologies and doctrines of the churches to keep up with these newly rediscovered truths? It is because the Church as a whole is too heavily invested in the traditions of the past; and turning from the status quo to restore lost truth at this point is too costly a risk for many to consider taking.

As such, it prefers to defend the adaptation and "christianization" of a demonic fertility goddess represented with eggs dipped in the blood of sacrificed infants, than embrace the fullness of God's Holy Law.

Anti-semitism, replacement theology, and the view of adherence to Elohim's (God's) commandments as being legalistic, are concepts all too far entrenched in the minds and doctrinal positions of the Church of today to be able to come out of her current ways.

Too often, organizing events and raising money has become more important than searching the Scriptures to see if something is true or not. And in our culture of distractions, it is also not uncommon for people to be more interested in watching a football game, or an evening

soap/sitcom than they are in reading their bibles.

Also, those who are able to spend time in the Scriptures often have study bibles that are full of biased cross references and study notes that don't require them to actually think, or to study.

So again, instead of searching the Scriptures to see if something is true or not, they just end up searching the cross references of the doctrinally biased positions of man. This is not the way to gain spiritual knowledge, or the way to growing into a spiritual being, a workman equipped for use by Yehovah.

You must study, and develop your own cross references as the Ruach (Spirit) of Yehovah leads you through the Scriptures. And then live out what you learn.

In conclusion, all things in the physical world are patterned after the things of the spiritual world.

As it is written in **Romans 1:20**,

**1:20** "For since the creation of the world Yehovah's invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood through those things which were created, even His eternal power and divine nature, so that they are without excuse..."

The physical world is a precise reflection of the spirit world. And all creation prior to the entry of sin was a perfect reflection of the Kingdom of Yehovah, but since the entry of sin, the earth has come to include a perfect reflection of the Accuser's kingdom co-mingled within it.

Before violation of Torah (sin), the world was complete light; but since the time of the first Torah violation (the first sin), the world has become a mixture of light and darkness. Darkness has entered this world because of our disobedience to the Torah of Yehovah; and every time we violate Torah, we bring a little more darkness, a little more of the Accuser's kingdom into our world.

The only way to overcome the Accuser's authority and influence in our lives to escape the fires and condemnation of Hell, is to believe in Yeshua for the remission of our sins past; **Romans 3:23-25**, and to commit ourselves to learning obedience by accepting the Torah as God's standard of right conduct for God's people; **Ma'aseh (Acts) 5:32**.

We are slaves and servants to whoever we obey. To obey Torah is to obey Yehovah unto Eternal life, and to violate Torah is to obey the Accuser unto eternal torment and condemnation in separation from God's protective presence; **Romans 7:15-23**.

We must make our choice, and understand that our choice is of eternal consequence.

We must choose between light and darkness. If we choose to walk in shades of gray we will be spit out like lukewarm water. We can continue to follow the theological errors of tradition, or we can embrace the truth and live. We can rank our sins against others and think that we are not "too bad" compared to them, and therefore exclude so called "unacceptable sinners"

from our Gospel outreach to our own demise. Or, like Yeshua, we can go out and look not for self-righteous people to call to repentance, but search for sinners to bring to repentance – search for people who acknowledge their sins, and for His glory: **Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 9:13**.

There is one major reason I can think of that communism is on the brink of taking over America. It is because when believers live under cruel, unjust, dictatorship, they come to realize that people – regardless of their social, economic, or educational rank can be absolutely murderous, unjust, cruel, and exceedingly vindictive. And I mean not at the hands of people we would consider criminals in American society, but people that we would not believe would ever conduct themselves in such a manner, like doctors, teachers, law enforcement officers, University graduates – Seminary graduates, Pastors, and people who are polite, well dressed, and well mannered.

It is under communism that the believer understands what the human heart actually looks like apart from Yeshua/Jesus, and with the veneer stripped off. It is at that time that we realize that inside our own hearts apart from Yeshua/Jesus, that we would be no different than them.

THIS ENVIRONMENT is where people come to recognize just how wretched and wicked the human heart apart from Yeshua/Jesus truly is, and where we come to recognize just how powerfully transforming, and NECESSARY the Gospel truly is.

THIS is suddenly where the head hunter, the cannibal, and the serial killer don't look so scary or different, because they are light sins compared to how communist treat people they disapprove of. THIS is where we can start really making a difference for the Kingdom of God by reaching out to all sinners, NOT just to those sinners that have hidden the potential of their wicked hearts under a veneer of being a “good ol' boy”.

Come out of her my people and live. Precious flock, obey the commandments of Yehovah and believe the Testimony of the Messiah Yeshua His Son and live. Forsake the world and the things therein, and do not continue any longer in any doctrine that is not consistent with the Hebrew language, culture, and background that it was written within.

Come out of her my people, and do not rank yourself as better than others to find yourself in Hell for minimizing and glossing over your own sins, while the person you condemned is saved for admitting and repenting of even the most vile and offensive of their sins.

**Levite**  
**Jews For Yeshua Ministry**  
**[JewsForYeshua.org](http://JewsForYeshua.org)**  
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