

ALTERNATIVE THEORIES TO THE AFTERLIFE Part I

Reference: miscellaneous Scripture

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Historical evangelical Christianity teaches that at the precise micro moment someone dies, his soulish essence and personhood evacuates his material being and he goes on to continue to be himself somewhere else

Heaven means an eternal existence in absolute conscious happiness or blessedness.

Hell means an eternal existence in absolute conscious torment.

This multi-part message addresses some after death alternatives to the traditional evangelical position.

ONE... _____

Definition: According to Catholicism purgatory is an _____ spiritual state and possible location where Catholics in good standing (those that die in the state of grace) are compartmentalized after death in order to prepare them for heaven.

II Maccabees 12:42-46 Judas Maccabees quote "*made atonement for the dead that they might be freed from their sins*"

The traditional Catholic doctrine of purgatory has two distinct parts:
_____ and _____

One...purgatory acts to _____ God's justice and required judgment on venial sins.

Reference: **Luke 23:39-43** (see screen)

Question: Should **verse forty-three** read "***Assuredly, I say to you today*** (comma) ***you will be with me in paradise***" or should this verse read, "***Assuredly, I say to you*** (comma) ***today you will be with me in paradise.***"?

First, every major Bible translation inserts the comma _____ the word "*today*"

Second, Jesus _____ his response using the phrase, "*Assuredly, I say to you...*"

Reference: **John 19:30** (see screen)

"*it is finished*" is translated from "***tetelestai***" an ancient accounting term that meant a debt had been paid for in full

Two...purgatory acts as a means of spiritual cleansing and

There are three different tenses of sanctification a Christian experiences:

- _____ **sanctification** means in a positional sense a Christian has been set apart _____. Positional sanctification is _____ tense because it happens in someone's past at his salvation.
Reference: **I Corinthians 1:1, 2; Romans 8:1, II Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 1:3**, etc.
- _____ **(practical) sanctification** means in a practical ongoing sense a Christian is more and more setting himself apart from sin and consecrating himself unto God and in doing that he is being _____ to resemble Jesus Christ . Progressive sanctification is _____ tense because it's so daily.
Reference: **Romans 6, 8:28, 29, 12:1, 2; Galatians 2:20, I Peter 3:18**, etc.
- _____ **(ultimate or final) sanctification** means in an ultimate sense a Christian is set apart from sin completely _____ to sin again. Perfect sanctification is _____ tense because it doesn't happen until we meet Jesus.
Reference: **I Corinthians 15:51-55; I John 3:2, I Thessalonians 5:23**, etc.

Perfect and complete sanctification will be instantaneous at the precise moment we meet Jesus and not after some long post mortem process in purgatory.