

### III. The Afterlife in Transition (The Ministry of Christ)

#### A. The Place of Reward and Judgment

1. The Afterlife is a place of rewards for those who lived \_\_\_\_\_ lives (Matt 6:20; Matt 19:28-29; Luke 12:33-34). Jesus was explicit that our lives on earth before death will have \_\_\_\_\_ on our state for eternity. The Parable of the Talents (Matt 25:14-30) is given to teach God's people the importance of living for the Master today.
2. The Afterlife will be a place of judgment upon those who rejected God and \_\_\_\_\_ in the life (Matt 5:22, 29-30). He also taught that how one lives will impact their \_\_\_\_\_ in Sheol/Hades for eternity (Matt 23:33; Luke 10:12). The way one lives, saved or unsaved, will impact how their eternity is spent.

#### B. A Glimpse into Death - Jesus tells the only account of people in \_\_\_\_\_ in the Bible through the story of the Rich man and \_\_\_\_\_ (Luke 16:19-31).

1. The separation of the righteous and unrighteous fits the descriptions of \_\_\_\_\_ in the Old Testament as it is called \_\_\_\_\_ in the Greek text. Lazarus is not in heaven but in \_\_\_\_\_ (Gen 49:33).
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of existence for the righteous and unrighteous is established based upon their lives on \_\_\_\_\_ (Luke 16:25). The dead will desire to go back and change their past, but it will be impossible in the Afterlife.

#### C. Heaven is Open – the death and resurrection of \_\_\_\_\_ permitted those saints of God who dwelt in \_\_\_\_\_ to enter the glory of \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 27:52-53).

1. The sin of Adam in the garden created a lasting \_\_\_\_\_ between man and God (Gen 3:19-24). Man was cursed to return to the dust and barred from the presence of God.

2. Through the resurrection of Jesus, the believing has been born again to a living hope. They have been adopted into His grace and given a place in heaven. The redeemed now are welcomed into heaven since they have been \_\_\_\_\_ by the blood of Jesus Christ and brought to life in His resurrection (John 3:13; Hebrews 10:11-14).

#### IV. The Afterlife under the New Covenant

A. *Hades* – those who reject Jesus' offer of grace in this life will spend the Church Age and the Millennial Kingdom in *Hades* or *Sheol* as it was described in the Old Testament. Two other Greek terms give us a picture of this \_\_\_\_\_ realm. *Hades* is the term for the underworld in Greek mythology.

1. *Gehenna* – Jesus and James (3:6) refer to hell as *Gehenna*. *Gehenna* was a valley on the south slopes of Jerusalem. In the days of the divided kingdom, *Gehenna* was the home to child sacrifice. The Jews turned the location into a \_\_\_\_\_ where fires were kept continually burning to consume the waste and the \_\_\_\_\_ dead.
2. *Tartarus* – *Tartarus* only occurs in II Peter 2:4 and used to describe a dwelling place for demons who await judgment. *Tartarus* may be a specific compartment of *Sheol* for the demons or a synonym for the entire home of the dead. *Tartarus* is called a pit of \_\_\_\_\_ by Peter and pictured as a \_\_\_\_\_ and dark subterranean region in Greek literature.