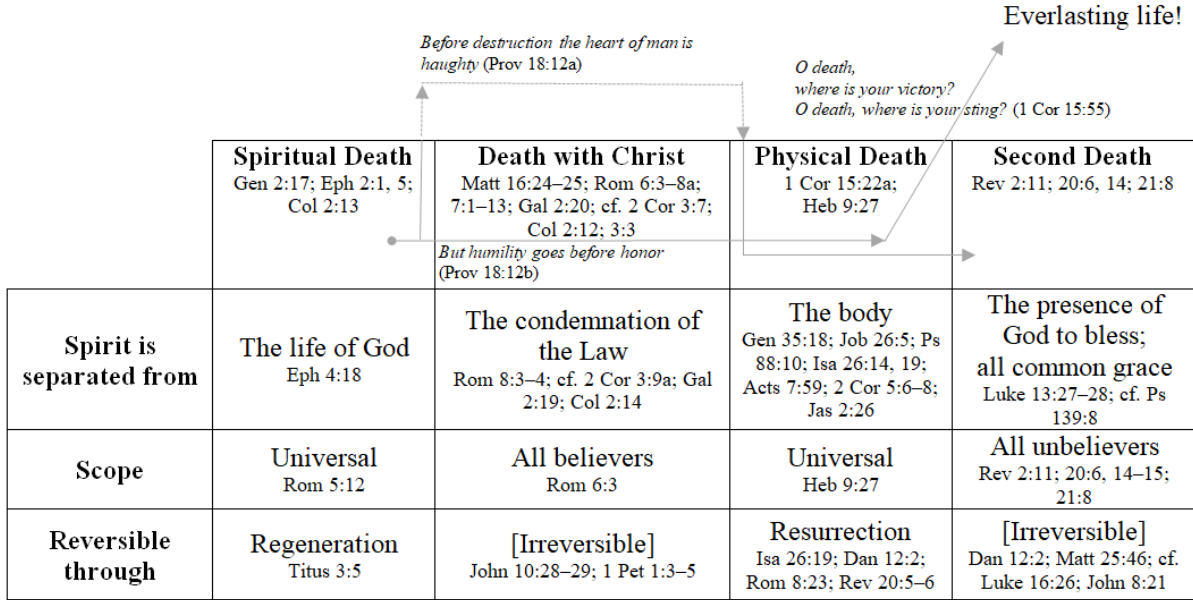


Death in the Bible: Four Kinds of Separation

Whitney Oxford



3B. Two main subdivisions of eschatology (cont.)

1C. Individual (more focused); cf.:

1D. The study of death: [above]

2D. The study of the intermediate state

1E. In the Old Testament (cf. “sheol,” “hades,” etc.)

Sheol is the place of the unbelieving dead who await the final judgment (Job 7:9; 21:7–13; 24:19; 26:5–6; Ps 9:17; Prov 15:10–11, 24; 23:14). Abaddon, which means “destruction,” and Hades, are roughly synonymous with Sheol. Gehenna refers to a place of perpetual burning, the term itself being a Greek term to refer to the Valley of Hinnom, which was a trash-burning ravine. Thus, Gehenna may connote something of the finality of what we usually call “hell” (Matt 23:15; Luke 12:5). Peter’s use of Tatarus (2 Pet 2:4) is translated “hell” in essentially literal translations, but I believe that in context it is more synonymous with Sheol, Hades, and Abaddon than the final place of torment.

2E. In the New Testament (cf. 2 Cor 5:1ff.)

3D. The study of resurrection

1E. In the Old Testament, cf. Daniel 12:2

2E. In the New Testament, cf. 1 Corinthians 15; Revelation 20:4–6

4D. The study of the final state

1E. Final judgment

1F. Of believers; e.g., 2 Corinthians 5:10

2F. Of unbelievers

1G. The equity of judgment; cf.:

1H. Matthew 11:20–24

2H. Luke 12:47–48

3H. Romans 2:5–6

This is also referred to as “degrees of punishment.” Cf. Matt 10:14–15; Luke 20:46–47; Heb 10:26–29; Rev 18:7.

4H. Colossians 3:25

2G. The eternal consequence of judgment (i.e., it is an everlasting punishment); cf.:

1H. Matthew 18:8; 25:41, 46

2H. 2 Thessalonians 1:9

3H. Jude 13

4H. Revelation 14:11; 19:3; 20:10

2E. Final assignment or consignment:

1F. "Heaven"

2F. "Hell"