

How is it possible to be absent from the body and be present with the Lord?

The entire concept of what happens to an individual upon his death has been greatly debated throughout the ages. The Christian view of the death of the Christian is the presented concept of being in a truly better place.

1. Where is that idea presented?

2 Corinthians **5:1-10**

2 Timothy **4:6-8**

Luke **16:19-23**

Philippians **1:21-26**

John **14:1-6**

The idea is completely related to question of death and in particular what happens when someone dies. Many people cling to the idea that when they die, that is it. There is nothing more. Time ceases. Pain ceases. Everything ceases. There is no more of anything. Yet Paul and Jesus are clear that there is more that takes place upon the death of a person. For the Christian some aspect of that person is immediately in the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ.

2. What do we know about the makeup of a man to understand the issue?

Genesis **2:7**

Romans **8:3**

John 5:17-20

1 Thessalonians **5:23**

John **14:26**

John **10:32-33**

Every human being is made in the “image and likeness of God” (Genesis 1:26-27). Man is made like God in that there are 3 basic components of every man. There is the physical body (parallels Jesus the Son of God). There is the spiritual guidance of right and wrong (parallels the Holy Spirit of God). There is also the soul or core essence of the person (parallels the Father). God the Father, is the Old Testament general identification of the core essence of God and LORD (Yahweh or Jehovah).

3. If the body is in the coffin, ground, or urn, what is with the Lord?

1 Thessalonians 5:23

Hebrews **4:12**

Matthew **10:26-28**

1 Corinthians **5:3**

Ecclesiastes **3:17-22**

Upon the death of any person, the physical body will go to the coffin, ground, or urn. But the spirit and soul of the person will separate from the body and it is that invisible spirit quality that will be present with the Lord.

4. What about those who are not Christian?

2 Corinthians **5:10-11**

Hebrews **9:27**

Philippians **2:8-12**

Regardless of whether the person believes in God and Christ or not, every person will humble themselves before God recognizing Him as Lord. Those who do not believe will receive judgment.