

From Crucifixion to Resurrection

May 2, 2019

Ephesians 4:7-10 ESV

7 **But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.**

8 **Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men."**

- **Where is verse 8 quoted from?**

Psalm 68:18 ESV

18 You ascended on high, leading a host of captives in your train and receiving gifts among men, even among the rebellious, that the LORD God may dwell there.

Psalm 68:18 KJV

18 Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive: thou hast received gifts for men; yea, for the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell among them.

Psalm 68:18 NASB

18 You have ascended on high, You have led captive Your captives; You have received gifts among men, Even among the rebellious also, that the LORD God may dwell there.

- **What is the event that Paul is speaking of in verse 8?**

KJV - "Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men."

NASB - "Therefore it says, 'When He ascended on high, He led captive a host of captives, and He gave gifts to men.'"

NLT - "That is why the Scriptures say, 'When he ascended to the heights, he led a crowd of captives and gave gifts to his people.'"

Ephesians 4:7-10 ESV

9 (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that **he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth?**)

- **Does "...descended into the lower regions..." mean Jesus came to the earth or that He descended into Hell?**

Ephesians 4:9 KJV

9 (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?)

Ephesians 4:9 NLT

9 Notice that it says "he ascended." This clearly means that Christ also descended to our lowly world.

Ephesians 4:7-10 ESV

10 **He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.**)

- **Where was Jesus, what was He doing, between the cross and the resurrection?**

- **When Jesus “descended into the lower regions,” does Paul simply mean He was buried in the grave?**

Genesis 11:5 ESV

5 And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built.

Exodus 19:20 ESV

20 The LORD came down on Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain. And the LORD called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.

John 6:33 ESV

33 For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

John 6:38 ESV

38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me.

John 6:51 ESV

51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven.

- **Did Jesus go to hell (the abode of the damned) in our place? Did Jesus go to Abraham’s bosom, but not to hell?**

Matthew 12:40 ESV

40 For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

Luke 23:42-43 ESV

42 And he [one of the thieves crucified with Jesus] said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."
43 And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

- **When the Scriptures give little to no detail or commentary, we rest in faith, in the uncertainty of not knowing, being careful not to add to what the Scriptures reveal.**

Deuteronomy 4:2 ESV

2 You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you.

Revelation 22:18-19 ESV

18 I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book,
19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

- **The Apostles Creed (written 120 - 250)**

"I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord:

Who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day He arose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.

Amen.”

● **Variations of meaning for the word “hell.”**

<i>Sheol</i>	<i>Hebrew</i>	<i>the place of the dead, the place of departed souls/spirits, a temporary place where souls are kept as they await the final resurrection</i>
<i>Hades</i>	<i>Greek</i>	
<i>Hinnom</i>	<i>Hebrew</i>	<i>Hell</i>
<i>Gehenna</i>	<i>Greek</i>	

Revelation 20:13-15 ESV

13 And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done.

14 Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Abraham’s Bosom - *the part of Sheol / Hades where the righteous dead go*

- *Abraham’s bosom only mentioned once in the Bible (Luke 16).*
- *Used in the Talmud as a synonym for heaven.*
- *Translated “Abraham’s bosom” (KJV, NASB), “Abraham’s side” (NIV, ESV), “next to Abraham” (CEV), “with Abraham” (NLT), “the arms of Abraham” (NCV)*

Luke 16:19-31 *ESV*

19 There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day.

20 And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores,

21 who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores.

22 The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried,

23 and in Hades (*hadēs* - realm of the dead, grave, hell), being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side.

- *In hell there is recognition, memory and communication, which only adds to the suffering.*

24 And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.'

25 But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish.

26 And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.'

27 And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house--

28 for I have five brothers--so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.'

29 But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.'

30 And he said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.'

31 He said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.'"

1 Peter 3:18-22 ESV

18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit,
 19 in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison,

- *What did Jesus proclaim, and was this a second chance for the dead in hell to be saved, even though they did not obey while on earth?*

Hebrews 9:27 ESV "...it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment."

- *"A wonderful text is this, and a more obscure passage perhaps than any other in the New Testament, so that I do not know for a certainty just what Peter means."*

Martin Luther, Commentary on Peter & Jude, 1 Peter 3:19

20 because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water.

21 Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

1 Peter 4:3-6 ESV

3 For the time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry.

4 With respect to this they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you;

5 but they will give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.

6 For this is why the gospel was preached even to those who are dead, that though judged in the flesh the way people are, they might live in the spirit the way God does.