

THE GREAT TRUTHS OF THE BIBLE

STUDY # : 13

*The Study of the
Human Soul*

PART-2

(THE BIBLICAL CONTRADICTIONS)

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STUDY #13

THE HUMAN SOUL PART 2 (THE BIBLICAL CONTRADICTIONS)

PLEASE NOTE: Kindly refer to your Bibles for every scripture reference and read thoroughly.

MOST SCRIPTURE PASSAGES ARE QUOTED FROM THE AUTHORISED KING JAMES VERSION (KJV)

Having seen the **TRUTH** about the "soul" and the "spirit" in the scriptures, today we shall proceed to understand certain **SEEMINGLY CONTRADICTORY** scripture passages which we call "**THE BIBLICAL CONTRADICTIONS**" regarding the **DYING** and **DEAD** soul in the Bible.

On **FIRST GLANCE** they give the idea that a soul "lives" on after death.

But let us see this as we begin with —



1

1 Samuel 28:7-19

(Read Completely once)

Here King Saul of Israel seeks to consult a medium (a witch) and then wants to consult with the **dead** prophet Samuel! He finds one in a place called **ENDOR**.

And then we read in.....

1 Samuel 28:8

"And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment,..."

Yes! He **disguises** himself and goes, because **KING SAUL'S PERSONALITY AND PHYSIQUE** was very prominent and recognizable in all Israel as we read in **1 Sam 10:23** .

And then we read in.....

Thy Word is Truth



Thy Word is Truth



Thy Word is Truth

1 Samuel 28:9

"And the woman said unto him, Behold, thou knowest what Saul hath done,..."


Yes! The medium is careful and mentions the strict law passed by King Saul himself **AGAINST MEDIUMS** and disclaims to be a medium!
Now the question arises as to **WHY DID KING SAUL DO THIS ?**

Let us see as we read in -

Deuteronomy 18 : 10-12

"There shall not be found among you anyone...that useth divination...or an enchanter,...or a consulter with familiar spirits.... for that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD..."

Yes! Here we see **GOD'S CLEAR COMMAND AGAINST** consulting mediums, astrologers and other spiritists as being very "DETESTABLE" in His sight.
EVEN KING SAUL HAD EXECUTED AND MADE THAT COMMAND OF GOD A LAW !


 Then what had happened to him? Why the change in King Saul ?
We read that answer in...

1 Samuel 16:14

"But the spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him."

 **THERE IT IS !**

Saul had **disobeyed God's command** as recorded in **1 Samuel 15:10-11** where the command was to **COMPLETELY** destroy the Amalekites.
Even Samuel the prophet had **CEASED** to speak to him (**1 Samuel 15:35**) because of this disobedience.

 Thus it is seen that King Saul had **lost** the "*spirit of the Lord*"--
and this brought about a great change in King Saul as we read of the "*spirit of God*" in -

2 Timothy 1:7

" For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

Yes! He had lost the **spirit of a sound mind** and began to believe just as a worldly person.
With this background in mind we return to the scripture study—

1 Samuel 28:10,11

"And Saul sware to her by the Lord, saying, As the Lord liveth, there shall no punishment happen to thee for this thing. Then said the woman, Whom shall I bring up unto thee? And he said, Bring me up Samuel".

The scared medium is assured by King Saul **on oath** of her safety and **THEN** she asks whose soul **from the dead** he would like her to bring up?

And then we read what happens next in -

1 Samuel 28:12

"And when the woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud voice: and the woman spake to Saul,




saying, Why hast thou deceived me? for thou art Saul”.

Now when the woman saw Samuel she cried in a loud voice recognizing the **CORRECT** identity of King Saul.

 **HOW DID THIS HAPPEN ?**

The answer is simple! Samuel's "soul" would have **GREETED** King Saul by name as he was used to!!

 Probably saying- **"Shalom", King Saul" !**

And we continue as we read in -

1 Samuel 28:13,14

“And the king said unto her, Be not afraid: for what sawest thou? And the woman said unto Saul, I saw gods ascending out of the earth. And he said unto her, What form is he of? And she said, An old man cometh up; and he is covered with a mantle. And Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he stooped with his face to the ground, and bowed himself.

PLEASE NOTE VERY CAREFULLY over here that King Saul

CANNOT SEE "Samuel" at all !!

Yes ! King Saul had to ask the woman **WHAT SHE SEES** for he himself **COULD NOT SEE ANYTHING.**

Note these words -

“And he said unto her....for what sawest thou?”


and again in -

“...And he said unto her, what form is he of ?”

He then receives the description by the woman of **the usual identity SYMBOL** and attire of Samuel the Prophet.--

“...an old man cometh up and he is covered with a mantle” (a shawl)

Yes! The **"mantle"** was a symbol of a prophet in those days.

 Remember, **Elijah's "mantle"** in **II Kings 2:13 !!**

Thus we read of the conversation of Saul with the 'spirit' of Samuel.....

1 Samuel 28:15

“And Samuel said to Saul, Why hast thou disquieted me, to bring me up? And Saul answered, I am sore distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God is departed from me, and answereth me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams: therefore I have called thee, that thou mayest make known unto me what I shall do.”

Then Samuel begins to speak to King Saul **through the mouth of the medium.**

He repeats all the acts of disobedience of King Saul towards God.

Then King Saul asks and pleads with Samuel for his advice and suggestion and guidance regarding the war situation with the Philistines.

And in replying Samuel **makes a prophecy...**



1 Samuel 28:18 -19

“Because thou obeyedst not the voice of the LORD, nor executedst his fierce wrath upon Amalek,



therefore hath the LORD done this thing unto thee this day. Moreover the LORD will also deliver Israel with thee into the hand of the Philistines: and to morrow shalt thou and thy sons be with me: the LORD also shall deliver the Host of Israel into the hand of the Philistines”.

Yes ! Here Samuel makes a **prophecy** regarding Saul's **FUTURE (IMMEDIATE)** —by saying that *“tomorrow shalt thou and thy sons be with me”* (in the death state)

 Thus did **SAMUEL'S “spirit”** reply to the plea for help from King Saul- **A PROPHECY !**
 Was this “prophecy” fulfilled?

Let us see as we read of the war with the Philistines in —

1 Samuel 31:1-3

“ Now the Philistines fought against Israel and the men of Israel fled from before the Philistines, and fell down slain in mount Gilboa. And the Philistines followed hard upon Saul and upon his sons; and the Philistines slew Jonathan, and Abinadab, and Melchishua, Saul’s sons. And the battle went sore against Saul, and the archers hit him; and he was sore wounded of the archers.”

Shortly thereafter in the battle with the Philistines, King Saul is defeated and both the King and his sons were killed (**Note vs. 2**)

 **THE PROPHECY SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN FULFILLED! BUT, WAIT !!!**

Let us turn to....

2 Samuel 2:8-10

“But Abner the son of Ner, captain of Saul’s host, took Ishbosheth the son of Saul, and brought him over to Mahanaim: And made him king over Gilead, and over the Ashurites, and over Jezreel, and over Ephraim, and over Benjamin, and over all Israel. Ishbosheth Saul’s son was forty years old when he began to reign over Israel and reigned two years. But the house of Judah followed David”.

 See! One of Saul's sons **DOES NOT DIE.** He is **ISHBOSHETH !!!**

He goes on to become King and dies much later when he is murdered (**II Samuel 4:8**)

 Will God's Holy prophet Samuel's prophecy only be fulfilled **90-95%?**
NEVER!!

 **Then who is this “Samuel”?**

This is none other than the *“father of lies”*— **SATAN !!**

 **impersonating and acting** as the prophet Samuel!

 To propagate **and strengthen** his **FIRST LIE (Genesis 3:4)**

he **IMPERSONATES THE DEAD** giving the impression of life after death

Here too he **IMPERSONATES** the prophet Samuel and makes a **PROPHECY !**

After all he possessed a lot of **INFORMATION** of the situation with King Saul and the war with the Philistines.

Besides in those days the Kings would lead their armies and fight

DIRECTLY the King of the opposing army.

His sons would be right behind him !

Thus the losing king would either lose his life or be severely wounded, as also his sons !



Keeping all this in mind Satan makes his **GUESSES** of how the future **EVENTS** would develop !!

But his guesses are not able to be 100% accurate !

👉 His **DECEPTION** and **GUESSWORK** fails, thus exposing his **WORKS** !
For thousands of years Satan has deceived people through **ASTROLOGERS** and **SOOTHSAYERS** and claiming the power to prophesy the future.

He gains one's confidence by correctly and **ACCURATELY** describing the **PAST** and then based on all the information he possesses makes a **GUESS** about the future events where the success percentage can never be 100% because only God **ALONE KNOWS ACCURATELY** the future.

Similarly here too Satan impersonated the prophet Samuel and deceived King Saul but we are able to **IDENTIFY** the matter, even though the Bible does not clearly say so, by applying the golden key of-
"Here a little and there a little".

Now to the second passage of study-



2

Matthew 17:1-3

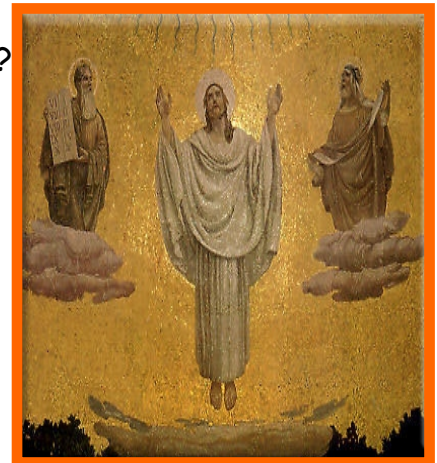
"And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James and John his brother, and bringeth them up into a high mountain apart, And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses, and Elias talking with him".

Here is recorded the incident of Jesus **TRANSFIGURATION**
"And there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him"

👉 **WHAT IS THIS ?** Did the "souls" of the dead Moses and Elijah appear there as many believe? If so, it **CONTRADICTS** the Bible doctrine of the soul **DYING** and having no life after death !
Before we look into the answer we are curious to know how did the watching three apostles **John and James and Peter IDENTIFY** Moses and Elijah? !
PHOTOGRAPHY WAS NOT INVENTED IN THOSE DAYS !

So how did they recognize Moses and Elijah?

Well, the key to the answer is found in -
Verse 3 - *"And behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with Him."*



Yes! In the course of the conversation Jesus must have addressed them by name or they might have mentioned one another's names while speaking!

Thus the watching and **HEARING** apostles could gain the knowledge of the **IDENTITY** of the two persons speaking to Jesus!!

Thy Word is Truth



Thy Word is Truth



Thy Word is Truth

Now to the matter itself and how it seems to **CONTRADICT** the Biblical doctrine of the soul dying at death !

👉 How could Moses and Elijah's "soul" be alive, when **THEY** were actually dead? Let us see the answer from Jesus own mouth in —

Matthew 17:9

"And as they came down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, saying, Tell the vision to no man, until the Son of man be risen again from the dead".

Yes! Herein is the **KEY** ! *"Tell the VISION to no man....."*

This was a "vision" much like many Biblically recorded visions like the **BOOK OF REVELATION** and **APOSTLE PAUL'S VISION** in **2 Corinthians 12:1-4** and **APOSTLE PETER'S VISION** in **Acts 10:10-16** and many, many others.

👉 A "VISION" is not reality but a **VISUAL PICTURE**.

👉 Do you know ?

Today we seen visions **every day** !! Many different visions !! Right within our homes— Yes ! It is through the **TELEVISION** ! Yes ! Many dead people are seen walking, talking and dancing !

Is it real ? Are they **REALLY ALIVE** ?

ABSOLUTELY NO ! THESE ARE VISIONS !!

👉 **SO WHAT DID THIS VISION MEAN?**

It was a pictorial representation of the coming **KINGDOM OF GOD** on earth under the rulership of

the "**KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS**" Jesus Christ and its TWO Phases-

👉 **MOSES** represents the **VISIBLE** phase of the rule or the fleshly phase—

The Ancient Worthies or those who were faithful to God

BEFORE Jesus as the **HUMAN RULERS**.

👉while **ELIJAH** is a representation for the **INVISIBLE** phase or the spiritual phase— the Church or the faithful

AFTER Jesus as the **SPIRITUAL RULERS**.

JESUS RULES AND COORDINATES WITH BOTH OF THEM as illustrated in

"...Moses and Elijah talking with Him."

Yes ! It was a VISUAL picture of the coming glory of Jesus and His kingdom!

Now to the third passage of study-

👉 **3**

Luke 23:43

"And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise".

A popular verse that is brought to mind every "**GOOD FRIDAY**" and it is generally taught how the "**repentant thief**" asks Jesus pardon and goes to heaven !! And that too, that **VERY DAY** !



IS THIS SO ? Let us see as we read in -

Luke 23:42

"And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom"

Note the thief's request

"Remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom."

THIS REQUEST IS FOR A PLACE OF FAVOR IN
_JESUS' KINGDOM AND NOT TO GO TO
HEAVEN AS MANY THINK!.

👉 Also **NOTE** in **KJV**. and Tamil translations the reference that the thief called Jesus "Lord" is **ERRONEOUS**. He merely called Him "Jesus".
(Refer **NIV** translation.)

For surely the thief did not recognize Jesus as "Lord"

Besides let us consider an important point.

The **APOSTLES** and disciples of Jesus themselves
DID NOT ASK TO GO HEAVEN

in spite of Jesus Himself promising them that in -

John 14:3 → *"And if I go.....I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."*

Yes ! They had **NO IDEA** nor **THE DESIRE** to go to heaven at all !

In fact their purpose in following Jesus for 3½ years was not to join Him in heaven at all.

Their **PURPOSE** we read in -

Acts 1:6

"When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel ?"

Yes ! Their **INTENTIONS** are very clear !

They were looking to be part of an **EARTHLY KINGDOM** where Israel would be highly exalted among other nations of the world. In fact so **COMPLETE** was their desire to be a part of Jesus "**EARTHLY KINGDOM**" that they spent all their free time arguing and fighting among themselves about the greatest honours in that kingdom as we read in -

Luke 22:24 → *"And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest."*

Yes ! The **APOSTLES** and disciples could not **UNDERSTAND HEAVEN** or **HEAVENLY DESIRES** till **Pentecost** and the **outpouring of the Holy Spirit** !

👉 If this be the case **HOW** could that thief **EVER** recognise Jesus as "**LORD**" ?



Thy Word is Truth



Thy Word is Truth



Thy Word is Truth

THEN WHAT REALLY HAPPENED OVER THERE ?

Let us find out by reading from -

Matthew 27:44

"The thieves also, which were crucified with him, cast the same in his teeth."

Initially **both** robbers heaped **insults** on the Lord.


This is recorded in **Mark 15:32** also.

Then much later after watching and observing

Jesus **ONE** of them realized Jesus' innocence as we read in **Luke 23:40-41** -

"But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss".

Yes ! Then he saw the board above Jesus' head which we read in -

 **LUKE 23:38** → *"And a superscription also was written over him in letters of Greek, and Latin, and Hebrew, THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS."*

 **JOHN 19:19** → *"And then Pilate wrote a title, and put it on the cross. And the writing was, JESUS OF NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS".*

Yes ! This very board we see on images of crosses today with the initials "**INRI**". **INRI** is the Latin initials for the words "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews".

The word breakup is -

I - Isus - Jesus

N - Nazarinus - of Nazareth

R - Rex - the King

I - Idurum - of the Jews.

In addition the thief had observed and **heard** the conversation with Pontius Pilate as recorded in **John 18: 36,37** - *"Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence. Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then ? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a King. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Everyone that is of the truth hearth my voice".*

Yes ! Having heard all these words and beholding Jesus at close range and seeing that board above Jesus head the thief was moved to make a small request for a favour perceiving that Jesus **COULD BE A KING** and thus **HAVE A KINGDOM !**

 And, besides, he thought there was no harm in asking !

But has that **KINGDOM** of Jesus come ?

THE ANSWER IS NO !!!

 Then the thief **still awaits this favour** from Jesus !

He could not have received it that day as what do we read of where Jesus **HIMSELF** went that day -

Acts 2:31

" He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption."

Yes ! He was in "**Hell**" for 3 days until the third day and His resurrection. Having understood the matter and its context let us now see another matter

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in this verse when seen with respect to the comma used there as we read in -

Luke 23:43

*"And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee,
Today shalt thou be with me in paradise".*

Thus Jesus assured the thief *"Verily I say unto thee, today...."*

This refers to a **GUARANTEED ASSURANCE** of Jesus that

"Thou shalt be with me in paradise" (God's kingdom - 2Corinthians 12:4)

 The comma placing can change the meaning of the statement but one must **REMEMBER** there was NO PUNCTUATION in the early manuscripts at all !



Example 1

"Verily, I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be...."

Here the meaning seems to be an immediate - that very day - entry for the thief into God's kingdom! but we know this **NOT TO BE SO** because God's kingdom was not established then and has not been so even after nearly 2000 years till today !



Example 2

"Verily I say unto thee Today, shalt thou be...."

This placing of the comma gives a more accurate meaning to the Lord's words where the meaning is that the Lord assured the thief **ON THAT DAY** that when His kingdom does come the thief will receive the blessing as he asked.

It **DOES NOT MEAN** that the thief received that blessing **ON THAT VERY DAY** !



Another example: 1) **KILL HIM NOT, SPARE HIM.**

2) **KILL HIM, NOT SPARE HIM.**

Here we see that the change of the placing of the comma gives a complete opposite meaning

For many centuries the Bible had no chapter divisions or verse divisions.

THAT CAME MUCH LATER AND ONLY ABOUT 700 - 800 YEARS AGO.



This Bible was divided into chapters by **CARDINAL HUGO** in 1236 AD.



It was then divided into verses by **RABBI NATHAN** and adopted by **STEVENS** an English printer in 1555AD.

Thus the thief **remains dead** and will rise on the day of resurrection at the Lord's second coming and will be suitably honoured when at that time
- "every knee shall bow and every tongue confess...."

And his kind words to the Lord in the final moments before the Lord's death will be remembered.

And besides he will find himself written about and **RECORDED IN THE BIBLE** !

Truly many will be those who will seek him out to enquire of the Lord's last moments on the cross and to **APPRECIATE** the kind words spoken to the Lord in His **WORST MOMENTS OF AGONY** !



 Oh yes ! He truly will be "remembered" in that
GLORIOUS KINGDOM OF JESUS ON EARTH !

Now to the fourth passage of study -



4

1 Thessalonians 5:23

"...your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved....."

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

It is used to show that each human has a **SEPARATE** soul and body and spirit.



Is that the meaning that is meant over here?

Please note that the reference is to **many** members in the church of Thessalonica but all seem to have **ONLY ONE** spirit, soul and body !



WHY AND HOW?



Or was this letter written to a **single person in the church of Thessalonica ?**

Let us read in -

1 Thessalonians 1:1

"Paul, and Silvanus, and Timothy, unto the church of the Thessalonians which is in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace be with you, and peace, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ."

THIS REFERS NOT TO INDIVIDUALS BUT TO THE CHURCH AS A WHOLE !

For surely the Thessalonica Church had **more than one member in it !!**



In fact there were many members in the Thessalonican Church !

If this statement was to each of the **INDIVIDUALS** then it should have read -

"...your whole spirits and souls and bodies be preserved..."

BUT THAT IS NOT SO !



How can the Church of many members have
ONE SPIRIT and ONE BODY and ONE SOUL ?

Let us see how in -

Ephesians 4:4

"There is one body, and one spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling:"

There! Did you see that?

Yes! The **CHURCH** has **ONE Body and ONE Spirit.**

And then we read in

Acts 4:32

(From KJV Bible)

"And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common."

Yes! The **CHURCH** is also **ONE** soul - **being a living body!**

And the Apostle Paul **was referring to this aspect of the Church** when he wrote these words to the Church of Thessalonica.

Thy Word is Truth



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THUS WE HAVE SEEN THAT THE BIBLE DOCTRINE OF THE DYING SOUL (Psalms 22:29) IS FULLY HARMONIOUS right through the Old Testament and New Testament.

Let us finally study **SOME OTHER DOUBTS** regarding the nature of the human soul in certain other scriptures -



5

Psalms 103:1,2

"Bless the Lord, O my soul...bless his holy name"!

Yes ! These are very **POPULAR** praise words used like a ritual at the end of prayer !! It seems to show that man **HAS** a soul and is **NOT A SOUL !**

IS IT SO ?

The answer is that it is just poetic language referring to **ONESELF** in the **THIRD PERSON**.

This is again seen and found in -

Psalms 139:14

"I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made... and that my soul knoweth right well"

Yes ! Here the "my soul" is a reference of the Psalmist David to **HIMSELF** and writing of himself in the third person.

Thus too the above words in **Psalm 103:1,2** is also in the third person and refers to the one speaking these words itself !



6

Luke 2:35

"...And a sword will pierce your own soul too!" (NIV)

Here we read **SIMEON'S WORDS** to Mary prophesying **THE PERSONAL AGONIES** to be undergone by Mary in beholding the sufferings of her beloved son Jesus.

This is symbolic language similar to saying -



"He stabbed me in my back"

This, of course refers to **TREACHERY** and **BETRAYAL** by a person and not a literal stabbing in the back with a knife!

Thus here too in symbolic language Simeon speaks of the future sufferings that Mary would experience in being the mother of Jesus and beholding His sufferings.

Thus a Soul refers to a Living Human or other BEING consisting of a BODY and the LIFE BREATH which TOGETHER make the soul - which has life, a mind and a heart!



👉 Finally we read of the last "BIBLICAL CONTRADICTION" to this doctrine of the dying soul in -

Luke 16:19-31

Yes ! This is the scripture passage describing about
THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS THE BEGGAR !

- Both their souls don't die but SEEM TO LIVE ON in HEAVEN and HELL after their deaths !

This doubt will be taken up IN DETAIL in the THIRD part of the study of the human soul in the NEXT CLASS.

- AMEN -

