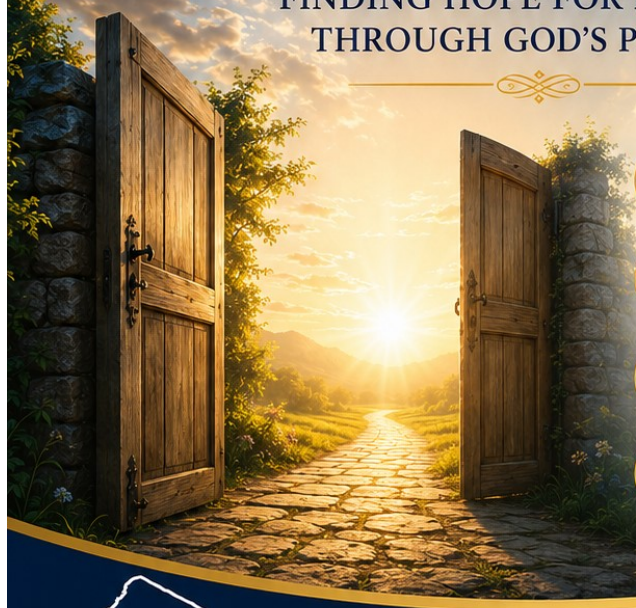
DISCOVERING HOPE SERIES

BOOKLET 7

IS THERE LIFE AFTER DEATH?

FINDING HOPE FOR ETERNITY
THROUGH GOD'S PROMISES



- IS DEATH THE END?
- WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TEACH?
- WHAT HAPPENS AFTER WE DIE?
- HOW CAN I HAVE ETERNAL LIFE?

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WELCOME TO THE
DISCOVERING HOPE SERIES

Real Questions. Biblical Answers. Lasting Hope.

Life raises questions that are not always easy to answer.

Why am I here?, Does God really exist? , Can I trust the Bible?, Why does God allow suffering?, Can my life really change? Is there hope when I feel trapped, broken, or uncertain about the future?

The **Discovering Hope Series** was created to help people explore questions like these through the truth of God's Word.

You need not be a Bible scholar or have all the answers.

And you do not need to have everything in your life figured out before you begin.

Each booklet focuses on a different question, struggle, or biblical truth and is designed to help you discover what the Bible actually says.

As you read, take your time.

Consider the Scriptures for yourself.

Ask questions, Pray.

And most importantly, allow God to speak to your heart through His Word.

The Bible is more than a book of religious teachings. It reveals a God who loves us, seeks us, and desires to transform our lives.

Whatever brought you to this booklet, we hope it becomes one more step in your journey toward discovering the hope that can only be found in Jesus Christ.

There is hope. There are answers.

And God may be closer than you think.

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IS THERE LIFE AFTER DEATH?

Introduction

One day every person will face the same reality.
Life on earth will end.
No amount of money, education, success, power, or medical advancement has ever changed this fact.
The question is not whether we will die.
The question is:
What happens after death?
Is death the end?
Do we simply cease to exist?
Or is there something beyond this life?
Since the beginning of history people have asked these questions.
The Bible provides clear answers.

1. EVERY PERSON KNOWS DEATH IS COMING

Death is the one appointment nobody can avoid.
Hebrews 9:27

"And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:"

No one likes to think about death.
Yet death is one of the greatest realities of life.
The certainty of death causes many people to ask:
"Is this life all there is?"

2. HUMANITY LONGS FOR ETERNITY

Why do people naturally wonder what happens after death?
Why do nearly all cultures throughout history be-

lieve in some form of existence beyond the grave?
The Bible explains why.

Ecclesiastes 3:11

"He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart..."

God has placed eternity within the human heart.
We instinctively sense that we were made for more than a few years on earth.

3. JESUS TAUGHT THAT LIFE CONTINUES AFTER DEATH

Jesus spoke often about eternity.
He taught that physical death is not the end of existence.

John 11:25

"I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:"

According to Jesus, death is not the end.
There is life beyond the grave.

4. THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHANGES EVERYTHING

Christianity stands or falls on one event:
The resurrection of Jesus Christ.
If Jesus remained in the grave, Christianity is false.
If He rose again, then death has been conquered.

1 Corinthians 15:20

"But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept."

The empty tomb is Christianity's greatest evidence that life exists beyond death.

5. WHAT HAPPENS AFTER WE DIE?

The Bible teaches that every person will one day stand before God.

Romans 14:12

"So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God."
Death is not annihilation.
Death is not extinction.
Death is a doorway into eternity.

6. HEAVEN IS REAL
The Bible describes a future with God that is beyond human imagination.
Revelation 21:4

"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying..."
No death.
No disease.
No suffering.
No sorrow.
God's people will dwell with Him forever.

BUT IF HEAVEN IS REAL, WHY DOESN'T SOMEONE COME BACK AND TELL US?
The Bible directly addresses that question.
GOD HAS ALREADY GIVEN SUFFICIENT TESTIMONY

The clearest passage is the account of the rich man and Lazarus.
Luke 16:27-31

The rich man, after death, asks Abraham to send

Lazarus back to warn his brothers.
Abraham replies:
"They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them."
The rich man insists:
"Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent."
Abraham answers:
"If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead."
Jesus' point is profound.
The problem is often not lack of evidence.
The problem is unwillingness to believe the evidence already given.

SOMEONE DID RETURN FROM THE DEAD

Many people ask why nobody comes back.
Biblically, someone did.
Jesus Christ.
Revelation 1:18

"I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore..."
Christianity is built upon the claim that Christ died, was buried, and rose again.
Yet many who reject Scripture would likely reject another witness as well.

GOD WANTS FAITH, NOT COMPULSION

If dead people constantly returned from eternity, faith would largely disappear.
People would not follow God because they loved

Him.
Many would follow Him merely because they were terrified.

Hebrews 11:6

"But without faith it is impossible to please him..."
God provides evidence, but He does not force belief.

THERE HAVE BEEN LIMITED EXCEPTIONS

The Bible records a few people who returned from death:

- Lazarus (John 11)
- Jairus' daughter (Mark 5)
- The widow's son (Luke 7)
- Several saints after Christ's resurrection (Matthew 27:52-53)

Yet even these miracles did not convince everyone.
In fact, after Lazarus was raised, some religious leaders wanted to kill him because his testimony was leading people to Jesus (John 12:10-11).
Even a resurrection does not guarantee belief.

God Has Given Us His Word

The Bible consistently points people back to Scripture.

2 Peter 1:19

"We have also a more sure word of prophecy..."
Peter had seen miracles.

Peter had seen the transfiguration.
Peter had seen the risen Christ.
Yet he still pointed believers to the Word of God as their foundation.

7. WHY DOES GOD OFFER SALVATION?
Many people assume salvation is about joining a church.
The Bible teaches something much deeper.
God loves humanity.
He desires that people spend eternity with Him.
John 3:16
"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son..."
The cross reveals God's desire to save, not condemn.

8. WHAT SHOULD I DO?
The most important question is not:
"Is there life after death?"
The most important question is:
"Am I prepared for eternity?"
Jesus repeatedly called people to repentance, faith, and obedience.
God offers forgiveness and eternal life to all who come to Him.
He offers the opportunity to be born again.

Conclusion
One day every person will step into eternity.
The Bible teaches that death is not the end.
Because Jesus rose from the dead, we have hope beyond the grave.

John 14:19

"Because I live, ye shall live also."
The question is not whether eternity exists.
The question is:
Where will you spend it?