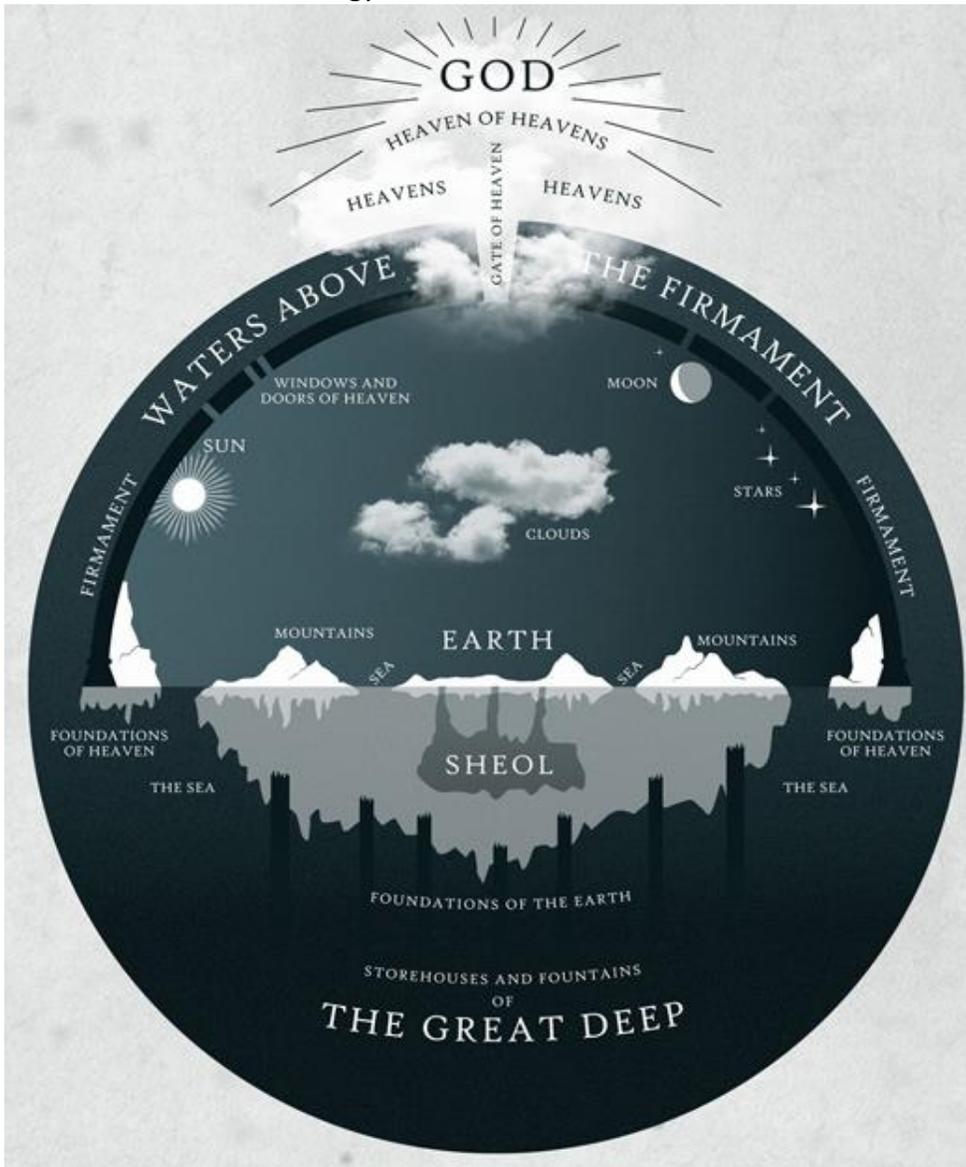


SLIDE 3 – Ancient Cosmology



Genesis 7:11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened. (KJV)

Genesis 1:6-8 And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters. And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so. And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day. (KJV)

Genesis 1:14-15 And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years: And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so. (KJV)

Ephesians 4:7-10 above and below the earth
Philippians 2:9-11 All three parts mentioned
Revelation 5:3 All three parts mentioned

SLIDE 4 – Definitions

Sheol – 67 times; translated Hades in Greek Septuagint; Place of the dead – darkness, rest and waiting
1 Samuel 28:3, 8-19 Samuel is dead; he seems to be at rest; has consciousness

Luke 10:13-15 must repent or be sent to Hades

Matthew 16:17-18 gates of Hades will not overcome the Kingdom; Even the faithful followers of God who died before Jesus came and are waiting in Hades, can still be saved

Gehenna – 12 times; “Valley of Hinnom” (translated into Greek becomes Gehenna) – a deep narrow ravine south of Jerusalem where parents actually sacrificed their children to the Ammonite god, Molech. This valley later served as the city dump and, because there was continual burning of refuse there, it became a graphic symbol of the place of punishment for the wicked.

Matthew 5:27-29; Matthew 10:28; Matthew 13:42

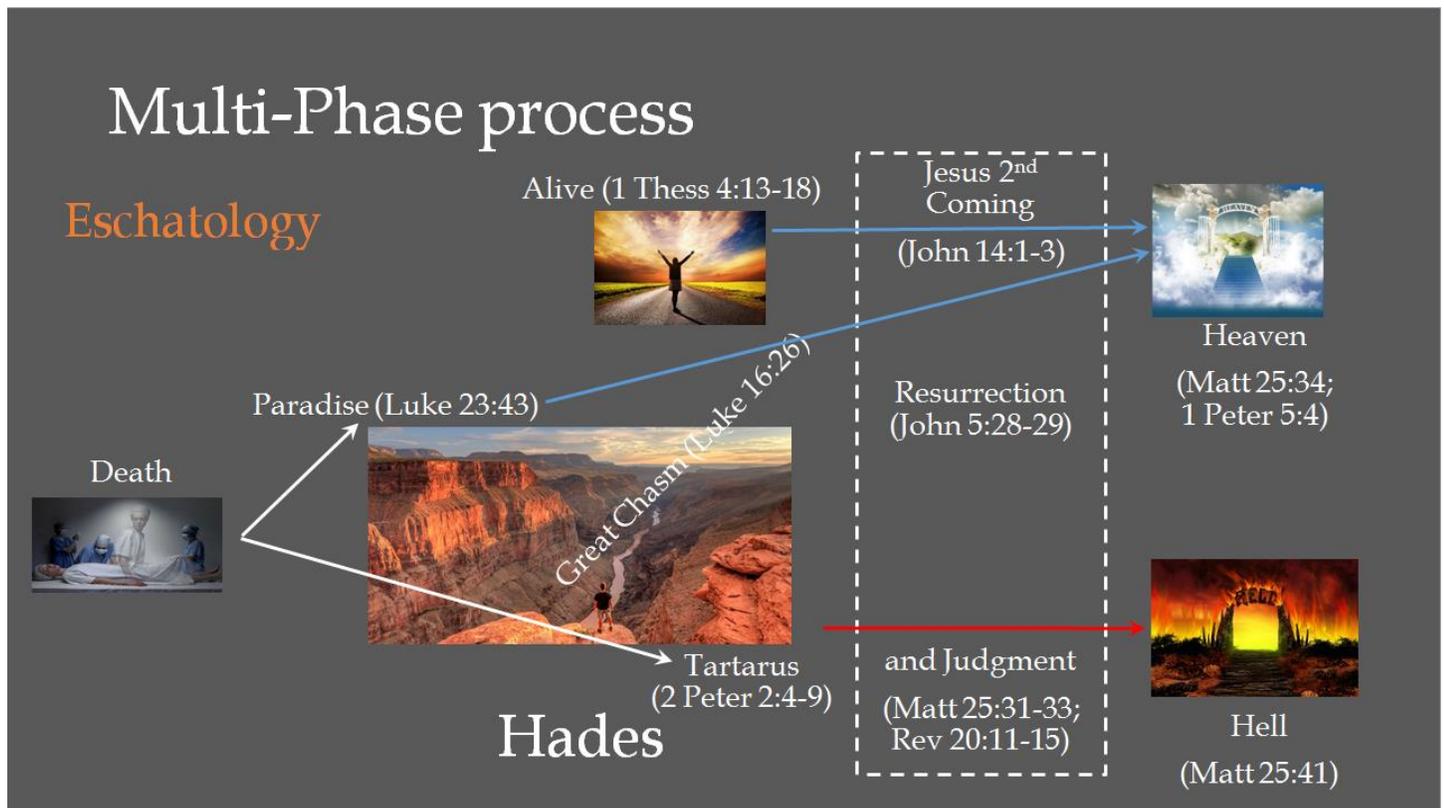
Tartarus – 1 time

2 Peter 2:4

Paradise – 3 times

2 Cor 12:4

SLIDE 5 – Multi-Phase Process



Eschatology – the part of theology concerned with death, judgment, and the final destiny of the soul and of humankind

Hades

Comfort or torment (punishment); Jude 5-6; 2 Peter 2:4-9 Jesus descended here after he died, but before he was raised again; Matt 12:40; Ephesians 4:9; 1 Peter 3:18-20; 4:4-6

Judgment

John 5:28-29 All will be judged on the same day; out of graves to live or be condemned; Punished, but held for judgment (2 Peter 2:4-9)

Rev 20:11-15 Judgment Day – Death and Hades into Lake of Fire (hell)

No One is in Heaven, but Jesus

John 3:13; John 20:17; Acts 1:9-11; Acts 2:25-29; 1 Peter 3:22

Consciousness

Luke 16:22-24 Rich man conscious and recognizes people (vs 23 KJV and “Old 1984 NIV” translate hell; “New 2011 NIV” translates Hades); Isaiah 14:9-10; 1 Samuel 28:3, 8-19

SLIDE 6 – Patristic Writers or “Church Fathers”

Hippolytus was "great-grandson" of Apostle John

John → Polycarp → Irenaeus → Hippolytus

SLIDE 7 – Justin Martyr Quote, “The souls of the pious remain in a better place, while those of the unjust and wicked are in a worse, waiting for the time of judgment.”

- Different places for righteous and unrighteous
- Both waiting for judgment
- No mention of being in heaven
- Judgment has not occurred yet

SLIDE 8 – Tertullian Quote, “And if we speak of Paradise, the place of heavenly bliss appointed to receive the spirits of the saints, severed from the knowledge of this world by that fiery zone as by a sort of enclosure...”

Paradise

- Receives our spirit, not our body
- A place of bliss, happiness, we are conscious
- Saints do not know what is happening on earth
- No mention of heaven

SLIDE 9 – Irenaeus Quote, “‘No disciple is above the Master, but everyone that is perfect shall be as his Master,’ as our Master; therefore, did not at once depart, taking flight to heaven, but awaited the time of His resurrection prescribed by the Father, which had been also shown forth through Jonas, and rising again after three days was taken up to heaven; so ought we also to await the time of our resurrection, prescribed by God.”

Luke 6:40

Confirms that we need to wait for our resurrection “to heaven” just like our Master Jesus Christ

SLIDE 10 – Irenaeus Quote, “Where, then, was the first man placed? In paradise certainly... Wherefore also the elders who were disciples of the apostles tell us that those who were translated were transferred to that place (for paradise has been prepared for righteous men, such as have the Spirit; in which place also Paul the apostle, when he was caught up, heard words which are unspeakable as regards us in our present condition), and that there shall they who have been translated remain until the consummation of all things, as a prelude to immortality.”

2 Corinthians 12:3-4

“Translated” refers to Enoch (Gen 5:24) and Elijah (2 Kings 2:11) who were taken up by God. They too, are waiting in Paradise...

SLIDE 11 – Hippolytus Quote, “But now we must speak of Hades, in which the souls both of the righteous and the unrighteousness are detained. Hades is a place in the created system, rude, a locality beneath the earth, in which the light of the world does not shine; and as the sun does not shine in this locality there must necessarily be perpetual darkness there.”

Confirms the intermediate state “Hades”, which is beneath the earth, darkness...

SLIDE 12 – Hippolytus Quote, “This locality has been destined to be as it were a guard house for souls, at which the angels are stationed as guards, distributing temporary punishments for different characters. And in this locality there is a certain place set apart by itself, a lake of unquenchable fire into which we suppose no one has ever yet been cast; for it is prepared against the day determined by God, in which one sentence of righteous judgment shall be justly applied to all. But the righteous shall obtain the incorruptible and unfading kingdom, who indeed are at present detained in Hades, but not in the same place with the righteous.”

- Ancient cosmology
- Hades has two parts, one for righteous and one for unrighteous
- Unrighteous are being punished
- No one has been cast into the “lake of fire” yet

SLIDE 13 – Gnostics

Worldview

Gnostics – Greek word *gnosis* which means knowledge. They viewed three types of people:

- animalistic people with no afterlife
- faith-based people with good deeds that God will reward in the afterlife of heaven
- Gnostics or “elite” Christians or insiders who have the true, deeper knowledge of who they truly are and are trapped in this life, until they are freed from this life and return to the life they had before. The Gnostics believe that they had a pre-existence.
- Did not believe that God had come in the flesh
- Did not believe in the resurrection because they saw the flesh as evil

Afterlife

- Upon death, your body is discarded and your soul proceeds immediately to heaven
- Some Gnostics denied the intermediate state
- Since they believed in increasing levels of sophistication and enlightenment, some thought that after death, only the righteous went to the intermediate place to be gradually perfected and promoted (sounds a lot like purgatory)
- Gnostics also taught that Jesus went into Hades so that we would not need to go there

SLIDE 14 – Justin Martyr Quote, “For if you have fallen in with some who are called Christians, but who do not admit this truth, and venture to blaspheme the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob; who say there is no resurrection of the dead and that their souls, when they die, are taken to heaven; do not imagine that they are Christians.”

SLIDE 15 – Irenaeus Quote, “But these men are in all points inconsistent with themselves, when they decide that all souls do not enter into the intermediate place, but those of the righteous only.”

SLIDE 16 – History

Hades, the intermediate state, began to transform its meaning after AD 200.

SLIDE 17 – Tertullian Quote, “Therefore as it has acted in each several instance so proportionally does it suffer in Hades being the first to taste judgment the process of that judgment that is postponed to the last great day.”

- Proportional suffering
- Judgment “process”

SLIDE 17 – Cyprian Quote, “It is one thing, tortured by suffering for sins, to be cleansed and long purged by fire; another to have purged all sins by suffering. It is one thing, in fine, to be in suspense till the sentence of God at the Day of Judgment; another to be at once crowned by the Lord.”

- Suffering for sins
- Purge “all sins” by suffering
- Suspense... Will I make it?
- Origen AD 225 Saw Paradise as a classroom, where you could continue to learn and advance to heaven

SLIDE 17 – History

AD 381 Christianity legalized and by AD 400, nearly everyone in Roman Empire had been baptized, although they were worldly rather than repentant.

AD 400-500s – it became associated with the concept of purgatory

KJV (AD 1611) translates all three Sheol, Gehenna and Tartarus as hell created much confusion
Martin Luther and John Calvin – dismissed or re-evaluated many of the medieval doctrines. Catholics taught unless you are exceptionally good (straight to heaven) or exceptionally bad (straight to hell), you go to purgatory after you die. Purgatory was a place of cleansing where people would receive the punishment necessary to cleanse them of their sins. After someone had been in purgatory and had suffered long enough, they would be released and promoted/upgraded to heaven. Both Martin Luther and John Calvin tried to reclaim the intermediate state of the dead, but succumbed to a hybrid of rejecting purgatory, but going straight to heaven.

Modern Day – at death, go straight to heaven or for those who believe in purgatory...

CAUTION: Careful to not be judgmental towards those who have a modern day view. Be sensitive, especially during a time of grief and sorrow for a loved one who's recently died.