

Is There Life Beyond The Grave? (Part 3)  
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*“Surely God would not have created such a being as man, with an ability to grasp the infinite, to exist only for a day. No, no, man was made for immortality.”*  
Abraham Lincoln.

***The Evidence of Philosophy*** From a philosophical viewpoint there are a number of unique distinctions which confirm the life of mankind to be much greater and higher than the animal kingdom. For example, lower forms of creation produce no reformers, prophets or crusaders. By contrast, we have a sense of incompleteness, a longing for more than this world has to offer. Our minds are too great, visions too broad and potential too vast to be fulfilled within the limits of time and space.

Mankind possesses a strong conscience about moral injustice and the inequalities of this world. All of this dissatisfaction demands a future life where wrongs will be righted, justice vindicated, and truth prevail. If the grave ends it all, then our struggles and achievements become vain, and our hopes and dreams remain unfulfilled. As Robert Louis Stevenson said, “We would need to invent a heaven if one had not been revealed, for there is so much that falls short this side of time.”

One of the strongest arguments for the Christian view of the future life lies in the utter dissatisfaction found in the alternatives. The following true incident illustrates. A modern mother, who prided herself on being “liberated” from traditional Christian beliefs, found herself facing one of life’s hardest realities – death. The best friend of her nine-year-old son was accidentally killed, devastating her boy.

She tried to answer his many questions by saying, “Death is only an illusion, it’s not real!” But the reality of his friend’s departure made her son demand a more satisfying answer. So, she went on to generate some hope through “cosmic consciousness” or even “reincarnation” But somehow her newfound enlightenment lost its appeal and offered no comfort or hope to her grief-stricken son.

Suddenly she realized that the only reasonable answers in terms of bringing hope, peace and assurance, came from her early Christian teachings. She found herself explaining what she had previously rejected – God’s gift of eternal life through faith in a living Savior, being reunited with loved ones, and an eternal home in heaven. God’s plan of salvation not only brought hope and comfort to her son’s heart, but it also led to her own return to Christian faith. She finally realized that nothing else really satisfied.

Suppose a draftsman spent 40 years making the finest, most intricate watch imaginable. And then a short time after completing his masterpiece he crushes it to bits under his feet. What a waste! So surely, the God who made us in his image would not destroy the crown of His creation! So philosophy demands a life beyond the grave and the deepest yearnings within humanity rise up and say:

IF THERE IS NOT A FUURE LIFE THERE OUGHT TO BE!