

# IMMORTALITY OF THE SOUL

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These notes, composed from 2013 on, are based on taped lectures given between 1977 and 1997 by Dr. Ernest L. Martin, Ph.D., formerly the Head of Theology for the Worldwide Church of God; he resigned in January 1974 because of his unresolved doctrinal issues with the administration. Sadly Dr. Martin died in January 2002, a great loss to the world and to those who seek Biblical truth.

The Doctrine of the Immortality of the Soul is one of the most all pervasive and destructive beliefs anyone can have.

Why is that? Because God created Human Beings mortal, that is that they would die, and the pinnacle of His Plan was to give them the gift of Immortality. If any person believes they have an Immortal Soul already, that makes a nonsense of the glorious truth concerning our amazing destiny and future. This pre-empts the gift of God if we have it already!

It is a Satanic teaching that denies human death as a reality. If humans do not die, then Christ did not die, and if Christ did not die, then there was no sacrifice for sin, no wiping out of human sin, therefore no salvation, and no resurrection of Christ.

It is also a teaching that denies the Biblical statement that Christ only has Immortality.

1 Timothy 6:14 That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ: 15 Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; 16 **Who only hath immortality**, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.

The notion of the Immortality of the Soul was first proposed by Satan in the Garden of Eden when he told Eve that God had lied to her, and that she would not die if she disobeyed God and ate of the Tree of Good and Evil. It was perpetuated by Nimrod after the flood, was promoted in Egypt, and Plato spread the notion among the Greek thinkers, and the notion has persisted through the centuries. It was taken up officially by Christendom in the 4<sup>th</sup> century, and has been around ever since. It is also the preferred belief of those 'modern' individuals who consider they are 'New Age' people. The idea is also widespread among the religions of the East.

Most ministers of churchianity suggest or insist that if you are 'in Christ' you will go to immediately to heaven when you die; and if you are not in Christ and you are not a believer who has had their sins forgiven, then when you die you will go to Hell to be tortured for ever and ever in the flames. Not a pleasant thought, but millions if not billions believe this nonsense. It is classic paganism.

The clear statement made by Timothy in 66 A.D. in 1 Timothy 6:15-16 shortly before his death is not from Egypt or Plato, but is of course the inspired Word of God, and is therefore true, that is if you believe that the Word of God, the Holy Bible is actually the Manual written by our Maker. Again for emphasis:

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We are not immortal, but our destiny is to inherit immortality when we are resurrected to eternal life at the second coming of Christ, or later for those who miss out on the Kingdom of God and the Millennium.

**We need to be really clear about this. It is not possible to entertain the notion of the Immortality of the Soul - AND be a Christian!!**

Paul explains this fact in words of one syllable, so to speak. Paul says you can't have it both ways! Either a person believes the Holy Bible, and Paul's inspired Words, or the individual egotistically elevates themselves to be the inventor of their own doctrine of churchianity which in fact makes the idea of Christianity nonsense.

1 Corinthians 15:12 Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead?

Anyone who believes that we are 'immortal' might say there is no need for a resurrection, as we are alive at death! We are just floated off to heaven to sit on cloud nine, and/or strum a harp for eternity, hardly an exhilarating prospect, and is actually a stupid idea when we understand the true nature of our destiny. God has an infinitely more exciting prospect than that for His children to enjoy for the next millions or billions of years of their existence!

1 Corinthians 15:13 But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: 14 And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. 15 Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. 16 For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: 17 And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. 18 Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. 19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. 20 But now **is** Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruit(s) of them that slept.

Christ is the firstfruit, singular, the Firstborn human, and the only human ever to be raised to Spiritual Life.

1 Corinthians 15:21 For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. 23 But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. 24 Then cometh the end (Gk. telos -at the time of the 3<sup>rd</sup> resurrection), when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.

1 Corinthians 15:45 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam (Christ) was made a quickening spirit. 46 Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. 47 The first man is of the earth, earthy; the second man is the Lord from heaven.

We humans are of the earth, earthy, we die, and go back to the dusty elements we were made of.

1 Corinthians 15:48 As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. 49 And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. 50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

So our earthly body made of dust which corrupts at death, and cannot inherit the Kingdom of God, or Immortality without the gift of eternal life at the resurrection.

1 Corinthians 15:51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at

the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption (just like one puts on a coat), and this mortal must put on immortality.

We would not have to put on immortality if we were already immortal. Do none of these ministers who claim to be teaching Christianity ever read Christ's Book, the Maker's Manual?

Extracts of 1 Corinthians 15 concerning the resurrection are read by clergymen at funeral services to the mourners who have been told that they will go to heaven when they die. Talk about a contradiction of terms! To repeat, you cannot have it both ways!!

2 Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

16 But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness. 17 And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus; 18 Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already (or that since we are immortal we do not need a resurrection!); and overthrow the faith of some.

How many people listen to and accept profane (anti-God) and vain (pointless, empty) babblings? Billions!

Ecclesiastes 3:19 For that which befalleth the sons of men befalleth beasts; even one thing befalleth them: as the one dieth, so dieth the other; yea, they have all one breath; so that a man hath no preeminence above a beast: for all is vanity. 20 All go unto one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again.

Ecclesiastes 9:10 Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.

Psalms 146:3 Put not your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help. 4 His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish.

Acts 2:29 Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day.

The Bible is consistent – when you are dead, you are dead, dead all over. You are not alive! You are not in some other state of consciousness. You are dead. But do not be concerned, after your death God will keep the essence of you and everything you have ever known or experienced very safe. Your human spirit is filed away in Heaven, retained so that God can reconstitute you, the exact you, all that is you, so that at the resurrection you will literally become the “new you”! Knowing who you were, and now who you are, and who you will be for eternity! Paul had it really clear in his mind.

Philippians 1:21 For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.  
22 But if I live in the flesh, this is the fruit of my labour: yet what I shall choose I wot (know) not. 23 For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better:

Because when we die, our thoughts perish (Psalm 146:3 above), but the next instant of our consciousness after death, no matter whether it be a day, a year or two, or thousands of years, we shall be with Him. Of course that is far, far better, but we have to complete our training first.

Romans 8:16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: 17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. 18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Philippians 3:9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: 10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; 11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

1 Timothy 4:1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits (who are lying and drawing into people into evil), and doctrines of devils (demons – tools of Satan);

We are in the latter times, and there are programs on television, and stalls at every public exhibition where individuals will claim to be receiving information from the dead. They prattle on with vague and meaningless insignificant and irrelevant details, teasing the person to make a connection between what they are claiming they are hearing from a ‘spirit’, and what

they knew about the person who has 'passed over' They have not passed over – they are dead as a Dodo.

The wicked seducing lying spirit that is passing this information to the 'medium' has everyone who will listen to their nonsense fooled. No matter how 'true' the teasing glimpses might appear to be, we can know with complete assurance that they are not coming from a dead person that is if we believe the Word of God.