

## **“DID JESUS GO TO HELL?”**

David is quoted concerning the resurrection of Christ: "...That His soul was not left in Hell, nor did His body see corruption" (Acts 2:27-31 KJV).

Many believe that when Jesus was crucified His soul spent three days in Hell. The reason for this is that the King James Version makes no distinction between *Hades* and *Hell*. Both places are translated *Hell* in the KJV. But in the original Greek language "*Gehenna*" is "*Hell*" while "*ades*" is "*Hades*." "*Hades*" is a place of departed spirits and "*Hell*" is a place of eternal punishment.

So to which of these two places did Jesus go when He was in the tomb? Acts 2:27 & 31 in the original Greek has "*Hades*." Therefore Jesus did not go to "*Hell*" but to "*Hades*", the place of departed spirits. "*Hades*" consists of two realms. There is "*paradise*" (*bosom of Abraham*), and "*torment*" (*Tartarus*).

The account of the rich man and Lazarus illustrates this point clearly. The beggar (Lazarus) died and was carried by the angels to *Abraham's bosom*." The rich man went to "*torment in Hades*" (Lk.16:19-31).

Peter said, "*God cast the sinful angels down to Hell*" (2Pet.2:4 KJV). Here again, the Greek word is "*Hades*." Some translations have "*Tartarus*" which is also correct. "*Tartarus*" is the section of *Hades* reserved for sinful spirits awaiting judgment.

You will recall the scene on the cross where Jesus was hanging between two thieves. One said to Jesus, "*Lord remember me when You come into Your Kingdom*." Jesus said, "*Assuredly I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise*" (Luke 23:43). Jesus made reference to the fact that he was going to *Paradise* (Lk.23:43). We later learn that His soul was resurrected from *Hades* (Acts 2:31). The logical conclusion then is, *Paradise* and *Hades* are the same place.

Where did Jesus go? He went to the place of departed spirits, **not** to "*Hell*" the place of eternal punishment.