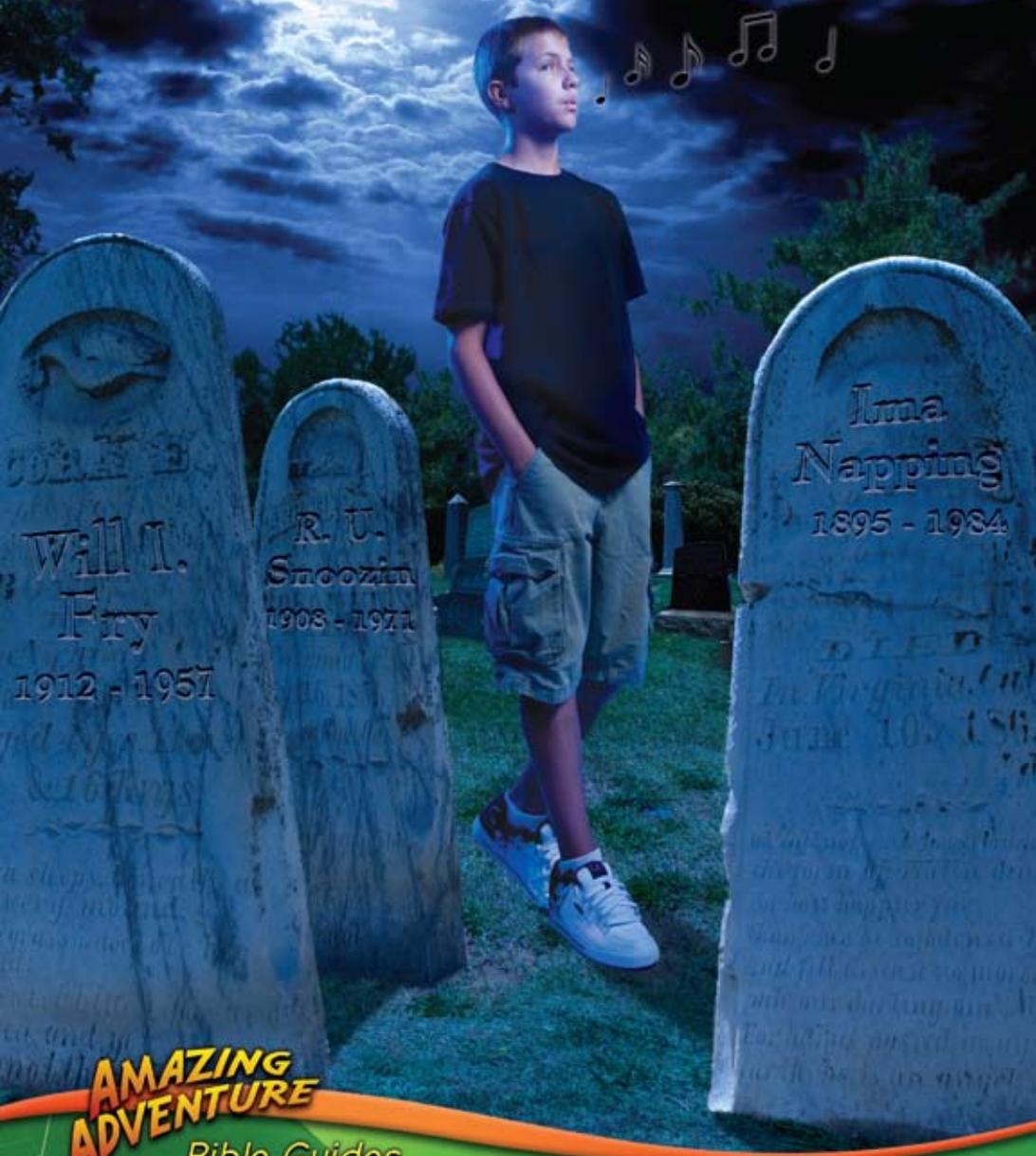


Whistling through the Graveyard



**AMAZING
ADVENTURE**

Bible Guides



You were having fun playing with a friend, but you stayed at his house longer than you planned. Now it is nighttime, and you must walk home in the dark. You need to hurry too, because your parents will wonder where you are. Luckily, your home is not far from your friend's house, and there is a shortcut you can take ... but it's through the graveyard.

As you walk through the spooky iron gates of the cemetery and make your way by the many tombstones, you start to feel nervous. You've taken this shortcut many times during the day, but things just feel different at night. You wish you had a friend with you. So to occupy your mind, you start whistling while you quickly walk toward the other side.

About halfway across, you see the shadow of a tree moving in the wind and hear the rustle of its leaves. It's enough to get you running as fast as you can! With great relief, you finally leave the graveyard behind and soon arrive at home.

What is it about graveyards that make us scared at night? In the daytime, they seem harmless enough. They look like nicely mowed parks with flowers and trees. It's even interesting to read some of the tombstones and see the dates. But when it is dark, the last place in the world most people want to be is in a graveyard. It's probably all of the Halloween and scary ghost stories that make people afraid of cemeteries.

Fast Fact

The most expensive cemetery in which to be buried is Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Hollywood Hills, California. A piece of land in a prime location of the graveyard can cost more than \$800,000! And for \$16,000, your gravesite can be a bench; the better to let friends sit and think about you. Elaborate and immaculately kept, the Hollywood Hills cemetery includes a who's who of Hollywood, including Stan Laurel, Lucille Ball, and Gene Autry. Forest Lawn is known for its maintenance and for sticking grave markers onto grassy hills in ways that makes them nearly invisible until you get close up.

Did you know that on the way to the city of light in heaven, most people will have to pass through a graveyard?

So let's go on another adventure to see what God's Word really says about where people go when they die. We'll go during the day, so we can see everything clearly! And there is no need to be afraid, because God is with us and His Word will be our guide.



First, let's say a prayer for God to teach us and help us understand this important subject.

You might say, "Dear God, thank you that the Bible has answers for all my important questions. Today, please help me to understand the truth about what happens when a person dies so I will never be afraid of death again. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen."

A boy was walking home from school through a cemetery when he read a tombstone that said:

"Stop, my friend, as you go by; As you are now, so once was I. As I am now, you soon will be, So prepare yourself to follow me."

After thinking about those words for a while, the mischievous boy took out a crayon and wrote this clever addition on the tombstone:

RESTING IN PEACE
Stop, my friend, as you go by; As you are now, so once was I. As I am now, you soon will be, So prepare yourself to follow me.
To follow you I'm not content, until I know just where you went.



What really happens to you when you die? Where do you go?

ANSWER: "The Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being" (Genesis 2:7). "Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, And the spirit will return to God who gave it" (Ecclesiastes 12:7).

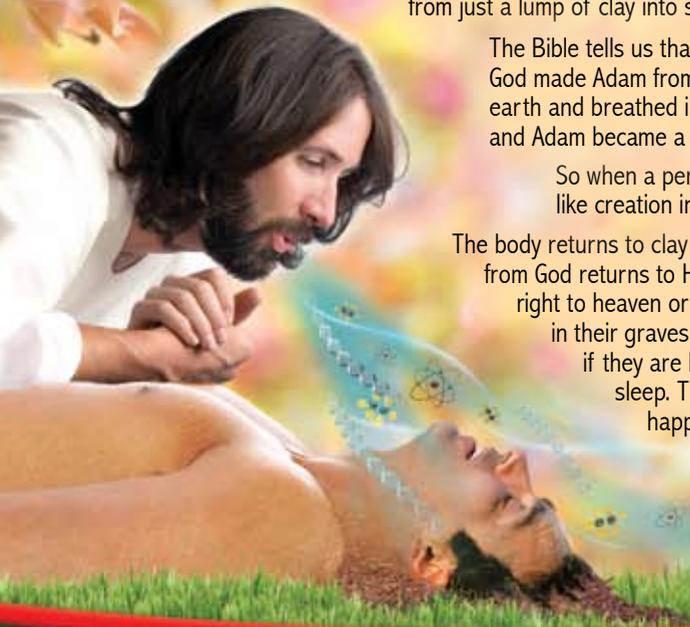
"The dust will return to the earth," the Bible says. Are we really dust? The Bible says God created Adam from the dust of the _____ (Genesis 2:7).

Have you ever molded something out of clay — perhaps a figurine of an animal or maybe a vase or cup? It's fun to turn things from just a lump of clay into something beautiful and valuable.

The Bible tells us that on the sixth day of Creation, God made Adam from the dust (or clay) of the earth and breathed into him the breath of life ... and Adam became a living being (Genesis 2:7).

So when a person dies, it's something like creation in reverse.

The body returns to clay (dust), and the breath of life from God returns to Him. So dead people do not go right to heaven or hell when they die. They rest in their graves until the resurrection. It's as if they are having a deep, dreamless sleep. They have no idea what is happening around them.



Did you know that an important key to understanding the Scriptures is to let the Bible interpret itself? One text often explains another.



What is the "spirit" that returns to God when someone dies?

ANSWER: "The spirit of God is in my nostrils" (Job 27:3 KJV). "The body without the spirit is dead" (James 2:26).

What did God breathe into Adam's nostrils?

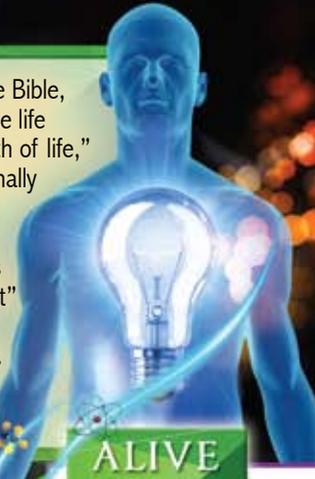
His breath of life — His .

A "body without the spirit is .

When we die, the spirit — or breath of life — goes back to God.

Did you ever wake up in the morning and thank God for your breath? It's a gift from Him that keeps you alive! All creatures breathe — even fish and worms. And when any creature stops breathing for very long, it dies.

According to the Bible, the "spirit" is the life power or "breath of life," which God originally gave to men at creation. The Bible often uses the words "spirit" and "breath" interchangeably. (See Job 33:4 and 34:14, 15).



ALIVE



DEAD

This "spirit" or "breath" that returns to God is not a little ghostlike person who can hear, see, taste, and feel; rather, it is simply the energy or power of life, which all living creatures receive from God ... and which returns to God at death.

Think of it as a light bulb. When the switch is turned off, does the light go soaring off around the room? No, because there is no electricity or "life" going to the bulb. When a person has died, the switch is off. The power of life has gone back to God, so there is no light or soul floating anywhere.

Here's an amazing fact about breathing. Oh, but the second half is all jumbled up! You'll have to unscramble the words to read it.

"The surface area of the lungs is roughly het mesa zesi sa a ninset rotcu."

"The surface area of the lungs is roughly _____."

ANSWER: "The surface area of the lungs is roughly the same size as a tennis court."



Can a dead person's "soul" or "spirit" come back and talk to the living? Can they see what is happening on this earth?

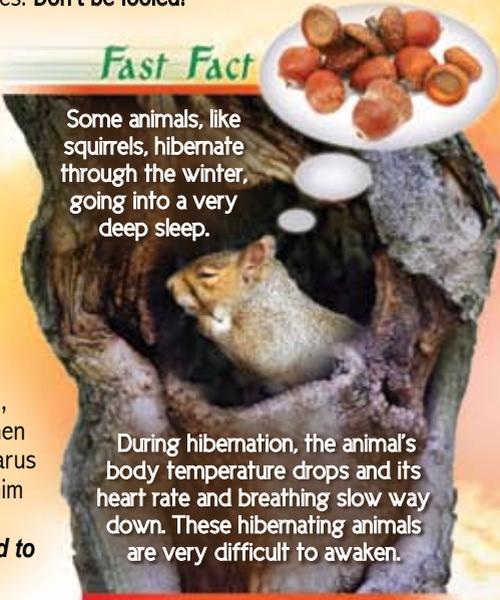
ANSWER: "So man lies down and does not rise. Till the heavens are no more, They will not awake Nor be roused from their sleep." "His sons come to honor, and he does not know it; They are brought low, and he does not perceive it" (Job 14:12, 21).

It is very important to remember that the dead cannot talk to us. They will not live again until the resurrection. They don't know whether good things or bad things are happening around them — and they can't even tell if someone comes to visit their grave. Books and movies that say otherwise are telling one of Satan's favorite lies. **Don't be fooled!**

Aunt Betty's husband died last month, and she was very sad and lonely. She's doing a little better now. She says that Uncle Jim's spirit came back to visit her — and he looked exactly as Uncle Jim did before he got sick. He told her she should not be sad, and that he was doing just great — and then he vanished. Aunt Betty says Uncle Jim's soul is now in heaven. **Is this true?**

Fast Fact

Some animals, like squirrels, hibernate through the winter, going into a very deep sleep.



During hibernation, the animal's body temperature drops and its heart rate and breathing slow way down. These hibernating animals are very difficult to awaken.



What is death like?

ANSWER: Jesus had a good friend, Lazarus, who had been sick and then died. Jesus told His disciples that Lazarus was sleeping and that He was going to go wake him up (John 11:11). The disciples thought if he was sleeping, he would get well, but "then Jesus said to them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead'" (John 11:14).

Here's a chance to learn a little Bible and Spanish at the same time. When Lazarus came back from the dead, the people asked him, "What did you see while you were dead?" Lazarus answered them in Hebrew, but if he had answered them in Spanish, it would have been the word in our puzzle below. To decipher the word, color in all the squares with the letters from his name: **LAZARUS**.

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ANSWER: NAĐAI (which means NOTHING)



What was Satan's first lie on the earth, and how do we know it's a lie?

ANSWER: God talked to Adam and Eve about the tree of knowledge of good and evil. He said, "You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die." And the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die." (Genesis 3:3, 4). "That serpent of old, [is] called the Devil and Satan" (Revelation 12:9). "The soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:20 KJV). "The King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality" (1 Timothy 6:15, 16).

Satan's most popular lie is that we will never die. Despite the fact that the Bible says that "the soul that sinneth, it shall die," millions of people (including many Christians) believe Satan instead of God!

Have you ever fallen asleep on a long road trip and awakened only at your final destination? Death is like falling _____ and then waking up at home when Jesus comes. When you go to sleep at night, you are unaware of what is happening around you.

The next thing you know, your alarm clock rings and it's time to get up. When someone dies, they are unaware of what's happening until the resurrection.



Today, there are many popular books and movies that feature ghosts, magic, and the spirits of dead — people coming back to communicate with the living. The Bible refers to this as **sorcery**.



God does not like sorcery! In His Word, He says, **“By your sorcery all the nations were deceived” (Revelation 18:23). “Sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone” (Revelation 21:8).**

If you ever meet someone who says that they can communicate with the dead, **be careful!** What they are involved in is sorcery and the Bible strongly condemns it. There was even sorcery way back in early Bible times.

King Saul had turned away from God. When facing a big battle, he wanted to know if he was going to win. He decided to ask a witch (a sorceress) to try to talk with the dead prophet Samuel. When the witch said that she saw the form of an old man coming up from the ground, Saul thought that it was the prophet Samuel.



Yet it could not have been Samuel, for the Bible says that the dead know nothing (Ecclesiastes 9:5). Saul was really talking to one of Satan's evil angels pretending to be Samuel (1 Samuel 28).

RED ALERT! Satan and his angels are planning to take over the human race! Below, find their plan to replace all of God's good things with his own devious counterfeits. Oh, but the counterfeits are backwards. Unjumble them and expose the enemy!

**“Instead of angels, we'll send slied fo stirps.
We will impersonate Jesus Christ with stsrhc eslaf.
We will send stehporp eslaf to replace God's prophets.
The prayer warriors will be overcome by srerecros.
All the true worshipers will finally become srotalodi!”**

Answer:
slied fo stirps - spirits of devils
stsrhc eslaf - false christ
stehporp eslaf - false prophets
srerecros - sorcerers
srotalodi - idolaters

Can the devil perform miracles?

ANSWER: **“For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles” (Revelation 16:14 KJV). “For false christ and false prophets will arise and show great signs and wonders so as to deceive, if possible, even the elect” (Matthew 24:24). “Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. ... It is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness” (2 Corinthians 11:14, 15). “To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them” (Isaiah 8:20).**

Satan has the power to perform many kinds of miracles and wonders. His evil angels can even make themselves appear like people who died. Just because someone might be healing people, it does not necessarily mean that they are from God. Satan is a master at using deception to trick us. Satan hates you, and he hates Jesus.



God's Word is the only safe guide for us to know what is real and what is false!

Fast Fact

When it comes to disguise, the octopus is the ultimate impostor. Thanks to special cells in their skin, they have the ability to **change color**, shape, and even texture! In the blink of an eye, they can fade into the sea floor, appearing to be just another bumpy rock. The Pacific mimic octopus has an incredible ability to transform its shape, imitating everything from crabs and fish to sea snakes. It might hide in a clam, then wiggle the tip of one tentacle like a little worm to attract hungry fish – then **whoosh!** – the octopus will jet out and seize its unsuspecting victim.

10

When will the dead live again?

ANSWER: *"But each one [is resurrected] in his own order: Christ the first fruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming" (1 Corinthians 15:23). "Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to everyone according to his work (Revelation 22:12). "The Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout ... And the dead in Christ will rise first. ... And thus we shall always be with the Lord" (1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17).*

"The hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth — those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation" (John 5:28, 29).

"The rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished" (Revelation 20:5).



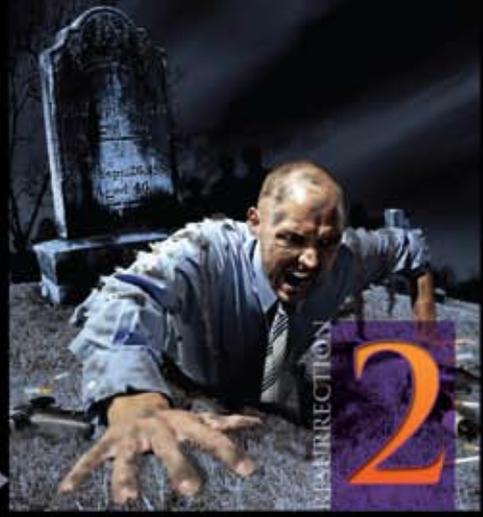
There are actually **TWO** resurrections. The saved rise first when Jesus returns; the lost rise for judgment a thousand years later.



RESURRECTION

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RESURRECTION

2

When Jesus comes back, graves will break open all over the earth and the righteous will rise to meet Christ in the air. Families and friends will be reunited — what a wonderful day that will be! From then on, we will live with Jesus in glory, never again to die (1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17). Wow! How would you like to live forever? That's what God wants for you. And He *"will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying" (Revelation 21:4).*

Do you want to be there to meet Jesus when He comes?

Adam, Elizabeth, Peter, and Sally are very excited for resurrection day! Each one has lost a loved one and wants to see them again. Their ages are 5, 6, 7, and 8. One lost a sister, one lost a brother, one lost a mother, and one a grandmother. Look at the clues below and determine each child's name, age, and the loved one they will see again.

1. The six year old lost a brother.
2. Adam lost a sister and he is older than Peter.
3. Elizabeth is five years old, but she didn't lose her mother.
4. Sally is older than Adam.

| Name | Age | Loved One |
|------|-----|-----------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |



| Name | Age | Loved One |
|-----------|-----|-------------|
| Sally | 8 | mother |
| Peter | 6 | brother |
| Elizabeth | 5 | grandmother |
| Adam | 7 | sister |

ANSWER:

LeAnn was 11 years old and her younger brother Billy was four. LeAnn loved her brother and enjoyed playing with him when she came home from school. One day Billy got sick, so their parents took him to the doctor who did some tests. Finally, the doctor said that Billy had something called leukemia. They started to give Billy a special kind of medicine that made his hair fall out. They did everything they could, but Billy kept getting worse. Then one terrible day, Billy died. It was the saddest day of LeAnn's life.

That evening, LeAnn's mother read her a story from the Bible about the second coming of Jesus. She told LeAnn that when Jesus comes Billy will be resurrected from the grave with a new healthy body — and their family will be united again. Even though LeAnn still misses her brother, she has hope that one day soon, she will see her brother again, and then they can play together forever! With **Jesus!**



The Bible tells us that death for a Christian is not the end. Jesus has promised to come again and to resurrect those who love Him. What a wonderful reunion day that will be!

11

Are you glad that God has promised to resurrect from the dead those who love Him when Jesus comes again? _____

CONTINUING THE JOURNEY

How can I be safe from Satan's deceptions regarding the dead?

- 1 Read the Bible — and believe it!
- 2 Remember that the Bible says some want us to seek out “*mediums and wizards who whisper and mutter,*” [but] *should not a people seek unto their God? Should they seek the dead on behalf of the living?*” (Isaiah 8:19). Seek understanding from God, not the dead.
- 3 Stay away from books, movies, games, and even friends who have anything to do with the occult — witchcraft, magic, sorcery, or talking with the spirits of the dead.
- 4 Remember that the Bible says, “*The dead know nothing*” (Ecclesiastes 9:5).

Did you enjoy this exciting lesson? We surely hope so! Now take a moment to do the questions on the **SUMMARY SHEET**.

Notes

SUMMARY SHEET

Please read the Bible Guide before answering the questions. Fill in the circles of **ALL** that are correct in the multiple choice questions. Hint: The number of correct answers for each question is in red.

1. **Where did man come from? (1)**
 - a) he came from a monkey
 - b) God made him from dust
 - c) he floated in from another planet
2. **When we die we: (3)**
 - a) soar off into space
 - b) turn back to dust
 - c) go to heaven or hell or purgatory
 - d) sleep peacefully in our graves
 - e) become an animal or insect
 - f) know nothing
3. **The ‘spirit’ that returns to God at death is:**
 - h) our breath
 - i) our body
4. **People who are dead do the following things:**
 - a) watch those on this earth
 - b) sleep peacefully
 - c) plan what they will do in their next life
 - d) nothing at all
 - e) talk to their loved ones
 - f) give us wisdom
 - g) rest in the ground till Jesus comes
5. **Any messages from a person who has died are:**
 - a) special gifts to us
 - b) Satan’s evil angels trying to deceive us
 - c) from God
 - d) not true
6. **What are some things we should do?**
 - a) read Harry Potter books
 - b) warn our friends about sorcery
 - c) read the Bible and true, good books
 - d) watch movies with witchcraft or sorcery in them
 - e) be careful what goes in our eyes, ears, and mind
 - f) watch out for Satan’s “interesting” tricks and don’t be fooled
 - g) tell others the Bible says “the dead know nothing”
7. **How are the righteous rewarded by God?**
 - a) at His coming Jesus takes them to heaven to live with Him
 - b) their spirits fly away to heaven when they die

Mark “T” for True and “F” for False on questions 3 to 7.

- ___ c) Jesus blows His trumpet and brings them back to life
- ___ d) they become a cow or a horse in their next life
- ___ e) Jesus makes them immortal so they will never die
- ___ f) Jesus gives them a perfect body
- ___ g) Jesus takes away all death and sorrow and gives joy and peace

YOUR COMMENTS:

8. What new things have you discovered in this lesson?

7. Are you happy to learn the Bible truth about death, and spirits, and the resurrection?

8. Do you want to keep away from evil books, movies, and games and tell others the things you have learned?

6. What are some things we should do?
 F-a) read Harry Potter books
 T-b) warn our friends about sorcery
 T-c) read the Bible and true, good books
 F-d) watch movies with witchcraft or sorcery in them
 T-e) be careful what goes in our eyes, ears, and mind
 F-f) watch out for Satan's "interesting" tricks and don't be fooled
 T-g) tell others the Bible says "the dead know nothing"

7. How are the righteous rewarded by God?
 T-a) at His coming Jesus takes them to heaven to live with Him
 T-b) their spirits fly away to heaven when they die
 T-c) Jesus blows His trumpet and brings them back to life
 F-d) they become a cow or a horse in their next life
 T-e) Jesus makes them immortal so they will never die
 T-f) Jesus gives them a perfect body
 T-g) Jesus takes away all death and sorrow and gives joy and peace

4. People who are dead do the following things:
 F-a) watch those on this earth
 T-b) sleep peacefully
 T-c) plan what they will do in their next life
 T-d) nothing at all
 F-e) talk to their loved ones
 F-f) give us wisdom
 T-g) rest in the ground till Jesus comes

5. Any messages from a person who has died are:
 F-a) special gifts to us
 T-b) Satan's evil angels trying to deceive us
 F-c) from God
 T-d) not true

1. Where did man come from?
 F-a) God made him from dust
 T-b) sleep peacefully in our graves
 T-c) turn back to dust
 F-d) know nothing

2. When we die we:
 T-b) sleep peacefully
 T-c) plan what they will do in their next life
 T-d) nothing at all
 F-e) talk to their loved ones
 F-f) give us wisdom
 T-g) rest in the ground till Jesus comes

3. The "spirit" that returns to God at death is:
 T-h) our breath
 F-i) our body

ANSWER:



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