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*Fundamental Protestant Doctrines*  
*Pamphlet No. 5.*

WHERE DO THE DEAD GO?

1. ~~What the Bible says~~
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~~What the Bible Says about the Future Life.~~

How often have you heard the remark that we know nothing of what comes beyond the grave for "nobody ever came back to tell us"? In itself this remark is not so convincing. We know a good bit about the moon though nobody ever went there and came back either.

But with regard to the after life we dare not forget that Jesus Christ did come back after death and told us a great deal about it. True indeed that ordinary men have by themselves no way of learning about the after life for we end our three-score years and ten and pass away never to return to this present world. But Jesus Christ was not an ordinary man. John's Gospel tells us that Christ the Word was pre-existent with God and from that heavenly realm He came into a body of flesh (John 1:1 and 14). If Christ had never been raised from the dead still He would have been fully qualified to teach us about heaven and hell. But while Christ walked on earth He predicted repeatedly that he would rise again from the dead on the third day. This prediction alone is recorded twelve times in the gospels. The whole history of the preaching of the Apostles is a burning testimony to the fact that Jesus Christ rose again from the dead and is thus proven to be truly divine. Even a doubting Thomas was convinced when he saw the nail prints in the hands of his risen Lord (John 20:27-29). No mere man can tell us about the after life, but Jesus Christ can and in the Bible He has done so.

The fullest teaching Jesus gives us on the after life is in the narrative of the death of the rich man and Lazarus in Luke 16:19-31. The rich man died and went to hell (the Greek word is Hades, the Latin word is inferno). It is described as a place of torment by fire. Lazarus also died and was "carried by the angels