

Review

- A believable God, Book, Resurrection, Church

This week -An unbelievable eternity (spiritual realm)

- Interesting evidence for the Soul – synonymous with the spiritual realm
- The Materialist believe the brain is all there is and it is the cause of these experiences
- The brain/mind discussion
- *See Series Resources in the QR code*

Near death experiences: profound psychological events that occur at the brink of death or during clinical death (e.g., cardiac arrest), often involving:

- A sense of leaving the body (out-of-body experience)
- Moving through a tunnel or into light
- Life review
- Encountering deceased relatives or spiritual beings
- A decision or command to “return” to the body

All of this is what we would expect if the Bible is true:

1. Before creation there was a spiritual realm –preexistent realm (non-material, non-spatial, timeless)

Genesis 1:1 (NIV) 1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Isaiah 40:28 “Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.”

2. Mankind is created different – unique –the ability to have rational thought (not bound by instinct) and free will

Genesis 2:7 (NASB95) 7 Then the LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being (soul).

Genesis 1:26–27 (NIV) 26 Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.” 27 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

3. Humans come into existence when God creates our body and soul at conception
 - See Genesis 2:7
 - A living soul
 - From conception we are eternal
 - The differences with Mormonism

Psalms 139:13 (NIV) 13 For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb.

Conclusion

- There is something beyond time and space
- Humans are unique

How do we interact with eternity?

Before creation –hints about how it was

John 17:5 (ESV) “And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

After creation and before the resurrection of Jesus where were the souls of mankind?

- In the spiritual realm we call the heavenly or spiritual realm
- Invisible here but still very much alive

Luke 16:19–31 (NIV), Hebrews 9:15 (NIV)

What is the basis of our Connection to God?

- Relationship with God through Christ
- Relationship with God is eternal life – where that happens isn't as important

John 14:5-7 (NIV), John 17:1-5 (NIV), 2 Corinthians 5:18-19 (NIV)

Where are Christians now?

2 Corinthians 5:6-9 (NIV)

- Where do we end up? (After judgement day)
 - o A new Body –1 Corinthians 15
 - o A new home -Revelation 21 eventually

Revelation 20:11-21:8 (NIV)

So now we see things differently – a believable eternity –for believers

1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:1 (NIV)

For unbelievers and our view of them- concern and a desire to see them know Jesus

Philippians 3:17-21 (NIV)



Sample Small Group Questions
<https://bit.ly/GroupDiscussionQuestions>



The Overtime Podcast
bit.ly/RLovertime



Series Resources
bit.ly/RLcurrentseries