THE BIBLE AND THE SOUL

WHAT THE BIBLE HAS TO SAY ABOUT SOULS, SPIRITS, HEARTS, MINDS, LIVERS, BODIES, HEAVEN AND OTHER THINGS (INCLUDING THE INTERMEDIATE STATE)

BILL WILDER
The Big Questions

Monism or Dualism?
The Big Questions

Monism or Dualism?

Body

Soul?
The Big Questions

Monism or Dualism?

Body

Soul?

Where’s Life?
The Big Questions

Monism or Dualism?

Body

Old Testament

Soul?

Where’s Life?
In the Old Testament human life is physical and earthly.

Old Testament anthropology is typically synthetic and holistic.

The conception of Sheol in the Old Testament is evidence for existence (if not exactly life) after death.
**Ps 146.1**
Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul! 2 I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

**Ps 146.3**
Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. 4 When his spirit departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.

**Ps 146.5**
Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God, 6 who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever; 7 who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free; 8 the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous. 9 The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

**Ps 146.10**
The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD.
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Where's Life?

A variety of positions are evident in the Intertestamental literature.

The New Testament is dominated by the resurrection of Jesus and its implications for his people.

In accord with much Intertestamental literature, the New Testament also teaches an intermediate state between death and resurrection.
Monism or Dualism?

**Where's Life?**

**STAGE ONE**
- In the Old Testament human life is physical and earthly.

**STAGE TWO**
- A variety of positions are evident in the Intertestamental literature.
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New Testament
1 Pet 1.3  Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead . . .

1 Pet 1.13  Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

1 Pet 1.21  who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

1 Pet 3.15  but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.
<table>
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<td>Life apart from the Body after Death</td>
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Luke 9:28-31  
28 Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray.  
29 And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white.  
30 Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him.  
31 They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.

Luke 24:2b  
And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.  
4 While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel.  
5 And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead?  
6 He is not here, but has risen.

Acts 1:10  
And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes,  
11 and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”
Luke 16:19-31  "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. 20 And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, 21 who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores.

22 The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. 23 In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. 24 He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.'

25 But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. 26 Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.'

27 He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house -- 28 for I have five brothers -- that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' 29 Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' 30 He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' 31 He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"
Bibliography

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