



## True Bible Teaching About... “The Soul”

“Soul” is translated from Hebrew “nephesh”, and Greek “Psuche”.

These words mean “living creature” in their primary sense, but are also used to express other aspects of a living creature, such as body, life, mind, breath, etc... It never expresses the idea of immortality.

To go right back to the beginning, we read how Adam was created:

Gen. 2:7 : *“And 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 soul.”*

We note that after receiving the breath of life in his nostrils, Adam became a living soul. (The same word in the Hebrew is translated “living creature” in Gen. 1:24:

*“And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind...”*

Should that “breath of life” be taken away from us, we would become dead or lifeless souls (creatures).

Job 34:14,15 : *“If He (God) set His heart upon man, if He gather unto Himself His Spirit and His breath, all flesh shall perish together, and man shall turn again unto dust.”*

“Souls” in the Bible are said to:

### **BE BORN:**

Ex. 1:5 : *“And all the souls that came out of the loins of Jacob were seventy souls...”*

### **LIVE:**

Jer. 38:17 : *“...If thou wilt assuredly go forth unto the king of Babylon’s princes, then thy soul shall live, and this city shall not be burned with fire; and thou shalt live, and thine house.”*

**EAT:**

Deut. 12:20 : *“...Thou shalt say, I will eat flesh, because thy soul longeth to eat flesh; thou mayest eat flesh, whatsoever thy soul lusteth after.”*

**DIE:**

Ezek. 18:4 : *“...The soul that sinneth, it shall die.”*

Matt. 16:25 : *“For whosoever shall save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”* (all 4 words from “psuche”)

**BE DESTROYED:**

Acts 3:23 : *“And it shall come to pass, that every soul which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.”*

**BE SAVED FROM THE GRAVE:**

Psa. 49:15 : *“But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave; for he shall receive me.”*

**BE BOUGHT:**

Lev. 22:11 : *“But if the priest buy any soul with his money, he shall eat of it, and he that is born in his house...”*

**BELONG TO ANIMALS TOO:**

Num. 31:28 : *“And levy a tribute unto the LORD of the men of war which went out to battle; one soul of five hundred, both of the persons, and of the beeves, and of the asses, and of the sheep.”*

Nowhere in the Bible will be found the words “immortal” and “soul” together.

In fact, “immortal” is only found once in the whole Bible, and refers to God Himself.

1Tim. 1:17 : *“Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever, Amen.”*

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Man, on the other hand, is a creature of dust, energized by the “breath of life” for awhile, then doomed to return to the dust.

Gen. 3:19 : *“In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken; for dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return.”*

But, through God’s grace and mercy, immortality is offered to all men, through belief and obedience of the gospel, through the Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Tim. 1:10 : *“But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, Who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.”*

1Cor. 15:50- : *“For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.”(53)*  
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**When?**

1Cor. 15:21- : *“But every man in his own order; Christ the firstfruits; afterwards they that are Christ’s at His coming.” (23)*  
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