

*In Bhutan many people claim that I went to heaven and saw so and so person. I went to hell. I saw some people. Is it right biblically? They are sharing from church to church and getting much publicity. I am serving the Lord here so I would like this answer.*

People who go to heaven generally do not come back again (2 Co 5:8).<sup>1</sup>

The Lord allowed the apostle Paul to have a vision (2 Co 12:1-6).

John MacArthur wrote:

Paul was so overwhelmed by his heavenly vision that he did not know the precise details. However, whether he was caught up bodily into heaven (like Enoch, Ge 5:24 and Elijah, 2 Ki 2:11), or his spirit was temporarily separated from his body, was not important...

...He refrained from boasting about it, however, because he wanted the Corinthians to judge him based on their observations of his ministry, not on his visions.<sup>2</sup>

The Lord—neither dreams nor should visions— be gloried. How do they point to him is what is important.

Deceased souls do not communicate with the living.<sup>3</sup> The souls of the unrighteous dead and the souls of the righteous dead will not fellowship.

Leon Morris wrote:

...[T]he great chasm ... fixed....[I]t means that in the afterlife there is no passing from one state to the other (the Greek implies that this is the purpose and not simply the result of the great chasm). The rich man can know how it is with Lazarus<sup>4</sup> (and vice versa), but there is no crossing the chasm on the part of either....[H]e says that if someone goes to them from the dead things will be different; that will bring them to repentance. Such is the fallacy of the natural man. The parable concludes with Abraham's solemn affirmation that the appearance of one risen from the dead will bring no conviction to those who refuse to accept Scripture. 'If a man (says Jesus) cannot be humane with the Old Testament in his hand and Lazarus on his doorstep, nothing—neither a visitant from the other world nor a revelation of the horrors of Hell—will teach him otherwise.' In the context the one risen from the dead must be Lazarus. But Luke's readers could scarcely help thinking of Jesus. He rose. But those who refused to see him in the Scriptures and to heed what is written refused to be convinced by One risen from the dead.<sup>5</sup>

Men are saved by hearing and believing the gospel. Giving out the word of God is all-important.

Paul wrote, "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how

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<sup>1</sup> Accept for the coming two witnesses described in the Book of Revelation who will be metamorphosed (Re 11:1-6).

<sup>2</sup> MacArthur, J., Jr. (Ed.). (1997). The MacArthur Study Bible (electronic ed., p. 1783). Nashville, TN: Word Pub.

<sup>3</sup> Necromancy, the practice of communicating with the dead, is forbidden by the Law (Dt 18:11).

<sup>4</sup> Jesus tells the parables of the shrewd manager and of the rich man and Lazarus (Lk 16:20-25).

<sup>5</sup> Morris, L. (1988). Luke: an introduction and commentary (Vol. 3, pp. 271–272). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

shall they preach, except they be sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!" Ro 10:14–15.

They may point to you (1 Thess 2:6). You point to Jesus (Jn 3:30).