



HEAVEN

For me to live is Christ and to die is gain...
I am torn between the two. I desire to
depart and BE WITH CHRIST, which is
better by far. (*Philippians 1:21, 23*)

Biblical euphemism for DEATH

- **rest**
- **sleep**

SOUL SLEEP... teaching that there is no intermediate awareness between death and the future resurrection. We do not enter punishment or glory following death. The soul is simply asleep. Major doctrine of Adventist and Jehovah's Witness groups.

Orthodox Christianity has never accepted
SOUL SLEEP as the Bible's teaching

- Separation of body and soul [upon death]
- Soul immediately in God's presence

Do the spirits/souls in heaven have some sort of (interim) body?

- The Bible does not give us **details**, but the **implication** is YES... a spiritual body.

Are folks up there watching us down here?

- The Bible never says that souls in heaven watch life on earth. But there are suggestions of a vague knowledge of God's work of salvation upon the earth.

Will suicide, dementia, mental illness, etc. disqualify someone for heaven?

✓ **dementia** (L) > de [away from] +
mens [mind]

* Demented is not a linguistic derivative
of demon

God looks upon our “heart” and therefore **ignores** EXCUSES while **understanding** CIRCUMSTANCES and LIMITATIONS. His judgments **minimize** behavior and **maximize** motive.

*“For God is greater than our hearts,
and he knows everything.” (1 Jn. 3:20)*

The Lord **considers** [physical/mental] limitations with absolute **compassion** and **understanding**.

“He KNOWS our frame [formation] and remembers that we are dust.” (Ps. 103:13)

God will no more withdraw salvation from a believer because of a mental deficiency than because of a physical disability

“Though outwardly we are wasting away, inwardly we are being renewed...” (11 Cor. 4:16)