

**Answering The Religious Errors Of Our Family, Friends, and Neighbors**      1  
**“Man Comes Back In Another Form After Death!”**  
**Lesson 5**

**INTRO:**

- A.** It is reasonable to see how four possible pagan religions/beliefs came from the conversation Satan had with Eve in **Genesis 3:4-5** “*Then the serpent said to the woman, You will not surely die. 5 For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.*”
1. “*You will be like God*” would enable mankind to proclaim “I am God”!
    - a. This is the basis of PANTHEISM where God is reduced to a force, God is all that exists, matter is an illusion, and we are all gods.
    - b. We see and hear these concepts expressed in such causes as the animal rights movement, the agenda of the environmentalist which all are a boast of the human potential and confidence in the ‘deity’ of mankind.
  2. You will be “*knowing good and evil*” which would enable mankind to proclaim, “I determine my own morals”!
    - a. This is the basis of RELATIVISM where there are no absolutes, morality depends on the situation, whatever feels good is right, and evil is merely an illusion.
    - b. We see and hear these concepts expressed in the discussion of modern day moral issues, in music, and values clarification being done in schools.
  3. “*Your eyes will be opened*” would enable mankind to say, “I have all the knowledge I need!”
    - a. This is the basis of ESOTERICISM (s-o-ter-i-cism) which says you can achieve enlightenment, you can consult your inner ‘guides’, and you are the light.
    - b. We see and hear these concepts in people’s use of drugs, living according to their horoscopes, Yoga, astrology, contact with occult powers, and transcendental meditation.
  4. “*You shall not surely die*” would enable mankind to proclaim, “I determine my own destiny”!
    - a. This is the basis of REINCARNATION where time is cyclical, we keep ‘going around until we get it right’ and evil is explained by karma.
    - b. We see and hear these concepts expressed in such words as ‘channeling’ or in the beliefs there is no judgment, and no fear of suicide.
- B. REINCARNATION:** “Reincarnation is the philosophical or religious concept that the soul or spirit, after biological death, begins a new life in a new body that may be human, animal or spiritual depending on the moral quality of the previous life's actions.  
- The word "reincarnation" comes from the Latin word meaning, "entering the flesh again"
1. “The major religions that hold a belief in reincarnation, however, are Asian religions, especially Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, and Sikhism, all of which arose in India. ([britannica.com](http://www.britannica.com))
  2. “According to Bhagavad Gita, a soul reincarnates again and again on earth until it becomes perfect and reunites with its source. During this process the soul enters into many bodies, assumes many forms and passes through many births and deaths.  
According to Bhagavad Gita, a being has to live many lives and experiences before it attains perfection and Goes back to home, Back to Godhead.” (<http://www.indiafesttbay.com/about/reincarnation/>)

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3. “The Gita is the sixth book of the Mahabharata, one of India's most famous epic poems.” ([www.yogajournal.com](http://www.yogajournal.com))

**I. WHAT DO THE SCRIPTURES TEACH?**

**A. Where in the Scriptures do we find anything remotely stated about reincarnation?**

1. There is no example where someone came back from the dead in some other form.
  - a. **Luke 16:27-31** *“Then he said, ‘I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father's house, 28 for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.’ 29 Abraham said to him, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.’ 30 And he said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ 31 But he said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.’”*
    - (1) Neither the rich man was allowed to return from the dead nor was his request granted for Lazarus to return from the dead to warn his brothers.
    - (2) No reincarnation taught in this passage!

**II. THE SCRIPTURES DO REVEAL...**

- A. **John 5:28-29** *“Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice 29 and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.”*
- B. **2 Corinthians 5:10** *“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”*
- C. **Philippines 1:23-24** *“For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. 24 Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more needful for you.”*
- D. **1 Thessalonians 4:16** *“For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.”*
- E. **Hebrews 9:27** *“And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,”*

**III. THE VERSES ARE TOO NUMEROUS ABOUT THE REALITY OF JUDGMENT...**

- A. **Ecclesiastes 12:14** *“For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil.”*
- B. **Matthew 12:36-37** *“But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. 37 For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”*
- C. **Hebrews 4:13** *“And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.”*

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D. One final verse: **Ecclesiastes 9:5-6** *“For the living know that they will die; But the dead know nothing, And they have no more reward, For the memory of them is forgotten. 6 Also their love, their hatred, and their envy have now perished; Nevermore will they have a share In anything done under the sun.”*

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Define reincarnation.

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2. Why would people want to believe in reincarnation?

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3. What are some consequences of this kind of thinking?

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4. What does the Bible say about what happens after death?

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