

**FINAL QUESTIONS**  
A Biblical View of Life After Death  
*Lesson Three • Hebrews 1:1-4*  
**What About Purgatory?**

**Have You Ever Wondered...**

What happens to Christians when they die?  
Do they go straight to heaven or do they go to a place called "purgatory"?  
And if purgatory, what happens there? How long are you there? How do you get out?

**Purgatory: Question, Answer, and Application**

**1. Question: What About Purgatory?**

***Catholic Teaching about Purgatory***

- **Definition:** Purgatory means "to make clean" or "to PURIFY".
- **Belief:** There exists a place after death where some of the sins of people are PURGED through suffering and the sacrifices of the living.
- **Purpose:** To attain PURIFICATION in order to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven.

***The Implication of Purgatory***

Most people are not "READY" for heaven when they die.

**2. Answer: CHRIST Purged Our Sins on the Cross!**

***The Essential Question Regarding Purgatory***

Does the death of Jesus Christ purify us from our sins so that when we die we go directly to heaven or must we be further purified in purgatory?

***God's Word Gives the Answer***

- Christ PURGED our sins by His work of salvation on the Cross.  
*...when He [Jesus Christ] had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high. Hebrews 1:3 NKJV*
- Christ's purging of our sins on the Cross is SUFFICIENT and complete for all people for all times.  
*And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, He sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time until His enemies should be made a footstool for His feet. For by a single offering He has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified. Hebrews 10:11-14 ESV*
- God declares all who trust in Christ's work on the Cross as RIGHTEOUS and accepts them immediately into His presence in heaven after death.

*Since we have now been justified by His blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through Him! Romans 5:9 NIV*

*For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. 1Peter 3:18 NIV*

*The blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin. 1John 1:7 NIV*

*Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Romans 8:1 NIV*

**3. Application: SALVATION Depends on Christ Alone!**

***Who are you depending on for your salvation?***

- My works
- Christ's work *plus* my works
- Christ's work alone

**Is Purgatory Necessary to Enter Heaven?**

There's NO NEED for purgatory after we die because the purgatory we need happened 2000 years ago when Jesus purged our sins on the Cross once and for all.