

A The life process:

❖ **A living soul.**

- God created the first human like He created the rest of land animals: from the ground (Genesis 2:7, 19). However, there were significant differences:
 - (1) God created the body of Adam first, then gave him life (Genesis 2:7)
 - (2) Eve was not created at the same time as Adam (Genesis 2:22)
 - (3) Together they were the image of God (Genesis 1:27)
- There are three elements in the creation of humans: body, spirit, and soul (Genesis 2:7). Human nature is made of two of them: body and spirit. We DON'T HAVE a soul; we ARE a soul.

B The death process:

❖ **Death and soul.**

- When we lose the breath of life, we become a lifeless body. We are no longer living beings, living souls (Ezekiel 18:20; Psalm 146:4).
- Therefore, every soul will die (the just and the wicked). However, the just will become immortal souls (people) at the Second Coming when they'll be resurrected (1 Corinthians 15:51-55). The wicked will become "dead souls (people)" when they'll die the second (eternal) death in the lake of fire (Matthew 10:28; Revelation 20:14-15).

❖ **Death and spirit.**

- According to Ecclesiastes 12:7, it seems that there's something that keeps existing after death: the spirit. We must thoroughly investigate this idea before jumping to conclusions. Let's study Genesis 7:22.
- The spirit is "the breath of the spirit of life" that was "in his nostrils." It's a clear reference to the creation of Adam: LIVING BEING (Soul) - BREATH (Spirit) = DIRT (Body)
- The spirit is not a conscious entity of human beings that keeps on living after death. It's God's breath of life. He gives it and He takes it away (Psalm 104:29).

C Beyond death:

❖ **What do the dead do?**

- What does the Bible teach about the acts of the dead?
 - (1) Job 3:13. They rest and they are asleep.
 - (2) Psalm 115:17. They don't praise God, they are silent.
 - (3) Psalm 146:4. They don't think.
 - (4) Ecclesiastes 9:5. They know nothing.
 - (5) Ecclesiastes 9:10. They don't work, study, or do anything at all.
- It's so boring to be dead! There's no conscious existence. Everything ends when we die. Death is just silence and darkness. It's like being asleep, and we're not even aware that we're dead!
- The Bible teaches that being dead is like sleeping. Only Jesus' voice will awake us from this slumber (John 11:11-14; 5:28-29).

❖ **Resting with the ancestors**

- There are different expressions to allude to death in the Bible: "was gathered to his people" (Genesis 25:8), "rested with his fathers" (1 Kings 2:10). Do these expressions mean that there's a social and conscious life after death?
- David "rested with his fathers" but he didn't ascend to Heaven. He remains in his tomb "to this day" (Acts 2:29-31).
- The same expression was used for other kings, both just and wicked (1 Kings 14:20; 16:6; 2 Chronicles 32:33).
- These expressions mean that we are all going to the same place: to our grave. We'll follow the steps of our ancestors; that is, we'll be dead until the Second Coming, the day of resurrection (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18).