

The spirits in spiritism

Can the living talk to the dead

Subject: State of the Dead
 Objective: To compare and contrast Christ death, burial and resurrection and baptism and to show the importance of being dead to sin before one is baptized.
 Main Text: Ecclesiastes 9:5, 10

ATTENTION

- I. There is only one book that gives conclusive evidence as to the state of a person at death. (Lift the Bible)
 - a. The Bible tells us how man was formed.
 - b. Where he came from.
 - c. Where he is going.
 - d. Why he has to die.
 - e. What happens after he dies.
- II. The Bible is the only book that informs us explicitly about the state of the dead.
- III. The Bible does not support spiritism.
- IV. The Bible does not support immortality of the soul. (1 Timothy 6:16)

NEED

- I. One of the most remarkable features of our time is the intense interest manifested by millions in spiritism.
- II. Spiritism proposes that one can communicate with the dead.

Spiritualist Speaks:

Oliver Lodge, a London, England, Spiritualist says, "There is no death in the grave yard. I have frequently talked with the dead. I cannot doubt that people live after death because I have frequently talked with them."

- III. Tonight we will examine these claims in the light of the Holy Word of God.

Triple Basis of Claims of Spiritism

1. The dead are alive.
2. They can communicate with the living through mediums.
3. The phenomena of the séance can be attributed to the spirits of the dead. (At a séance various phenomena and manifestations often take place.)

- i. Floating musical instruments that play by themselves.
 - ii. Moving spirit lights that shine.
 - iii. Unbidden voices from invisible beings.
 - iv. Materialization-The appearance of the spirit in visible form, so that it resembles in all features a human being.
 - v. Levitation
 - vi. Trance speaking and healing
- IV. If in death man is still conscious, then it may be possible for the dead to communicate with the living through mediums.
- V. But if the dead are dead, as they appear to be then the claims of spiritism are false. (Isaiah 8:19, 20)

SATISFACTION

Can the living talk to the dead

- I. The living are conscious that there is a future before them: but the dead are unconscious; even the memory of them soon disappears. (Ecclesiastes 9:5)
- II. The breath which the Lord breathed into man, and which is in his nostrils while he lives, is taken away, he dies. (Psalm 146:4)
- III. His purposes; his plans; his schemes for becoming rich or great; his plans of building a house has ended. (Luke 12:19-20)
- IV. The dead cannot be called back to appear at a séance. (Job 16:22; 7:8-10)

ILLUSTRATION

The infant son of King David, king of Israel, was seriously ill and dying. David fasted and wept before the Lord in the hope that the child might recover. But the child died. When the servants told him that his child was dead, to their astonishment, instead of fasting and weeping anymore, he got up and ate and anointed himself.

They asked him the reason and what was his reply? 2 Samuel 12:23 “But now that he's dead, why should I go without eating? I can't bring him back! Someday I will join him in death, but he can't return to me.”

APPLICATION

The Scripture emphatically deny the possibility of communicating with the dead. Like a stone, a dead person can't talk, can't walk, can't fly, and can't cry. The dead is dead!

PUNCH: The big question is, if the dead are unconscious and cannot return, who are what is it that causes the strange phenomena in the séance?

- V. Evil forces invaded this earth after being cast out of heaven. (Revelation 12:7-9)

Note: These evil spirits have had thousands of years of experience in the observation of humanity. These demons know everything about you and me. It is quite easy for these evil spirits, impersonating the dead, to give information.

- VI. The first medium mentioned in the Bible knew about Eve and what God told her. (Genesis 3:1)
- VII. This medium took the body of a serpent.
- VIII. The results of the first séance brought death into the world. (Genesis 2:17; Romans 5:14)
- IX. If the result of the first séance brought death, no wonder the séances today are bringing spiritual and eternal death to those who become the victims of spiritism.

VISUALIZATION

- I. The Bible refers to death as creation in reverse. (Psalm 104:29)
- II. At creation God gave man life not by making him but by breathing in his nostrils. (Genesis 2:7)
- III. In the beginning God gave man breath. When he dies it goes back to God. Therefore, for man to exist after death, he must have life again from God. (John 5:28, 29)
- IV. Man's life after death was made possible by Jesus Christ.
 - a. On Friday He died.
 - b. On Friday He was placed in the tomb.
 - c. On Saturday He rested.
 - d. On Sunday He arose
- V. He is ALIVE! And because He lives there is hope for all who die in Christ. (1 Thessalonians 4:16,17)

ILLUSTRATION

When the millionaire Vanderbilt died, the usual question was asked, "How much has he left?" Some one gave an unusual reply: "He's left all." Yes to the merely natural man death is the finally pauperizing loss. He leaves all. No matter how many flowers may be heaped on the coffin and however lavish may be the encomiums uttered over the corpse, the dirge which clings around his funeral is, "to die is loss"

APPLICATION

To man who die with out Christ, to die is lost but for the man who dies in Christ to die is gain

