

**Sheol = Old Testament Hebrew Word  
Hades = New Testament Greek Word  
(Both words are speaking of the same place)**

This place is in the center of the earth or globe. The Bible suggests that Sheol or Hades is downward (Ezekiel 32:21, 27; Numb. 16:30-35) and that God's dwelling place is upward (Job 37:22; Isa. 14:31; Psalms 121:9; Duet. 32:22; Job 11:8). The term's grave, pit and hell all translate sheol in the Old Testament. The context determines their meaning. The context can point to the grave or to the actual compartment and place of departed spirits.

**The Bible also teaches that there were originally four compartments in this great cavern in the center of the earth.**

<b><u>Compartment Number One</u></b>	<b><u>Compartment Number Two</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compartment of judgment, suffering &amp; torment (see Psalm 9:17; Luke 16:23-24)</li> <li>• The place where all the unsaved went when they died during the Old Testament era. This is where the unsaved still go today when they die (see Prov. 15:24 Psalm 9:17; 86:13; Isa. 14:9; Ezekiel 32:21; Luke 16:23).</li> <li>• Later they will be resurrected to finally be judged in the Lake of Fire throughout eternity (see Revelation 20:14-15).</li> <li>• The English word "hell" is also used in reference to a final judgment in the Lake of Fire (see Mark 9:42-48; Matt. 10:28). The actual Greek word used to describe the Lake of Fire is the word "Gehennah." It was compared to the garbage dump outside Jerusalem that continually burned with refuse.</li> <li>• There was a great gulf between the first two compartments in Hades which cannot be bridged (See Luke 16:26).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compartment of comfort, joy and bliss (see Luke 16:25)</li> <li>• The place where Christ went when He died (Psalms 16:10; Acts 2:27).</li> <li>• The place where all the saved of the Old Testament era went prior to the cross and resurrection of Christ (Psalms 139:8; Luke 16:22).</li> <li>• The place where Jesus said that He would be with the thief (see Luke 23:43).</li> <li>• This compartment called "paradise" was emptied out after Christ's resurrection (see Ephesians 4:8-10).</li> <li>• This is when the Paradise compartment was transferred to Heaven (2 Cor. 12:4). When we die today, as a believer, we go up to paradise or Heaven and not down to the place called Hades (2 Corinthians 5:8; Phil. 1:21; Rev. 6:9).</li> <li>• This place was also called Abraham's bosom because Abraham went to this place because of His faith in God's revelation about salvation (Luke 16:22).</li> </ul>
<b><u>Compartment Number Three</u></b>	<b><u>Compartment Number Four</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compartment where the wicked angelic spirits are imprisoned (Jude vs. 6).</li> <li>• These were the angelic spirits who tried to destroy the line of Christ in the days of Noah (see 1 Peter 3:18-19).</li> <li>• This was the place called "Tartarus" (2 Peter 2:4). The English word "hell" is actually rendered Tartarus. This is the only place where we see this word.</li> <li>• Jesus went to "preach" to these wicked spirits (1 Pet. 3:19-20). He did not go into this place to fight them. His message was one of victory through the cross and His soon resurrection.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compartment where the demonic spirits will be released during the future Tribulation Period (Rev. 9:1-3).</li> <li>• The place where Satan will be cast during the Millennium or 1,000-year reign of Christ (see Revelation 20:1-3; Isaiah 14:9,15).</li> <li>• This is called the bottomless pit or "pit of abyss." It is that compartment or place in Hades, which is at the center of the earth. This is why it is called the bottomless pit. It's because there is ceiling in every direction due to its center location in the heart of the earth. It is the deepest part of Hades.</li> </ul>

Today there are only three compartments that remain open in this place called Sheol or Hades due to the resurrection of Christ and the emptying out of the second compartment. However, the compartment of the lost is growing due to the many people who are on the broad, which leads to this place (Matthew 7:13-14). It is true:

**"hell (sheol) hath enlarged itself."**

**Isaiah 5:14.**

Pastor Kelly Sensenig