



# THE DESCENSION OF JESUS

APRIL 27, 2026

**1 PETER 3:18-20 NKJV – (18)** For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, **(19)** by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, **(20)** who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while *the* ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.

**EPHESIANS 4:9 NKJV – (9)** (Now this, “He ascended”—what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth?)

Did you know Jesus Christ has been to hell? This might sound shocking, but the Bible reveals something incredible about Jesus journey after His crucifixion. After he died on the cross, Jesus descended into hell. Not as a sinner but to defeat sin and death once and for all. Why did he go there? Jesus descent to hell wasn't to suffer but it was a proclaim victory over the forces of darkness. It was a declaration that the power of sin, death and the enemy had been broken.

Some have the viewpoint that Jesus went to “hell” or the suffering side of sheol / hades in order to further be punished for our sins. This idea is completely unbiblical. It was the death of Jesus on the cross that sufficiently provided for our redemption. It was His shed blood that effected our own cleansing from sin (**1 John 1:7-9**). As He hung there on the cross, He took the sin burden of the whole human race upon Himself.

The concept that Jesus went to hell after His death on the cross comes primarily from the **Apostles' Creed**, which states, “He descended into hell.” There are also a few Scripture passages that, depending on how they are translated, describe Jesus going to “hell.” In studying this issue, it is important to first understand what the Bible teaches about the realm of the dead. Remember, we can't just read the scriptures, we must study.

**SCRIPTURE READING: ACTS 2:24**

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:** Never forget, He died for the past, the present and those who are yet born.