

From the FAQ Pages of the ISA, Independent Spiritualists Web Site

Answers to your questions by our individual Ministers reflect their particular opinions and beliefs

Where do we go when we die? Who controls death?

Our material body returns to the elements from which it was built. Our consciousness, that part which makes us self aware, continues. We lose the amnesia required to focus on one Earthly experience and slowly return to full consciousness to begin our review of this last life experience. Our true Self, our Spirit, remains in the higher dimension where it has always resided. It is difficult from this three dimensional perspective to imagine other dimensions. Our Spirit exists in a non-physical place that is referred to as Heaven by many religions but also as Hell.

We do not come here (Earth Plane) but once. What would be the purpose of eternity after just one life? What would be the purpose of worshiping God for eternity? What insecure god would require that? The one life scenario to me has always seemed far from fair as it does not provide equal opportunity to everyone to meet narrow requirements for salvation and would reflect a cruel uncaring god if true.

We come here with Free Will to choose to create or destroy. There are no eternal damnation punishments but there are natural consequences. There are Spiritual Laws, also called Natural Laws, in place just as our science has discovered the Physical Laws. We learn about Physical Laws by experiencing them. We do not think about laws of gravity but we each live with the consequences of it daily. We learned to walk by falling down. Heavier than air flight would seem a miracle and seem to defy the law of gravity. However it is the understanding of other laws which make it possible.

In Spirit we plan our next incarnation into physical body according to what we need to learn next (i.e. master). Similar to a college student planning their class load for the next semester. The individual classes may not be their desire but are necessary for the ultimate goal of graduation.

If your choices in previous lives included abandoning others you might choose a life which will give you the experience of feeling abandoned. When we experience both sides of the coin, so to speak, we will come to naturally **do the Loving** thing rather than a hurtful, destructive thing. Once we have mastered one aspect we will concentrate on another aspect in the next lives until each is mastered.

Death is both our exit from physical life and our rebirth back to Spirit. It is part of your Soul's Plan or Agenda but is not predetermined. Often there are multiple exit opportunities which we make a conscious or unconscious choice to take or not.

However, like being prepared for a pop quiz in school we must do our best to make as much progress as possible in this life since each moment can be our last.

Additionally our life journey is not lived in isolation. We play a role in each others plan.

What we do and fail to do all has effect on others around us. This effect is often most dramatic when we depart this life. It continues to play an important role with those who have feelings about us long after we are no longer present in the physical.

Rev. Thomas Janssen

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