DEFINITION OF TERMS

In this lesson we will study the meaning of two cognate words in different languages, the Hebrew word Sheol and the Greek word Hades. The word Hades was common in the Greek world and appears eleven times in the NT. However, the meaning of the word in the NT is not necessarily the same as in the Greek world. In other words, we cannot determine the meaning of the word Hades in the NT by how Greek philosophers such as Plato and Socrates used it. We must determine its meaning by the cognate OT Hebrew word Sheol.

Sheol has been translated in various ways: grave, hell, pit. The cognate Greek word Hades appears eleven times in the NT, and only once (in the parable of the rich man and Lazarus) does it refer to a place of burning. The translation of the word is confusing where it is rendered as grave, hell, depths, and Hades. In the lone exception, the apostle Paul wrote that the righteous would come forth from Hades at the resurrection (1 Cor. 15:55). Clearly, the translators understood that it would be absurd for the righteous to come forth from hell at the resurrection! So we are left with the question, what is the proper meaning of Hades?
Read 1 Corinthians 15 from the translation of your choice. Write out 1 Corinthians 15:51–55. choice. You may also rewrite the passage in your own words, or outline or mind-map the chapter.
Go back to your scribed text and study the passage. 

**Circle** repeated words/phrases/ideas

**Underline** words/phrases that are important and have meaning to you

Draw **Arrows** to connect words/phrases to other associated or related words/phrases

What special insights do your marks seem overall to point to?

Memorize your favorite verse in 1 Corinthians 15. Write it out multiple times to help memorization.

How does clarity on this word study help you understand passages like Matthew 16:18?

How could you explain this to someone else with clearness and simplicity?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/dead03-3
After looking at your scribed and annotated text, what special insights do your marks seem to point to overall?

What questions emerge after studying this week's passage? What parts are difficult?

What other principles and conclusions do you find?

How does the elucidation of the afterlife change people's perspectives on religion, spirituality, and God?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/dead03-4
What relationship do the following verses have with the primary passage?

John 5:28, 29
Revelation 1:17, 18
Psalm 49:14, 15
Job 14:10–15
1 Corinthians 15:55
(cf. Hosea 13:14)
Revelation 20:13, 14

What other verses/promises come to mind in connection with 1 Corinthians 15?

Review your memorized verse from 1 Corinthians 15.
Think about the ramifications of having power over death through Christ. What does this truly mean for you?

What is Jesus saying to you through the main text?

How do you see Jesus differently or see Him again?

Prayer: How do you respond to seeing Jesus in this way?

Where do you see Jesus in 1 Corinthians 15?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/dead03-6
Review the memory verse. How does it apply to your life this week?

After this week’s study of the chapter, what are personal applications you are convicted of in your life?

What are practical applications you must make in your family, friends, and neighbors?

Read more inSight from the Spirit of Prophecy at www.inversebible.org/dead03-7
Share insights from this week’s memory verse and Bible study as well as any discoveries, observations, and questions with your Sabbath School class (or Bible study group). Consider these discussion questions with the rest of the group.

How does this week’s lesson bring comfort for those who die in Christ?

How many times does the word Sheol appear in Psalm 49:14, 15 and how is it translated? (Compare several versions.)

Read Job 14:7–15. Which metaphors does this passage use to describe death and the resurrection? How do these metaphors bring comfort?

Make a list of the synonyms that appear in Jonah 2 that describe the place where Jonah went for three days. When Jonah cried out from the belly of Sheol, (Jonah 2:1), was he in a place of burning or in a watery grave?

Why does Revelation 6:8 say that death and Hades followed the pale horse? Does the grave literally follow death?

How has Jesus having the keys of Hades and of death change your life perspective?

The Keys of Hades