

What do people believe happens when you die?

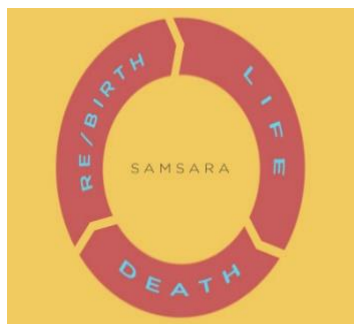
There are lots of different opinions about life after death. Many people who are **atheists** (don't believe in God) believe that once we die that's **the end**, we are either buried or cremated and that signifies the **end of life**.



Many religions such as **Christians**, **Muslims** and **Jews** believe in heaven and hell. This is the idea that at the end of our life we are judged for how we have acted at the end of our life and either go to **heaven** (as we have lived a good life) or **hell** (as we have lived a life of sin).



Many religions such as **Sikh**, **Hindu's** and **Buddhists** believe in **reincarnation**. This is the idea that when we die we are **reborn** into another life such as an **animal** or another **human**.



Do all Christians believe the same thing about the afterlife?

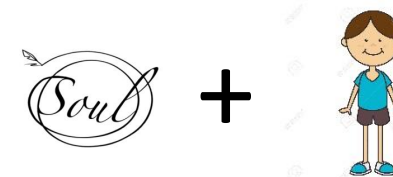
Christians believe in an **afterlife**. They believe that after you die you either go to **heaven or hell**. They believe that heaven is a reward for following the **Ten Commandments** and religious teachings in the Bible, therefore it is a lovely place where you are rewarded. Hell is a **punishment** for bad behaviour and **not abiding by religious laws**.



Some Christians believe in **Immortality of the Soul**. This means that when you die you are immediately **judged** for how you have lived your life and you go to either heaven or hell. It is your **soul that lives on**. **Protestant Christians** believe that it is not only **our soul** that lives on but also **our body**. This idea is called **resurrection of the body**. This is the concept that **on judgement day** or at the end of the world your body will be brought back and your body and soul will be judged on how you have lived your life, you will then go to either heaven or hell.



**Catholics** believe in **purgatory**. This is the idea that if you haven't been **to confession** to confess your sins when you die you will be go to purgatory and wait whilst your sins have been **cleansed**. If you have done something which is **unforgiveable** you will go to **hell**.



## Year 8 Knowledge Organiser: What happens when we die?

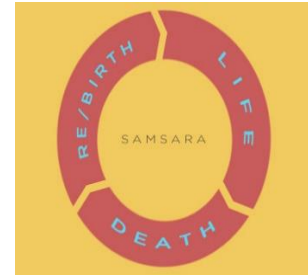
### What do Muslims believe about life after death?

Muslims believe that **death is not the end** but the beginning of a new stage in life called **Akhirah**. Many Muslims believe that after death the person still has a conscious existence in the grave. This is where they will enter a state of waiting called '**barzakh**'. This term means '**a barrier**'. No one can cross this barrier to amend the things they have done wrong. They are **waiting for the Day of Judgement**. On judgement day people will be given **new bodies** and the **book of their life** will be handed to them to read out. If people are given it in their **left hand**, they will go to **hell** and If people are given it in their **right hand**, they will go to **heaven**. Heaven is described in the Quran as **gardens of happiness** and hell as a **place of fire and great torment**.



### What do Buddhists believe about life after death?

Buddhists believe in **reincarnation**. They believe in the cycle of **samsara** which is the **continual, born, live, die and reincarnation process**. However they **do not** believe we have a soul, this is called **anatta**. They believe that it is our previous **life's cravings** that cause us to be reborn and not that we have a soul. They want to escape this cycle and achieve **enlightenment** this will mean that they understand the world and have followed all of the Buddha's teachings. Through escaping this cycle they will achieve **nirvana**.



### Know It:

1. What are heaven and hell?
2. What religions believe in heaven and hell?
3. What is reincarnation?
4. What religions believe in reincarnation?
5. What do the Church of England believe about life after death?
6. What does the Catholic Church believe in life after death?
7. What is Akhirah?
8. For a Muslim what is the significance of receiving the book of life in your left hand and right hand?
9. What is anatta?
10. Do Buddhists want to continue to be reborn?

### Grasp It:

Design an information leaflet that is suitable for Year 6 students to explain:

- Christian attitudes to life after death
- What Muslims believe about life after death?
- What Buddhists believe about the afterlife?

### Know It:

- Explain the differences between Christian attitudes to life after death
- Explain the importance of following religious teachings for a believer