

State of Being Cards

Directions: Copy and cut out at least one set. For advanced students, you may also wish to cut out additional sets to give a set to each pair. Then follow the directions in the lesson plan.

Heaven

Where those who die in God's grace and friendship live with Him forever.

Perfect communion with the Blessed Trinity, the Virgin Mary, and all the angels and saints.

Where we behold the Beatific Vision.

The state of supreme happiness.

The fulfillment of our deepest desires.

"Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' He replied to him, 'Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'" (Luke 23:42-43)

"Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God. ...Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven." (Matthew 5:8, 12)

"What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love him." (1 Corinthians 2:9)

Purgatory

Where souls who die in God's grace are purified before they enter Heaven.

Where souls achieve the holiness they need to enter Heaven.

Where souls suffer in order to be purified.

Where souls suffer to make up for the effects of their sins.

"But if someone's work is burned up, that one will suffer loss; the person will be saved, but only as through fire." (1 Corinthians 3:15)

"Thus he made atonement for the dead that they might be absolved from their sin." (2 Maccabees 12:46)

Souls here will go to Heaven.

Hell

The main punishment here is wanting to be with God, but never being able to be with Him.

Where those who refused God's love and mercy until they died spend eternity.

"Thus it will be at the end of the age. The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth." (Matthew 13:49-50)

"For it is surely just on God's part to repay with afflictions those who are afflicting you... inflicting punishment on those who do not acknowledge God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. These will pay the penalty of eternal ruin, separated from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his power."
(2 Thessalonians 1:6, 8-9)

Those who died with unconfessed mortal sin are separated from God forever.

A hopeless state of being.