Jesus is:

- the promised Messiah Luke 1:31-35
- the Son of God Luke 9:35
- the Servant through whom God works 4:16-18
- the Lord who is called to sit at God's right hand exerting His authority Luke 22:69

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- The repentant criminal represented the RECEPTION of the Messiah.
- The women, and people of Jerusalem who rejected Jesus would face the judgment of God and the criminal would join Jesus in a place of joy.

CSB Deuteronomy 4:1 "Now, Israel, listen to the statutes and ordinances I am teaching you to follow, so that you may live, enter, and take possession of the land the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you.

Deuteronomy 4:25-29 25 "When you have children and grandchildren and have been in the land a long time, and if you act corruptly, make an idol in the form of anything, and do what is evil in the sight of the LORD your God, provoking Him to anger, ²⁶ I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you today that you will quickly perish from the land you are about to cross the Jordan to possess. You will not live long there, but you will certainly be destroyed.

Deuteronomy 4:27-29 ²⁷ The LORD will scatter you among the peoples, and you will be reduced to a few survivors among the nations where the LORD your God will drive you. ²⁸ There you will worship man-made gods of wood and stone, which cannot see, hear, eat, or smell. ²⁹ But from there, you will search for the LORD your God, and you will find Him when you seek Him with all your heart and all your soul.

- Prophets declared God's judgment to Israel and messages of hope.
- Hosea declares the judgment of Israel and the hope of the Messianic kingdom.

The Bad News:

Hosea 3:4 For the Israelites must live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred pillar, and without ephod or household idols.

The Good News:

Hosea 3:5 Afterwards, the people of Israel will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They will come with awe to the LORD and to His goodness in the last days.

The Bad News:

Hosea 3:4 For the Israelites must live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred pillar, and without ephod or household idols.

Israel would lose their independence as a nation, they would lose their king and government, they would lose their temple, priests and system of worship.

The Bad News:

Luke 13:35 "See! Your house is left to you desolate; and assuredly, I say to you, you shall not see Me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' "

House – The Temple

Desolate - destroyed

The Bad News:

Luke 19:43-44 "For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side, ⁴⁴ and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another"

History:

70 AD - Titus - leading the Roman army - breached Jerusalem

- ransacking and burning nearly the entire city
- following a five-month siege, the Romans destroyed the city and the Second Jewish Temple
- according to Josephus, the city was ravaged by murder, famine, and cannibalism

Lamentations 2:10-12 10 The elders of Daughter Zion sit on the ground in silence. They have thrown dust on their heads and put on sackcloth. The young women of Jerusalem have bowed their heads to the ground. 11 My eyes are worn out from weeping; I am churning within. My heart is poured out in grief because of the destruction of my dear people, because children and infants faint in the streets of the city. 12 They cry out to their mothers: Where is the grain and wine? as they faint like the wounded in the streets of the city, as their lives fade away in the arms of their mothers

Luke 23:30 Then they will begin 'to say to the mountains, "Fall on us!" and to the hills, "Cover us!" '

Hosea 10:8 Also the high places of Aven, the sin of Israel, Shall be destroyed. The thorn and thistle shall grow on their altars; They shall say to the mountains, "Cover us!" And to the hills, "Fall on us!"

Future:

Isaiah 2:19 They shall go into the holes of the rocks, And into the caves of the earth, From the terror of the LORD And the glory of His majesty, When He arises to shake the earth mightily.

Revelation 6:12-17 12 I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood. 13 And the stars of heaven fell to the earth....... ¹⁵ And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, 16 and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! 17 "For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

Future:

- The judgment of the TRIBULATION will once again bring about these horrible conditions for Jerusalem.
- The Jews will have rebuilt the THIRD TEMPLE.
- They will have reinstated SACRIFICES.
- The antichrist will <u>STOP</u> the sacrifices when he commits the abomination of desolation.

Daniel 9:26-27 "And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; And the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, and till the end of the war desolations are determined. 27 Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; But in the middle of the week he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, even until the consummation, which is determined, is poured out on the desolate."

The Bad News:

Hosea 3:4 For the Israelites must live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred pillar, and without ephod or household idols.

The Good News:

Hosea 3:5 Afterwards, the people of Israel will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They will come with awe to the LORD and to His goodness in the last days.

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come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.

Psalm 118:22-29 The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. 23 This was the LORD's doing; It is marvelous in our eyes. 24 This is the day the LORD has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it. 25 Save now, I pray, O LORD; O LORD, I pray, send now prosperity. 26 Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD! We have blessed you from the house of the LORD. ²⁷ God is the LORD, And He has given us light; Bind the sacrifice with cords to the horns of the altar. 28 You are my God, and I will praise You; You are my God, I will exalt You. 29 Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.

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Ezekiel 36:35 So they will say, "This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden; and the wasted, desolate, and ruined cities are now fortified and inhabited."

When the criminal received Jesus as Savior and King, he learned that he would rejoice with Him on that very day; he wouldn't have to wait til the last days to be with Jesus.

NET Luke 23:43 And Jesus said to him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with Me in Paradise."

Paradise – Greek: paradeisos - Old Persian word -garden; park; in the OT - refers to the Garden of Eden and the Garden of God

Albert Barnes commentary: particularly a garden of pleasure, filled with trees, and shrubs, and fountains, and flowers....The word came thus to denote any place of happiness, and was used particularly to denote the abodes of the blessed in another world.... The garden of Eden means, also, the garden of "pleasure."

When all the statements about Sheol are considered, we find that Sheol was a place where BOTH the righteous and the wicked would go at their death.



ESV Ephesians 4:8 Therefore it says, "When He ascended on high He led a host of captives, and He gave gifts to men."

The righteous in Paradise were taken by Jesus into the heavenly presence of God.

2 Corinthians 5:8 We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

When Sheol was emptied of the people in Paradise, it remained a place of torment for the wicked: Hades.

What do we learn about life after death from Jesus' promise to the repentant criminal?

- 1. The body and the soul will exist separately from each other (until reunited at the resurrection of the body)
- 2. Immediately after death, the soul of the saved will have consciousness and an ability to experience blessings
- 3. Immediately after death, the soul of the saved will be with Jesus





