

Do Animals/Pets Go To Heaven?

The status of animals in relation to man, sin and redemption:

1. Animals created the same day as man ... the 6th

Genesis 1:24-28

24 ¶ Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures **after their kind**: cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth **after their kind**"; and it was so.

25 God made the beasts of the earth **after their kind**, and the cattle **after their kind**, and everything that creeps on the ground **after its kind**; and God saw that it was good.

26 ¶ Then God said, "Let Us make **man in Our image**, according to **Our likeness**; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

27 **God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him**; male and female He created them.

28 God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

This lofty place in the creation hierarchy puts animals in a high order of creation with man being the pinnacle, the image and likeness of God Himself.

2. Satan inhabits an animal in order to deceive Ishshah (later renamed Eve)

Genesis 3:1

¶ Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Indeed, has God said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden'?"

Satan chose to inhabit the highest order of living thing available to him. Since man was un-inhabitable, he chose the serpent.

3. All animals are cursed by God, but the greater curse is upon the serpent.

Genesis 3:14

¶ The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, Cursed are you more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you will go, And dust you will eat All the days of your life;

All cattle and beasts of the field are cursed, but the greater curse (more) is laid down upon the serpent.

4. Animals paid the immediate penalty (curse) of physical death for man's sin ...

Genesis 3:21

¶ The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them.

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The garments of skin were the hide of the animals killed (sacrificed) for the sin of man. This is the first death recorded upon planet earth. God killed animals and used their bloodied flesh to cover man as a type for the ultimate sacrifice God would be making of Himself (The Son) as His own flesh and blood sacrifice (death) covers the sin of man as propitiation to God for Crimes against God ... Sin.

5. Animals became central to the sacrificial system God instituted under the Old Covenant.

Genesis 4:3-5

- 3 ¶ So it came about in the course of time that Cain brought an offering to the LORD of the fruit of the ground.
- 4 And Abel, on his part also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and for his offering;
- 5 but for Cain and for his offering He had no regard. So Cain became very angry and his countenance fell.

Both Cain and Abel were aware of the necessity that a blood sacrifice be made to The LORD, but Cain rebelled against God by offering the *fruit* of the ground (not blood) as a sacrifice to The LORD. From the moment God clothed man in a blood sacrifice due to the magnitude of sin, blood-shed was required of man as propitiation to God for his Crime against God ... SIN.

While much can be said concerning this last point, sufficient for the moment is [the annual sacrificial system God instituted under the Old Covenant was always intended to be a type for the ONE-TIME vicarious sacrifice of Messiah Jesus.](#)

God's plan of [Redemption is for man alone](#) and animals played a significant role in God's plan of redemption for man.

6. There is a spirit in animals that God takes at their death.

Psalms 104:24-30

- 24 O LORD, how many are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all; The earth is full of Your possessions.
- 25 There is the sea, great and broad, In which are swarms without number, Animals both small and great.
- 26 There the ships move along, And Leviathan, which You have formed to sport in it.
- 27 They all wait for You To give them their food in due season.
- 28 You give to them, they gather it up; You open Your hand, they are satisfied with good.
- 29 You hide Your face, they are dismayed; **You take away their spirit, they expire And return to their dust.**
- 30 **You send forth Your Spirit, they are created;** And You renew the face of the ground.

Animals were cursed due to man's sin; blessed due to man's Redemption by God.

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While it is an absolute truth that ONLY MAN is in need of Salvation and Redemption, I believe it is false to say that animals will not be in heaven. The spirit of animals return to God at their death, so who is to claim they will not be in heaven with God?

To put down some false doctrines that have arisen along these lines, I see **NO EVIDENCE** in Scripture to believe that animals will participate in any way in A) The 1st Resurrection; (B) The 2nd Resurrection; (C) Final Judgment. Man and only man is resurrected; Only man and angels are judged. Animals have no place in the events of resurrection or judgment.

So in conclusion, when children ask if they will see their pet again, I can answer an emphatic, “yes, if you want to see your pet again, you may see it again in heaven” based upon the Scriptural evidence presented in Psalm 104. The problem with this truth of God, as with all truths of God is that perverse men with even more perverse agendas will twist, distort and trample upon God’s truths to advance their ungodly agendas. Animals have no need for redemption and salvation ... man does.