

# Is The Doctrine Of Soul-Sleeping True Or False?

By Mike Riley

A querist asks, "There are sincere religious folks who believe in the doctrine of soul-sleeping. They use Ecclesiastes 9:5 as a proof text for their doctrine. They believe the dead are oblivious to their surroundings and know nothing. Is the doctrine of soul-sleeping true? If not, please provide us scriptures to refute it."

The text of Ecclesiastes 9:5 reads:

"For the living know that they will die; But the dead know nothing, And they have no more reward, For the memory of them is forgotten."

The view that the dead are oblivious to their surroundings is false according to Luke 16:19-31. In this inspired account, we see that both the rich man and Lazarus were not only fully aware of their environment (Luke 16:23-24), but they had the ability to "remember" (Luke 16:25) as well.

The Ecclesiastes writer states that when one dies, all knowledge of earthly events ceases, i.e. "the dead know nothing." They have no more reward for any earthly activity because their environment has changed — from an earthly environment to the Hadean environment (Luke 16:23). According to the inspired account in Luke 16:19-31, those in the Hadean realm are fully aware of their surroundings.



## STERLINGTON Church of Christ



P.O. Box 82  
1095 Highway 2  
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[www.sterlingtoncoc.com](http://www.sterlingtoncoc.com)

Sunday Morning Bible Classes - 9:30 AM  
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 AM  
Sunday Evening Worship - 5:00 PM  
Wednesday Evening Classes - 6:00 PM.

## Welcome Visitors

If you are seeking a church home, we hope that you will consider joining with us. We are a growing congregation, dedicated to worshiping in truth and spirit. Please fill out the Visitor's Card and place it in the collection plate!

## Those to Serve

### Today

**Announcements**- Paul Simpson **Opening prayer**- Arthur Binford  
**Communion**- Travis Rogers **Closing Prayer**- Phillip Simmons  
**Sermon**- Don DeLukie

October 15th

**Announcements**- Charles Fricke **Opening prayer**- Ronnie Hayes  
**Communion**- Lyle Russell **Closing Prayer**- David Repond  
**Sermon**- Don DeLukie

## Announcements

**—Question & Answer Series:** Our next Question and Answer Series will be scheduled when enough questions are collected. Give your questions to Don.

**—Children's Home Collection:** Our congregation is collecting items for the Children's Home in Paragould, AR. Collection boxes are by the nursery. A list of needed items is in the foyer.



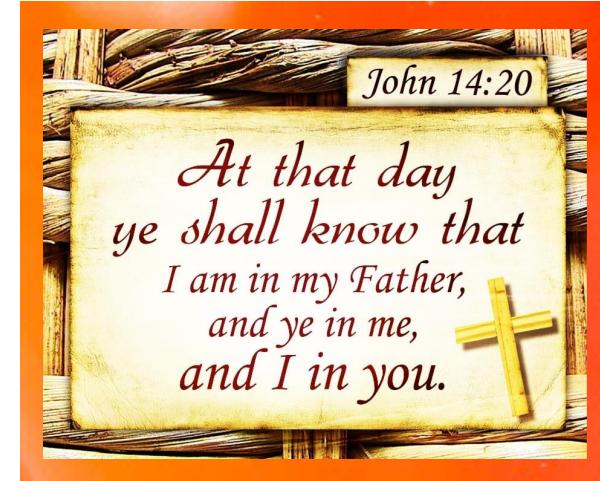
## Please Pray For:

Gena Granger, Debbie Grice, Raelyn & Rynlea Freeman, Mike Wiggins, John McDaniel, Marilyn Hemler, Carolyn Tobia, Cindy Smith, Phillip Simmons, Tommy Franklin, John White, Ronnie White, Donna Llewellyn.

**Bereaved:** Families of Cindy Bennett, Carolyn Moy, Frank McDaniel, Florence Matthews, and Judy Strickland.

## Continue to Pray For:

Joanne Randolph, Dwain & Bettye Flowers, Susie McGough, Linda Garris, Sharon White-Ross, James & Lorene Johnson, Bobby Barker, Gail Sewell, Renee Gee, Malea Zuber, Bobby Simmons, Tricia Muse, Elizabeth Hollis, Terrance Dawson, Jamie Ross.



### October birthdays

- 2 - Rick VanLoon
- 7 - Joyce McDonald
- 11 - Luke Chapman
- 12 - Barbara Wheeler
- 14 - Kathy Manning
- 18 - Randal Freeman

### October anniversaries

- 22 - Wyatt Chapman
- 24 - Jean Delukie
- 25 - Lorene Johnson
- 27 - Charles Fricke
- 31 - Bobby Barker

