



Burnett Avenue Baptist Church

Bible Study

Wednesday, March 25, 2026

Rev. Daniel Corrie Shull, Facilitator

**THE GOSPEL BEYOND THE GRAVE: TOWARDS A BLACK
THEOLOGY OF HOPE - WEEK 5**

Matthew 12: 31-32/Romans 14: 9/Rev. 1: 18/ I Peter 3: 18-20

WORDS AND IDEAS TO KNOW

- Efficacious in theology refers to the power of God's _____ and _____ to infallibly accomplish their intended divine _____ in human souls. Unlike a mere offer, efficacious grace inwardly _____ and _____ that those God calls will receive salvation, making it an irresistible, life-transforming act.
- Intermediate State is the theological term for the conscious or unconscious _____ of a person's soul between physical _____ and the final _____. It represents a temporary, _____ phase where the spirit awaits the reunion with a perfected body, commonly understood as being in God's presence or a place of rest.
- Purgatory is the Roman Catholic belief in a final, _____ stage of purification for those who die in God's grace but are not yet perfectly _____. It is not a second chance for salvation, but a cleansing process—often associated with fire-like suffering—that prepares souls for heaven.

PEOPLE TO KNOW

- Miroslav Volf is a Croatian Protestant theologian and public intellectual and Henry B. Wright Professor of Theology and director of the Yale Center for Faith and Culture at Yale University. Volf has been described as a "theological bridge builder." The main thrust of his theology is to bring Christian theology to bear on various realms of public life, such as culture, politics, and economics. He often explores dialogues between different groups in the world—such as between denominations, faiths, and ethnic groups.
- Booker T. Washington was an American educator, author, and orator. Between 1890 and 1915, Washington was the primary leader in the African American community and the first president of Tuskegee University.
- Jacques Le Goff was a French historian and prolific author specializing in the Middle Ages, particularly the 12th and 13th centuries. In his 1984 book, *The Birth of Purgatory*, he argued that the conception of purgatory as a physical place, rather than merely as a state, dates to the 12th century, the heyday of medieval otherworld-journey narratives.

BIBLICAL DEPICTIONS OF THE AFTERLIFE

CATHOLIC AND MEDIEVAL CONCEPTS OF THE AFTERLIFE

NEW TESTAMENT CONCEPTS OF THE AFTERLIFE
