

Scripture supporting Pet ascension to Heaven

Many of us have lost a pet in our lives. Pets can bring companionship and love into our lives and for those that are otherwise alone a pet can fill a huge void in their life. Pets demonstrate love, emotions, thought, and reasoning. Recently, I experienced the loss of a pet which was a significant part of my life. I have always assumed that pets will be with their human counterpart in Heaven. After the passing of my pet parrot (Meekie) I received many condolences. Several however indicated that Meekie will live on in my heart and memories but did not go on to indicate the joy I would experience when being reunited again in heaven with Meekie. I was surprised at this and after exploring the subject further I have found that there is disagreement regarding this subject. The purpose of this document is to provide comfort to those that have lost a pet by providing Biblical assurance that they will be with their loving pet in Heaven.

To promote a clear understanding of the scripture to be presented definitions of the original Hebrew and Greek words used in the scripture below is provided.

Definitions:

Lesser animals – birds, animals capable of thought

Nephesh – Hebrew for Soul

Chai or Chayim – Hebrew for Life

Kvitis – Greek word meaning lesser animals capable of thought

Antropos – Greek word for human kind.

Yasa – Hebrew for Save.

Scripture indicates Pets return to heaven after earthly death

1. **Genesis 9** – The rainbow in **Genesis 9** represents God's covenant with Noah and the animals on the ark. That covenant is God's promise that he will never again destroy the earth by water. But the story of Noah's Ark goes beyond the flood and God's covenant with Noah and the animals of the ark. The ark represents the church, the water represents sin and the rainbow also represents Salvation offered by and through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Notice it was offered **to both** Noah's family and the lesser animals as well.
2. **Genesis 1:30** - And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life (**Moses uses the word Nephesh which is Hebrew for Soul, he did not use Chai or Chayim which is Hebrew for Life**) in it—I give every green plant for food.”

Therefore the **correct translation** of **Genesis 1:30** should be “And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has a soul — I give every green plant for food.”

3. **Ecclesiastes 3:21** – Who knows where the spirits of a man and of a beast go after they die?

Therefore, animals have a **Soul** according to the scripture in **Genesis 1:30** and according to **Solomon in Ecclesiastes 3:21**.

Animals are absolved of sin as they are not capable of differentiating good versus evil. This is similar to an infant that dies before the age of accountability. He or she is not capable of acceptance of God or the knowledge of good versus evil. However, like animals, he or she has a soul.

Ecclesiastes 12:7 - and the dust returns to the ground it came from, and the soul returns to God who gave it.

Therefore animals have souls according to **Genesis 1:30** and **Ecclesiastes 3:21**. And Solomon tells us in **Ecclesiastes 12:7** that their souls return to God who gave it.

4. **Romans 8:19** – The lesser creatures (Kvitis – Greek for animals lower than mankind) await Christ’s return to redeem the sons of God so they (lower animals), too will be released from physical death to eternal life. The Apostle Paul used the Greek word Kvitis here for animals. Notice he is not referring to **Antropos** which is Greek for humankind. **He is purposely addressing the status of animals here and not mankind!**

Romans 8: 21-22 – Because the lesser creature (again Paul uses **Kvitis** and not **Antropos**) itself also shall be delivered from bondage into the glorious liberty of the Children of God.

Therefore, Paul tells us that animals will be delivered from the bondage of death to eternal life!

5. **Psalms 36:6** - “You **save** humans and animals alike, O Lord”. Some versions replace *save* with “preserve” or “care for,” but the Hebrew word (**yasa**) is synonymous with “save.” Either David or another author wrote **Psalms 36** and used the Hebrew word for “save” to refer to the Lord’s gift to humans and the animals alike.

In Summary, we have Moses in **Genesis 1:30**, Solomon in **Ecclesiastes 3:21, 12:7**, Paul in **Romans 8:19-22** and the author of **Psalms 36** all declaring that animals have souls and are heaven bound after their life on earth.

Praise be to Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!