

*Paradeisos*. The fourth word which has some bearing on the Intermediate State is the Greek word *Paradeisos* (παράδεισος). It is used 3 times in the New Testament. The Authorized Version transliterates it all three times as "Paradise." Let us examine the three instances of its occurrence.

Luke 23:42-43 -- "And he said unto Jesus, 'Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.' And Jesus said unto him, 'Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in *Paradeisos*.'"

Since this reference looms large in all discussions of the possibility of a dispensationally-related change in the Intermediate State, we shall defer discussion of it.

2 Corinthians 12:2-4 -- "I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago (whether in the body, I cannot tell; God knoweth) -- such an one caught up to the third heaven. And I knew such a man (whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell; God knoweth) -- How he was caught up into *Paradeisos*, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter."

It would appear that *Paradeisos* is equated with the "third heaven" -- the abode of God -- in this reference. Other than this, we are given no further information.

Revelation 2:7 -- "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches: To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the *Paradeisos* of God."

This tree of life, which appeared in the Garden of Eden, appears again in Revelation 22:2, 19, in the holy city, the New Jerusalem, in which also the throne of God and of the Lamb is set. It would appear difficult to distinguish *Paradeisos* from heaven in this instance. However, since it occurs after Christ's Second Coming, it would not appear to have a direct bearing on the question of a present Intermediate State.

*Ouranos*. The fifth and last word which we shall treat as having some bearing on the Intermediate State is the Greek word *Ouranos* (οὐρανός).