



What do people believe happens after death?

Applying Past Knowledge

This learning links with the lessons you had in Year 5 learning about Islam and Year 4 learning about Christianity.

Why do living things have to die?

- Death is an essential part of the **circle of life**.
- The first step in the circle of life is **birth**.
- At some point, our bodies begin to age more rapidly until our **eventual death ends the life cycle**.



What can we learn from death rites about what happens after death in Christianity?

- Christians believe that **the death of a body is not the end**. They believe that humans will have **eternal life in the afterlife**.
- Christian death rites focus on the resurrection of Jesus and the promise of eternal life. The **body of the deceased will either be buried or cremated** - ensuring that it is always treated with respect.

Key Vocabulary

death - the end of the life of a living thing.
loss - the process of losing someone.
after life- the belief of a life after death.
after death - the time after death.
remembrance - a memory or recollection.
mourning - the expression for sorrow for someone's death.
funeral - a death ceremony



What can we learn from death rites about what happens after death in Islam?

- The **dying one asks for blessings and forgiveness** from God and their family.
- The **Shahadah is repeated** as death nears.
- The **body is very gently washed** 3 times in the same way as is for daily prayer (wudu).
- The body is anointed with perfume and **wrapped in sheets of white unsewn cloth** (as on Hajj).
- The funeral itself is **simple and inexpensive**.
- The service is **held in a mosque or cemetery**.
- The body is buried with the face turned towards Makkah, it is **never cremated**.
- Graves are raised above ground level, **large tombstones or decorations are discouraged** as material possessions and wealth are of no use to the dead.
- Mourning should **last no more than 3 days**.

How are people remembered after death?

- People experience death and loss in different ways. Some people might **lay flowers, create a memorial, have photographs, have personal belongings of the deceased**.
- Some people **may have a special place** where they go that reminds them of that person.
- **Some people pray** and think of them during their prayer time while some people **may donate to charities** that may have supported them and their families e.g. Macmillan Cancer or Race for Life.

