

Paris University Student

In the early 1950s, my wife, Betty, and I lived in Marseille, France. (Our first child, Timothy, was born in Marseille, July 11, 1954.)

Once we entertained a student from the University of Paris. Before long, our conversation turned to spiritual things. It soon became clear that our young guest recognized neither God nor the hereafter. That is what his university professors taught him.

“How do we know there is life after death? Has anyone ever returned from there to tell us about it?” he argued.

“Let’s say there would be a knock on our door,” I answered. “The man standing there would tell us there is life after death, because he had been there and was sent to make us aware of the fact. Would you believe him?”

Without a moment’s hesitation, the young philosophy student replied, “Yes, I would!”

“I wouldn’t,” was my response.

Somewhat chagrined, our friend added, “I guess I wouldn’t, either.”

Abraham, the Old Testament patriarch, told a formerly rich and influential man that if people on earth do not believe what God says in the Bible about life after death, “...they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead” (Luke 16:31). ◇◇