

People have divergent beliefs about the afterlife. Their beliefs fall in line with the views of their cultures and religions. Mine is too. I believe that after a person dies, their afterlife journey has 3 stages.

|    |      |         |    |        |                        |       |
|----|------|---------|----|--------|------------------------|-------|
| is | from | Stage 1 | to | day 49 | after the person dies. | day 1 |
|----|------|---------|----|--------|------------------------|-------|

|    |        |          |          |          |                  |             |
|----|--------|----------|----------|----------|------------------|-------------|
| of | leaves | The soul | the body | the dead | the person dies. | right after |
|----|--------|----------|----------|----------|------------------|-------------|

|       |      |          |     |    |                 |        |
|-------|------|----------|-----|----|-----------------|--------|
| still | with | The soul | his | is | family members. | living |
|-------|------|----------|-----|----|-----------------|--------|

|           |                 |       |                          |               |         |    |
|-----------|-----------------|-------|--------------------------|---------------|---------|----|
| sometimes | Many people say | comes | their dead family member | their dreams. | to them | in |
|-----------|-----------------|-------|--------------------------|---------------|---------|----|

|     |      |          |          |          |               |     |
|-----|------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|-----|
| may | what | even say | The dead | he wants | his afterlife | for |
|-----|------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|-----|

|                       |       |                        |                 |              |          |                     |
|-----------------------|-------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------|---------------------|
| continues<br>offering | a day | Vietnamese<br>families | with 3<br>meals | until day 49 | the dead | after the<br>death. |
|-----------------------|-------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------|---------------------|

Secondly, stage 2 is from day 40 ..... day 100. This is the ..... important stage of the afterlife journey. In this stage, the ..... officially leaves his family and starts his own journey. During his journey, the dead is judged by different gods according ..... his behavior in life. If he was a good person, he is rewarded; but if he was ....., he is punished for his transgression. At the end of this stage, all the memory about life is erased, and the dead is sent to heaven or to ..... depending on the results of the judgements.

The ..... stage is reincarnation. In ..... or in hell, the dead is reborn into a different creature and start a new ..... on earth. The bad person in hell can be ..... to be an animal or a plant whereas the good person in ..... can be reborn to another human. If you have heard of Mozart, you may know that he could ..... the piano when he was only 4 years ..... He was able to play the piano at that age probably because in his beforelife, he had been a great ..... This could be an evidence of reincarnation.

In short, different religions and cultures may have different beliefs about the afterlife, but in my own belief, these are ..... stages of the journey in the afterlife.