8/28/22

Sunday pm

Last Days Series: “What Should We Expect?”

Sermon: “When Death Comes”

Hebrews 9:27

Layout of series:

When Death Comes (8/28/22)

Signs As We Near the End (9/4/22)

The Rapture, p1 (9/18/22)

The Rapture, p2 (9/25/22)

The Post-Rapture Church (10/16/22)

Tribulation Overview (10/23/22)

Tribulation, p2: 144,000 and 2 Witnesses (10/30/22)

Tribulation, p3: Antichrist (11/6/22)

The Return of Christ (11/20/22)

The Millennial Kingdom (11/27/22)

Last Battle/Resurrection of the Lost/Great White Throne Judgement (12/4/22)

New Heaven and New Earth (12/11/22)

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As interesting as it may be to see what the scripture says about how the last days will play out, many or all of us may experience death first. As such, it is appropriate for us to see *first* what the scripture says that we should expect regarding death.

* Death is a result of sin, coming for everyone
  + Rom 5:12; 6:23; Hebrews 9:27
* Our time is short
  + James 4:14; It’s closer than many of us would think
* Our body dies, not our soul/spirit; and we don’t sleep
  + Body returns to the dust.
    - “…to dust you shall return.” (Genesis 3:19)
  + But the spirit lives.
    - James 2:26 “For as the body apart from the spirit is dead…”
    - In Heaven (or Paradise, Abraham’s bosom…dwelling place of God) – with God; or in Hell – apart from God (Luke 12:4-5; 2 Cor 5:8)
    - Picture of that in Luke 16 (These people are named, unlike every other parable of Jesus)
    - Thief on the cross (Luke 23:42) “Today you will be with me in paradise”
    - Stephen (Acts 7:59)
    - Jesus (Luke 23:46) “Into thy hands I commit my spirit”
  + The spirit is not in some kind of soul-sleep (see above scriptures). Sleep is a euphemism in the Bible for death
    - John 11; Acts 7; etc.
    - One of the struggles with this belief comes from the “dead in Christ will rise” promise
* We don’t have new bodies…yet
  + Our spirit departs our body and is present with the Lord. Later, at the rapture/resurrection of the dead, we will receive our glorified bodies…and we’ll talk more about that later
* There’s no purgatory or option to change your allegiance
  + “It is appointed for man once to die and then the judgement” (Hebrews 9:27)

Extra:

* We don’t become angels
  + We are created distinctly different, made in God’s image (Genesis)
  + We will have part in judging angels (1 Cor 6:3)
  + Angels and saints are distinct in the glimpse into the throne room in the Revelation.
* We don’t look down on the happenings of Earth

But not all will die! We will look into what we call the rapture next Sunday evening