

Death, in the Lord

➤ = next PowerPoint slide

➤ Intro:

- **Ec. 7:2** “It is better to go to a house of mourning than to go to a house of feasting, Because that is the end of every man, and the living takes it to heart.”

- **paint picture:** imagining what it will be like when we close our eyes in death, and cross over

- **lesson:** death, in the Lord

- **much we don't know**, many questions unanswered to God's word – we **walk by faith**
- **this lesson examines the little bit we know** from God's word

➤ Our spirits never die

- **Gen. 1:26-27** God created man, own image, eternal spirit

- our bodies will die, but our spirit lives forever – little voice inside of you, when you talk to yourself

➤ - **Ec. 12:7** when our bodies die they return to the earth, but our spirits return to God, who gave it

- our spirits never die – they're immortal

- **are spirits are immortal, but our bodies are not**

- though our bodies dies and our spirits depart, it doesn't die

➤ When we die, we go to be with the Lord – Christians

- **Phil. 1:21-23** Paul, depart (die) and be with Christ

➤ - **2 Cor. 5:4-9** absent from the body and at home with the Lord (vs. 8)

- **Ps. 116:15** “Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His godly ones.”

➤ - **Rev. 20:4-6** Christians who die go to be with Jesus, and reign with Him during the thousand years

- prior to 2nd resurrection, and judgment (Rev. 20:11-15)

- **Lk. 16:19-31** rich man and Lazarus, die, Hades, rich man tormented and Lazarus in Abraham's bosom

- may have difficulty reconciling this to later revelation where we learn there are two resurrections, after Jesus ascended to heaven

- **conclusion: saints in a place of comfort after death, till the time of the resurrection, and with the Lord (Christ)**

- **God is the God of the living, not the dead (Matt. 22:32)**

spirits never die, go to be with the Lord when we die

➤ **When Jesus comes again. . . .** – comfort one another with these words

- **salvation**

- **Heb. 9:27-28** Jesus appear 2nd time, for **salvation**, without reference to sin (not to bear our sin by dying on cross again), **to those eagerly awaiting Him**

➤ - **take saints to heaven**

- **1 Th. 4:13-18** voice of archangel, trumpet, **Jesus bring saints** with Him, **Christians on earth rise up** and **meet Him in the air**, always **be with the Lord**

- **paint picture:** coming of Jesus in air, rising up

- **Phil. 3:20-21** **citizenship in heaven**, **eagerly wait** for a Savior (Jesus), **transform the body**, conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power

- **1 Cor. 15:50-57** **changed in a twinkling of an eye**, at last trumpet, dead rise imperishable, perishable put on imperishable, death swallowed up in victory, God gives us victory through Jesus

- **paint picture:** change, transformation, Jesus exerting power

➤ - **world burned up with fire**

- **2 Pet. 3:3-4, 7, 10-12** coming of Christ, present **world reserved for fire**, kept for the **day of judgment**, earth **burned up**

- **paint picture:** earth burning up

- **2 Th. 1:7-9** **Jesus comes with His angels in flaming fire**, dealing out **retribution** to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus, **pay the penalty** of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power

- **paint picture:** sad, pain and anguish, punishment

➤ **Judgment**

- **everyone judged**

- **Heb. 9:27** **appointed for men to die once**, and after this comes the judgment

- **2 Cor. 5:10** **we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ**, that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad

- **Rev. 20:11-13** **judgment scene described in Revelation**

➤ - **judgment begins with the household of God**, then **saints judge the world and angels**

- **1 Pet. 4:17** **judgment begins with household of God**

- **paint picture:** Christians being judged (elders, deacons, parents, children, preachers)

➤ - **1 Cor. 6:2a, 3a** then **saints judge the world and angels** – with Jesus (**2 Cor. 5:10**)

- **paint picture:**

- Christians judging unbelievers (Presidents, movie stars, rock stars, criminals, etc.)

- angels (Michael, archangel)

spirits never die, go to be with the Lord when we die, when Jesus comes. . . ., judgment

➤ **Each person enters his eternal abode**

- **Rev. 20:14-15** **second death, thrown into lake of fire**, where God had thrown the devil
 - **paint picture:** lake fire and brimstone, thrown there, eternal punishment, pain, live eternally with devil and worst people ever to live

➤ - **Rev. 21:1-8** **saints enter heaven, eternal life, new Jerusalem** (the Paradise of God)

- **paint picture:**

- having the glory of God (vs. 11)
- described as a city that more magnificent in beauty and size than humanly conceivable (vs. 11-27)
- when the saved get to heaven, what a day of rejoicing that will be

➤ **Summary / Inv.**

- **1 Cor. 15:42-45** **Jesus came to earth, preached the gospel and died on the cross**, so we could be **saved and go to heaven**

- **Jesus, life-giving spirit** (vs. 45)

- **inv.:** we you obey Him, so you can go to heaven when you die