

## LESSON 2: Ready for Jesus' Return

**OBJECTIVE:** For Bible students to understand how believers will be resurrected, in order know how to live life today and be ready for Jesus' return.

### Review Questions:

1. Are souls living in both the grave and heaven – Luke 16:19 -31
  - The souls are conversating between heaven and hell
2. What's was the purpose of Christ going to hell – I Peter 3:19-20
  - Christ had a real body – Matthew 26:26 and soul – John12:27
  - When Jesus died he yielded His spirit – Luke 23:46
  - His spirit died – Mark 15:34 – when was made sin
  - A time between His death and His resurrection Jesus made a special proclamation to the spirits in prison.
  - The word proclamation means to pronounce victory of sin and Satan
  - This was not a message of salvation to the spirits (I Peter 1:12)
  - Days of Noah – Genesis 6:3,5,13 – People were wicked
  - In Peter's Day, the Jews revered Noah, he was a Patriarch
  - Peter is making a distinction between living right and doing wrong
3. On the death bed, one accepts Christ, will they go to heaven? – Luke 23:43-46

I Thessalonians 4:13-18 – Those Who Died in Christ

### First Point: Going to Heaven

Is everyone who says they are going to heaven, making that trip? \_\_\_\_ Yes or \_\_\_\_ No

What ensures that one will go to heaven?

1. A ***Changed Lifestyle*** saves/rescues one from the wrath to come.

Write your word for transformed

Transformed: \_\_\_\_\_

Romans 12:1-2

2 Corinthians 5:17

Galatians 2:20

2. The alternative to a changed lifestyle is God's wrath

**READ:** I Thess. 1:10 "From the wrath to Come"

What is the wrath? Wrath is anger, punishment, vengeance, indignation (righteous anger).

3. A changed lifestyle requires a belief

**READ:** John 3:16-21 – One must believe in Jesus totally

**READ:** Ephesians 5:3-6 – Sacrifice sin from one's life

## **The Christians goal in life is: Ephesians 4:24**

1. Holiness (I Peter 1:15-16)
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2. Righteousness (Romans 5:22):
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## **Second, PREPARE for The Coming of Christ**

**READ:** I Thess. 2:16 "For the wrath to come"

**READ:** I Thess. 2:19 "Christ at his coming"

The coming of the Lord will be worthwhile for the saints who continue in the fellowship of the church.

**READ:** I Thess. 3: 13 "At the coming of our Lord Jesus"

The church should be seeking holiness and cleansing of the heart because the wrath and judgment are coming. Therefore, the church, believers:

- a. Elect (born again)
- b. Exemplary (imitating the right people)
- c. Enthusiastic (sharing the Gospel with others)
- d. Expectant (daily looking for Jesus Christ to return)

In I Thess. 4 - This is why Paul encourages the saints to walk and to please God because the wrath and the resurrection are coming. Continue to grow in Christ, seek holiness and righteousness in the sins that plague you.

**PROMISE OF END TIMES: THE MOST GLORIOUS HOPE TO MAN**

Jesus and Paul give special revelation of the return of Christ:

- John 5: 24-26; 11: 21-27
- I Cor. 15: 51-54

**THE RETURN:** Christ Is Coming Again I Thess. 4: 14-18

1. The saints have assurance that Christ's return is due to salvation
  - I Thess 2: 9-10.
2. Assurance that loved ones, who are believers will be with Christ when he comes, they are living with Him face to face:
  - Luke 23:43
  - 2 Cor 5:6-9

COMMENT: During times of death, we often say, "I hear you lost your wife or loved one." The interesting note for saints is that we cannot lose something when we know where it is. We know that our loved ones who are saved, are with the Lord.

The more appropriate response would be: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Saints know and are assured because we believe and by the word vs. 14-15.

**HOW WILL THE EVENT/RESURRECTION TAKE PLACE VS. 16-18**

4. The Lord will descend from heaven
  - a. Shout with the voice of the archangel Mt. 24:31; 25:31
  - b. The trumpet will sound
5. The dead in Christ shall rise first.  
If they are dead what is that will be resurrected? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Then those who are alive and remain. I Cor. 15: 42-44
7. The great union of the living with the dead "caught up together"
8. It will all take place in the air/clouds
9. The new experience of living face to face with the Lord will begin  
We will become like Him
  - I John 3:-1-2;
  - Romans 8:17-19;
  - John 14:3

CONCLUSION: How certain can believers 'be on a resurrection?