

Revelation – The Return Resurrection

The book of Revelation is a revelation of prophecy of the last days and of the glory of Jesus.

- Revelation 1-5 review

Falling asleep

For the Christian, Death is like falling asleep.

- 1 Thessalonians 4:13-15
- The Christian doesn't fear death.
 - 2 Corinthians 5:8 We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.
 - At death, the soul of the Christian goes into God's presence.
- At death, the soul of the non-Christian goes to Hades, separated from God and awaiting final judgment.

Resurrection

The rapture is the prophesied return of Jesus for His people.

- 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17
- Rapture means to "snatch up" or "grab" from Latin word "Rapio"
- Jesus raptures our physical bodies, either the resurrected bodies of the dead or the transformed bodies of the living.
- Old Testament prophecies promised a resurrection.
 - Daniel 12:1-2

Jesus promised resurrection to life for those who believe in Him.

- John 11:21-25

The resurrection of Jesus is an essential part of the gospel.

- 1 Corinthians 15:3-4
- Jesus' resurrection is proof: REPEAT WITH ME
 - **that God accepted His sacrifice in our place,**
 - **that Jesus is who He said He was,**
 - **of our victory in Christ over sin, death, and hell and ..**

The resurrection of Jesus assures our resurrection. READ

- 1 Corinthians 15:17-20
- 1 Corinthians 15:21-23

Transformed

Those who are living when Christ returns will **be transformed** .

- 1 Corinthians 15:42-44 body\seed sown in dishonor resurrected in power
- The transformation at the rapture will be instantaneous.
 - 1 Corinthians 15:51-52 see below
- Our glorified bodies will be like Christ's resurrected body.
 - Philippians 3:21
- Our glorified bodies will be eternal physical bodies.
- Our glorified bodies will have glorified capabilities.
- Our glorified bodies will be recognizable.
- Our glorified bodies will be the God-designed version of us.
- Our glorified bodies will be free from temptation and sin.
- Our glorified bodies will be fitted for our new role\job in heaven
- _____

Our current afflictions are temporary with a better eternity to come.

- 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 see below

We are eternal creatures with eternal souls.

- Ecclesiastes 3:11 We long for eternity in our hearts

We guarantee eternity with God through faith in Jesus.

- John 11:25
- John 3:16

Have you committed your life to Jesus if so when _____

If not, what are you waiting for _____

Action Steps

- Praise God for victory over death and your promised resurrection.
- Share your hope for eternity with someone this week.
- Invite someone to join us next week.

John 11:25-26

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live even though he dies. And whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 NIV

¹³ Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. ¹⁴ For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. ¹⁵ According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.

Dan.12:1-2 AMPC **12** And at that time [of the end] Michael shall arise, the great [angelic] prince who defends *and* has charge of your [Daniel's] people. And there shall be a time of trouble, straitness, *and* distress such as never was since there was a nation till that time. **But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the Book [of God's plan for His own].² And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake: some to everlasting life and some to shame and everlasting contempt *and* abhorrence.**

I Cor. 15:3-4³ For I passed on to you first of all what I also had received, that Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One) died for our sins in accordance with [what] the Scriptures [foretold],⁴ That He was buried, that He arose on the third day as the Scriptures foretold

2 Cor 4:16-18 AMPC Therefore we do not become discouraged (utterly spiritless, exhausted, and wearied out through fear).

Though our outer man is [progressively] decaying *and* wasting away, yet our inner self is being [progressively] renewed day after day.¹⁷ For our light, momentary affliction (this slight distress of the passing hour) is ever more and more abundantly preparing *and* producing *and* achieving for us an everlasting weight of glory [beyond all measure, excessively surpassing all comparisons and all calculations, a vast and transcendent glory and blessedness never to cease!],¹⁸ Since we consider *and* look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen; for the things that are visible are temporal (brief and fleeting), but the things that are invisible are deathless *and* everlasting.

1 Cor.:52-58 Listen very carefully, I tell you a mystery [a secret truth decreed by God and previously hidden, but now revealed]; we will not all sleep [in death], but we will all be [completely] changed [wondrously transformed],⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at [the sound of] the last trumpet call. For a trumpet will sound, and the dead [who believed in Christ] will be raised imperishable, and we will be [completely] changed [wondrously transformed].⁵³ For this perishable [part of us] must put on the imperishable [nature], and this mortal [part of us that is capable of dying] must put on immortality [which is freedom from death].⁵⁴ And when this perishable puts on the imperishable, and this mortal puts on immortality, then the Scripture will be fulfilled that says, "DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP IN victory (vanquished forever).⁵⁵ O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY? O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING?"⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin [by which it brings death] is the law;⁵⁷ but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory [as conquerors] through our Lord Jesus Christ.⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord [always doing your best and doing more than is needed], being *continually* aware that your labor [even to the point of exhaustion] in the Lord is not futile *nor* wasted [it is never without purpose]

