

RISE UP, CHILDREN OF GOD!



John 5:25-30-Lesson #17

AS CHRISTIANS...

Do we understand that we will come out of the graves to be with Jesus? We will die as we shall know death; BUT, we will be very much alive when we are "called out of the grave."

Unless Jesus comes to take His bride (the church) home ahead of our death, we will go the way of the grave.

Does it shake you up to talk about it?

John 5:25-27, "Very truly I tell you, a time is coming and has now come when **the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live.** ²⁶ For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself. ²⁷ And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man.

The dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live:

- Jesus had already explained that one who lives can hear His word, believe, and have everlasting life. John 3:16: John 3:36
- One day even **the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God**, and be raised again.
- These are remarkable claims to be much more than a man.

We can't forget that there were graves opened when Jesus rose from the dead. These resurrected saints walked around Jerusalem appearing to many after the resurrection of Jesus.

Matthew 27:52-28:20

27:52-53, "And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, and came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many (KJV).

He has granted the Son to have life in Himself:


- Jesus further described His uniqueness to the religious leaders by claiming that He has **life in Himself**:
 - ✓ A gift granted by God the Father.
 - ✓ **“Life in Himself”**...not dependent upon other people or things.
- None of us has life inherent in ourselves. Our life is derived from our parents, and the fragile environment around us.
- Jesus claimed that His life was derived from no one; it is inherent and uncreated.
- As Jesus explained His nature and deity to the religious leaders in this chapter, it is evident that He did not claim identity with the Father as one person: Jesus and the Father are not the same, but they are equal, just as John 1:1 states.

Something noteworthy:

- ✓ *Jesus, the Son, will reign over all the earth as it is in its present state.*
- ✓ *After the thousand-year reign of Christ comes to an end, then Christ gives the kingdom to God the Father.*
 - *Joel 3:1 and Zechariah 2:10-12; 14:9-21*
 - *Then the Father destroys the universe and the old heavens...and creates a new heaven and earth. The new heaven and earth is the eternal kingdom over which God the Father will rule. Revelation 21.*

The reality of the Son's coming judgment.

John 5:28-30, “Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation. I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.”

News Flash  **The hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice:**

- Previously Jesus said that all who have everlasting life with Jesus would hear His voice and live (John 5:25).
- He now extended the concept of resurrection to all humanity, both those who have **done good** and who have **done evil**.
 - ✓ This does not mean that salvation is on the basis of good works; men enter eternal life when they believe on Jesus Christ.
 - ✓ But... the lives they live form the test of the faith they profess.”

The resurrection of life... the resurrection of condemnation:

- Jesus explained this to the astonished religious leaders to explain who He was, the nature of His authority and deity.

- It does tell us something remarkable about humanity; that everyone, both those **who have done good** and **those who have done evil** will live forever, far beyond the physical and material life they know on this earth in this age.
- Jesus will command them to rise on that day, in bodies suited for eternity.

“The double resurrection assumes that both the righteous and the wicked will receive bodies in the future life and that presumably each body will express the character of the person who is resurrected.” (Tenney)

The phrase "dust to dust" is a biblical expression that signifies the transient nature of human life and the inevitability of death. The "dust to dust" phrase is derived from a verse in Ecclesiastes 3:20, which states that "all go to one place; all come from dust, and all return to dust"¹. The same idea is also found in Genesis 3:19, where God tells Adam that he will return to the ground from which he was formed².

Ecclesiastes 12:7, "And the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the spirit returns to God who gave it."

Genesis 3:19, "By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Genesis 2:7, "Then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature."

Genesis 18:27, Abraham answered and said, "Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes."

Isaiah 26:19, "Your dead shall live; their bodies shall rise. You who dwell in the dust, awake and sing for joy! For your dew is a dew of light, and the earth will give birth to the dead."

1 Corinthians 15:12, "Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?"

What happens at the very moment of death?

The general answer:

What happens when you die depends on what happens before you die!

What is ahead for us when we die?

For the Christian:

- Our soul goes into the conscious presence of the Lord.
- Our body is buried until the day of resurrection.
- When Christ returns, we will be raised bodily from the grave.
- Body and soul reunited; we will be with the Lord forever.

As Tony Evans says, “Have a good time at my funeral, because I’m not going to be there.”

One similarity between the fate of the saved and the lost.

- *At the moment of death, the body is buried in the grave while the soul enters a new realm.*
- *For the believer, the moment of death brings him into the personal presence of Christ.*
- *For the unbeliever, death begins an experience of unending conscious punishment.*

For the Lost/Unsaved:

To summarize the fate of the lost:

1. *At the moment of death, the soul of the lost is sent to hell where it is in conscious torment.*
2. *The punishment is eternal.* Mark 9:43-48 (Speaks of the fire that is not quenched and the worm that does not die)...a reference to the continuing existence of human personality in hell.
3. *The body is raised at the Great White Throne judgment.* [Revelation 20:11-15](#) describes the awesome scene as the unsaved dead are raised to stand before God and receive their final sentence of doom.
4. *The unsaved are then cast into the lake of fire where they will reside forever, eternally separated from the presence of Almighty God.*

*The reality of hell is more than just a theoretical doctrine.
Just as heaven is real...so is hell.*

REMEMBER...HEAVEN IS A PLACE OF REUNION

King David said at the death of his infant son, "You cannot come to me, but I can go to you."

Who is there?

1. *Jesus is there.*
2. *Our Heavenly Father is there.*
3. *Those who have died in the Lord before us.*
4. *Those who will die in the Lord after us.*
5. *You will be there – if you made your reservation.*