

# *Resurrection Life of Jesus Church*

## MOVING INTO ETERNITY

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### PART 1: WHAT HAPPENS AFTER DEATH?

Everyone on earth has experienced life that is marred by sin. This means we have been touched by grief, pain, divorce, murder, war, etc. Life will be a mixed bag of good and bad as long as we are on the earth. What can believers in Christ look forward to when our time is up? Is death something we should look forward to with anticipation?

#### **SIN AND DEATH**

We are born into a life of sin; you cannot escape from it. **Romans 3:23**

Sooner or later we all have to die. **Hebrews 9:27**

God doesn't want us to live in these sinful bodies forever and made sure that every human being will die and leave their body of flesh behind. **Genesis 3:22-24**

Satan and his fallen angels were never given this option; once they sinned, their spiritual bodies were forever marred and they are condemned to live eternally in these bodies under torment. **Matthew 25:41**

#### **THE NEW BIRTH**

God has made a provision for the human race to be set free from the curse of sin and receive eternal life in the new eternal creation. When Jesus Christ died on the cross, He took the sin of all people down through all ages and paid them in full. What must you do to receive this marvelous offer from God?

1. Acknowledge you are a sinner in need of salvation. **Psalm 51:1-4**
2. Believe that God wants to save you. **John 3:16**
3. Repent of your sins and ask God to give you a second birth. **John 3:1-8**

Once you have taken these three steps, it is time to respond in faith and start praising God that you have been born again. **1 John 5:10-15**

#### **YOU WILL NEVER LOSE CONSCIOUSNESS**

Inside the physical body of a born again believer is a spirit man consisting of a soul and a spirit. Your spirit man is eternal once you are conceived and it is here that your personality, skills, memory, ability to reason and free will resides. The physical body is just a vehicle on earth, and when it dies, the spirit man steps out of the body like you do when you remove your clothes.

Thus, the spirit man never loses consciousness but continues to see, hear, and smell; however, once you step into the spirit realm, you can't communicate with people who are still in their physical bodies.



If a person becomes sick or through an accident goes into a coma, the spirit man is fully aware of what is happening but cannot communicate in the flesh. It is therefore entirely possible to lead a person to the saving knowledge of Christ while they are in a coma.

At the moment of death, holy angels show up and escort the spirit man to the third heaven where the throne of God is located. **2 Corinthians 5:6-9**

## **THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST**

Once in heaven, your first stop is at the Judgment Seat of Christ. Only people who were born again appear at this court where you will be judged for what you accomplished during your time on earth. It is here that you will receive rewards and an eternal position.

The first thing that Jesus will look at is your *obedience*. Moses walked with God for a period of 40 years. He was anointed, performed great miracles, but in one act of rebellion and disobedience, he forfeited the honor of leading the children of Israel into the Promised Land. **Numbers 20:7-12;**

Moses did not argue with God nor did he become angry because he knew that he had received a just verdict. **Numbers 27:12-23**

Moses repented of his disobedience and God forgave him but Moses lost the reward and joy of entering the Promised Land. **Deuteronomy 34:4-7**

King Saul lost the kingdom through one act of disobedience. **1 Samuel 15:13-29**

King David rebelled against God and took another man's wife. He repented and was forgiven but God told him that the sword would never depart from his family. **2 Samuel 12:7-14**

Jesus emphasized that we should obey Him if we truly love Him. **John 14:15**

In fact, Jesus demanded obedience. **John 15:1-11**

## **ACTS OF DISOBEDIENCE**

Marrying the wrong person, refusing to share the Gospel with those around you, rejecting the voice of the Holy Spirit and sinning willfully are acts of disobedience. **Hebrews 10:26-31**

## **SUMMARY**

No Christian will score 100% at the Judgment Seat of Christ. What you need to do is repent on a daily basis so that you will have as little sin as possible showing up at your trial.

Every Christian has been disobedient at some point after they were saved; we just have to live with the consequences and focus on spending eternity with our Heavenly Father, who will dry all our tears of regret and make us forget the past and the rewards we lost by our actions on earth. **Revelation 21:1-7**

In the meantime there is still a sowing and reaping on this earth and we would do well to heed the apostle Paul's words:

*"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."* (Galatians 6:7-9)

***Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!***

***Do you have an ear to hear with?***