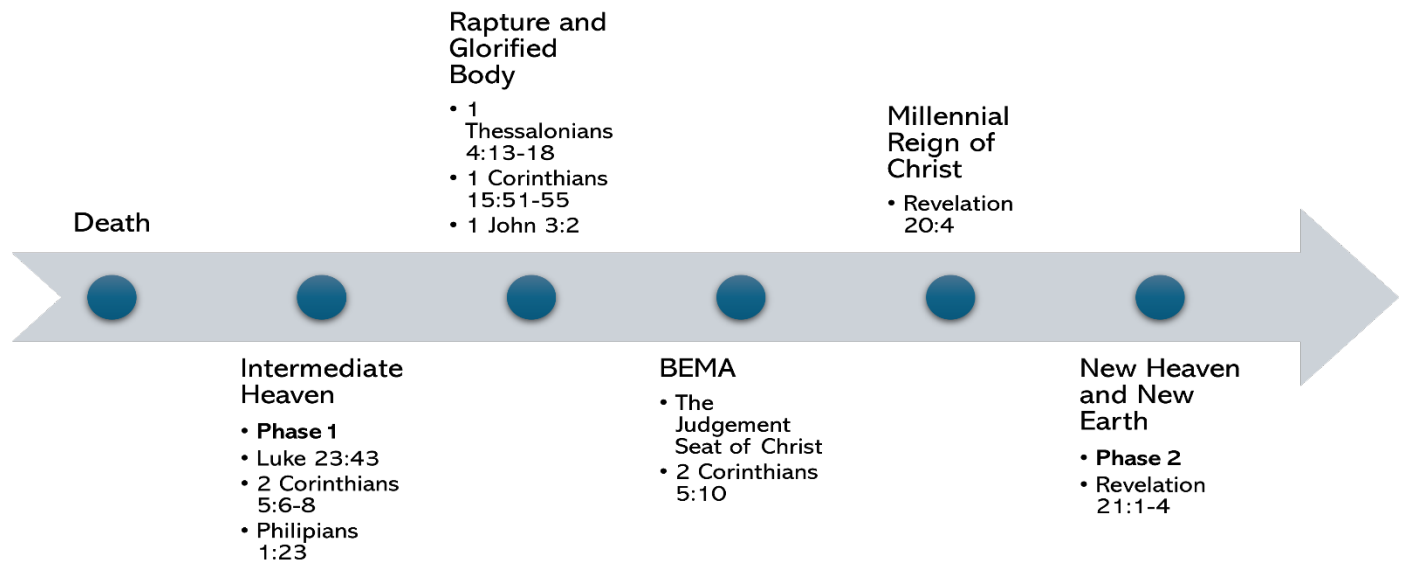


# Where does a Christian go when they die? (Why believers need to think and talk about the afterlife)

7.19.26

## I. An eternity timeline for believers



## II. Why do believers need to think and talk more about the afterlife?

A. Because misunderstandings about the afterlife can cause confusion and concern

**I Thess 4:13 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, concerning those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve like the rest, who have no hope. 18 Therefore encourage<sup>[a]</sup> one another with these words.**

B. Because knowing the truth about the afterlife will be comforting to us as believers

**I Thess 4:13 We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, concerning those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve like the rest, who have no hope. 18 Therefore encourage<sup>[a]</sup> one another with these words.**

C. Because the more we understand the afterlife the more we will want to tell others about it.

Luke 16:22-31 <sup>22</sup> “The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup> In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side.

D. Because a better understanding of the afterlife can prompt us to use our resources well

Money

Matthew 6: 19 “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Time

Ephesians 5: 15 Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.

E. Because a better understanding of the afterlife will help us endure suffering

II Cor 4:16-18 Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. 17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. 18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

F. Because a better understanding of the afterlife will build excitement!

1. Because we get to see Jesus

1 Corinthians 13:12 For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

2. Because we get to see my loved ones

Luke 9: <sup>28</sup> About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup> As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. <sup>30</sup> Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. <sup>31</sup> They spoke about his departure, <sup>[a]</sup> which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem. <sup>32</sup> Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him.

3. Because we will not get sick anymore

Physical/Emotional

Phil 3:21 who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

II Cor 5:1 For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. /

Spiritual

I John 3:2 Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears,<sup>[a]</sup> we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

Close

“If you read history you will find that the Christians who did the most for the present world were just those who **thought most of the next.**

It is since Christians have largely ceased to think of the other world that they have become so ineffective in this.”

C. S. Lewis, Mere Christianity