

The End of Time

During the 4th quarter we have discussed *seeing Jesus face to face*. 1 John 3:1-2 puts it all in perspective. One day we will be just like him and see him as he is. Now *that* is an amazing thought, which fits very well as we spend November talking about *seeing Jesus in the Future*. We absolutely do not want to miss Jesus and spend eternity without him. So, we need to be watching and be prepared. What does the Bible teach regarding the end of time? How can we be ready?

I. Jesus promised to return. The NT treats His return as fact.

- A. John 14:1-3; esp. 3, 18. *I am **coming** to you...*
- B. Acts 1:9-11 – at his ascension into heaven note the words of the angel.
- C. 1 Corinthians 11:26 – *until He comes.*
- D. Hebrews 9:28 – *Christ... will appear a **second** time.*
- E. James 5:7 – *be **patient** until the coming of the Lord.*
- F. 1 Peter 5:4 – the Chief Shepherd (will) appear.
- G. 1 John 2:28 – *when He appears...*

II. We have been told to watch!

- A. There is a sense of urgency connected with this.
 1. Mark 13:32-33; 35-37- *Be **alert!***
 2. *At an hour you do not **expect*** – Matthew 24:42-44. See also Luke 12:35-40.
- B. Paul commanded the Thessalonian brethren to ***stay awake*** – 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6.
- C. Some will not be watching & will come up short on judgment.
 1. 2 Peter 3:3-14
 2. 1 John 2:28 – *not be **ashamed** before him at his coming...*
- D. Why should we be vigilant in looking for Christ's return?
 1. Revelation 3:11; 16:15; 22:12; 20 – *I am coming **soon!***

III. At His Coming...

- A. 1 Thessalonians 4:16 – Jesus will descend from heaven
- B. 1 Thessalonians 4:16 – All will know of His return. Nothing secret/silent about it!
- C. 1 Thessalonians 4:16 – The dead in Christ will rise.
- D. 1 Thessalonians 4:17 – Those who are alive will be caught up together in the ***clouds***.
- E. When Jesus comes – We'll put on an immortal body. 1 Corinthians 15:50-53
- F. What of earth? 2 Peter 3:10-12 – it will be destroyed.

IV. Then comes the judgment.

- A. Hebrews 9:27 – This is not optional.
 1. Paul spoke of judgment as a fact – 2 Timothy. 4:1
- B. It is at this time that *every knee will **bow***. Philippians 2:9-11.
 1. 2 Corinthians 5:10; 1 Corinthians 4:5; Revelation 20:11-15

V. Eternal Destinations.

- A. Some will receive a sentence of eternal death- 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9; Matthew 7:21-23; 2 Peter 2:20-22
- B. Others receive eternal life because of forgiveness of sin. 2 Timothy 4:8; 1 Corinthians 1:78; Matthew 25:31-46; Colossians 3:23-25.

Conclusion:

Life is uncertain. Death is certain. Eternity is forever.
Are you prepared?