



Looking Up from Here to There

Revelation 7:9-12

Can you remember the first time you ever thought about dying, or death, or what happens after death?

My guess is that there was probably a time in your young life when you thought about death, dying, or what happens after.

The Good News is we can look up for all we need from life **Here** (the life that is now and on earth) to life **There** (what happens after death).

According to the Bible, death and the afterlife isn't something we have to fear, just something we must face. Here's a truth I want you to hold on as we work our way through this message this morning:

You will *face* death, but you don't have to *fear* death!

Today, I want to look at four truths that demand our attention about death and the afterlife.

1) You are HERE but will one day be THERE.

"It is destined for people to die once, and after this comes judgment."

Hebrews 9:27, NASB 2020

This simply says we all will die (don't read into it too much)!

There are varying views of where "there" is...

2) You will spend more time THERE than HERE.

Wherever "there" is, you'll be there a lot longer!

3) THERE is either unimaginably better than or unimaginably worse than HERE (Verses 9-10).

Obviously, this is a glimpse of an unimaginably better place.

What makes this unimaginably better:

- 1) People are one no racism, class or caste differences.
- 2) Jesus, the Lamb, is there in the fullness of His glory.
- 3) There is utmost purity/goodness there, no sin (white robes).
- 4) Zeal for God will surpass in length and greatness anything here on earth.

The unimaginably worse picture is the opposite of these good things!

4) HERE is where you decide about THERE.

¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not

believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. John 3:17-18

You will *face* death, but you don't have to *fear* death!

Our text this morning ends by looking up to God; to Him Who can take you from here to there! Believers, remember/rejoice in this hope. Pray to share this hope with someone this week. Those yet to believe: Reflect and respond to this most important message you'll ever hear. What are you waiting for? You can receive Christ today, become a son/daughter of God and share in our baptismal service this summer!

 \odot June 30, 2024, Rev. Dr. Timothy W. Fisher, Walkersville Community Church (α)