



- I. Understanding <u>Death</u>.
  - 1. The <u>certainty</u> of Death.

Job 14:14 If a man dies, will he live again?

### Like a hen before a cobra!



- I. Understanding <u>Death</u>.
  - 1. The <u>certainty</u> of Death.

#### Romans 3:23

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God ...

#### Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death..

Hebrews 9:27 <u>It is appointed for men to die once</u>, but after this the judgment.



- I. Understanding <u>Death</u>.
  - 2. The <u>duration</u> of our lives on earth.

### Genesis 5 - From Adam to Noah ... The Life Span were Hundreds of Years !



- I. Understanding <u>Death</u>.
  - 2. The duration of our lives on earth.

#### Genesis 6:3

And the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be <u>one hundred and</u> <u>twenty years</u>."

Psalm 90:10 - The length of our days is <u>70 years</u> - or <u>80</u>, if we have the strength ...



- I. Understanding <u>Death</u>.
  - 3. Dying before our <u>due time</u> <u>our full life</u>.

#### John 10:10a

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.

#### **Ecclesiastes 7:17**

Do not be **<u>overly wicked</u>**, nor be foolish: Why should you **<u>die before your time</u>**?



- 3. Dying before our <u>due time</u> <u>our full life</u>.
  - **A.** We die **<u>before</u>** our due time when we are:
    - i. <u>Overly wicked</u>.

#### Genesis 38:7

But Er, Judah's firstborn, was <u>wicked</u> in the sight of the LORD, and the LORD killed him.



- 3. Dying before our <u>due time</u> <u>our full life</u>.
  - **A.** We die **before** our due time when we are:

ii. <u>Foolish</u>.

#### Luke 12:20-21

20But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?' 21"So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."



- **A.** We die **<u>before</u>** our due time when we are:
  - ii. <u>Foolish</u>.

#### 1 Timothy 5:24

Some men's sins are clearly evident, preceding them to judgment, but those of some men follow later.

Foolish Nabal - 1 Samuel 25



- **A.** We die **before** our due time when we are:
  - ii. <u>Foolish</u>.

#### Ephesians 5:15-17

15See then that you <u>walk circumspectly, not as fools but</u>
<u>as wise</u>, 16redeeming the time, because the days are evil.
17Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.



- **A.** We die **before** our due time when we are:
  - ii. <u>Foolish</u>.

#### Matthew 7:24-27

**26**But everyone who <u>hears</u> these sayings of Mine, and <u>does not do them</u>, will be like <u>a foolish man</u> who built his house on the sand: **27**and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.



- 3. Dying before our <u>due time</u> <u>our full life</u>.
  - B. We die <u>before</u> our due time <u>also</u> due to the <u>consequence of the Law of Sin and Death</u>.

Sickness and Diseases causing premature deaths in babies, children and some adults

Accidental Deaths due to own fault or that of others

Fights, Murders, Killings and Wars

Natural Calamities resulting in deaths



- I. Understanding <u>Death</u>.
  - 4. What happens when we die?

#### 1 Thessalonians 5:23

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you <u>completely</u>; and may your <u>whole spirit</u>, <u>soul</u>, and <u>body</u> be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

#### We are a 3-part Being



- I. Understanding <u>Death</u>.
  - 4. What happens when we die?

#### Genesis 2:7

And the LORD God formed man of the <u>dust</u> of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the <u>breath of life</u> [spirit]; and man became a <u>living being</u> [soul].



- I. Understanding <u>Death</u>.
  - 4. What happens when we die?
    - A. Upon death, the body returns to <u>dust</u> and <u>ashes</u>.
    - **B.** Non-issue whether we are buried or <u>cremated</u>.
    - **C.** Non-issue whatever rituals are performed once the person is <u>dead</u>.
    - **D.** The spirit and the soul has <u>left</u> the body behind.



- I. Understanding <u>Death</u>.
  - 5. The righteous dead.
    - A. Prior to Christ's Resurrection, they go to <u>paradise</u>.
    - B. After Christ's Resurrection, they go to <u>heaven</u>.



- I. Understanding <u>Death</u>.
  - 5. The righteous dead.
    - All children who die before their <u>accountable</u> age go to heaven.

#### 2 Samuel 12:23

But now that he (the child) is dead ... Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but he will not return to me.



- I. Understanding <u>Death</u>.
  - 6. The <u>unrighteous dead</u>.
    - For the unrighteous dead, the person goes to <u>Hades / Sheol</u> until the 2<sup>nd</sup> Resurrection.
      - i.e. after the 1000 year millennial reign of Christ on earth.



- **II.** Understanding the **<u>Underworld</u>**.
  - 1. <u>Hades</u> [Greek]; Sheol [Hebrew].
    - This is the place of the departed <u>unrighteous</u> <u>dead</u>.
    - ▶ They remain here until the 2<sup>nd</sup> Resurrection.

Revelation 20:5-6; 11-16



**II.** Understanding the **<u>Underworld</u>**.

### 2. <u>Paradise</u>.

- This <u>was</u> the place of the departed <u>righteous</u> <u>dead</u>.
- After Christ's Resurrection, He descended to paradise to set them free from their captivity under Satan and led them up to Heaven.



### 2. <u>Paradise</u>.

#### Ephesians 4:8-10

8Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men."
9(Now this, "He ascended"—what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth?
10He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)

Paradise is **NOW** empty



### 2. <u>Paradise</u>.

#### Luke 16:19-26

**19**There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. **20**But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, **21**desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.



### 2. <u>Paradise</u>.

#### Luke 16:19-26

**22**So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to <u>Abraham's bosom</u>. The rich man also died and was buried. **23**And being in torments in <u>Hades</u>, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. **24**Then he cried and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.'



### 2. <u>Paradise</u>.

#### Luke 16:19-26

**25**But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented. **26**And besides all this, between us and you there is a **great gulf fixed**, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.'



- **II.** Understanding the <u>Underworld</u>.
  - 3. <u>Tartarus</u>.

#### 2 Peter 2:4

For if God did not spare <u>the angels who sinned</u>, but <u>cast</u> <u>them down to hell</u> [<u>Tartarus</u>] and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment ...

Genesis 6:1-4



#### 3. <u>Tartarus</u>.

#### Jude 6

And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in <u>everlasting chains under</u> <u>darkness</u> [in Tartarus] for the judgment of the great day ...

This is the place of the fallen angels who sinned by demonizing men who then had sex with the women to produce the giants ...



- **II.** Understanding the **<u>Underworld</u>**.
  - 4. The **Bottomless Pit**.

#### **Revelations 9:1**

Then the fifth angel sounded: and I saw a star fallen from heaven to the earth. To him was given the key to **the bottomless pit**.



- **II.** Understanding the **<u>Underworld</u>**.
  - 4. The **Bottomless Pit**.

#### **Revelations 9:11**

And they had as king over them the angel of <u>the bottomless pit</u>, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon, but in Greek he has the name Apollyon.



### Locked and only Released during the 5<sup>th</sup> [angelic] Trumpet of Revelation 9 for a short time are :



### "Locusts - Scorpion - Horses" demonic beings under a demonic principality whose name:

- in Hebrew is Abaddon
- in Greek is Apollyon
- in English is <u>Destroyer</u>



#### **Revelations 20:1-3**

1Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the <u>bottomless pit</u> and a great chain in his hand. 2He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; 3and he cast him into the <u>bottomless pit</u>, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.



- **II.** Understanding the **<u>Underworld</u>**.
  - 5. Lake of Fire Gehenna.
    - This is the Ultimate Hell.
    - > At the moment, this place is **EMPTY**.



### 5. <u>Lake of Fire - Gehenna</u>.

The first 2 persons to be cast into the Lake of Fire will be the Anti-Christ [Beast] and the False Prophet.

#### **Revelation 20:10**

The <u>devil</u>, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone <u>where the beast and the false prophet are</u>. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.



#### This will be followed by:

- the devil himself Revelation 20:10
- the goat nations Matthew 25:41, 46
- Principalities of Death and Hades

#### **Revelation 20:14**

Then Death and Hades were cast into the Lake of Fire. This is the second death.



### 5. Lake of Fire - Gehenna.

#### **Revelation 20:15**

And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the Lake of Fire.

And all else not found written in the Book of Life will be thrown into the Lake of Fire.



### **Good News**

#### Hebrews 2:14-15

14Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death <u>He might destroy him who had the power of death</u>, that is, the devil, 15and <u>release those</u> who through <u>fear of death</u> were all their lifetime subject to <u>bondage</u>.



### **Good News**

#### 2 Timothy 1:10b (NKJV)

... who has <u>abolished death</u> and <u>brought life and immortality</u> to light through the gospel ...

#### 2 Timothy 1:10b (AMP)

... Who <u>annulled death</u> and made it of no effect and <u>brought</u> <u>life and immortality</u> [<u>immunity from eternal death</u>] to light through the Gospel.



### How did the Lord Jesus break the fear of death to set us free from this bondage?



1. He <u>removes</u> the fear of judgment to eternal condemnation.

#### John 3:16-18

**16**For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should <u>not perish</u> but have everlasting life. **17**For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. **18**He who believes in Him is <u>not condemned</u>; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.



1. He <u>removes</u> the fear of judgment to eternal condemnation.

#### John 5:24

Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall <u>not come into</u> judgment, but has passed from death into life.



#### How does one have this certainty?

#### Romans 10:9-10

9that if you <u>confess</u> with your mouth the Lord Jesus and <u>believe</u> in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be <u>saved</u>. 10For with the heart one <u>believes unto righteousness</u>, and with the mouth <u>confession is made unto salvation</u>.

#### John 1:12 (NIV)

Yet to all who did <u>receive him</u>, to those who <u>believed in</u> <u>his name</u>, he gave the <u>right to become children of God</u>—



2. He promises and gives us <u>LIFE</u> with Him.

#### John 10:10

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may <u>have life</u>, and that they may have it <u>more abundantly</u>.

#### 1 Corinthians 15:55

"Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"



That life - more abundant life begins the <u>moment</u> Jesus comes into our hearts.

#### Romans 5:1-2

1Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.



### **Bottom-Line:**

- 1. The <u>uncertainty</u> of life the Fear of Death to come because of:
  - A. our fallen-ness / sins the law of sin and death
  - **B.** the works of the evil one.



### **Bottom-Line:**

### 2. The <u>certainty</u> of our eternal future in Christ.

#### John 11:25

Jesus said to her, "I am <u>the resurrection and the life</u>. He who <u>believes</u> in Me, though he may die, <u>he shall live</u>.

#### **Revelation 1:18**

I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And <u>I have the keys of Hades and of Death</u>.



### **Bottom-Line:**

3. The **blessedness** of life with Christ now as we live.

#### The Living Hope - 1 Peter 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a <u>living hope</u> through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ...



### Will you come to the Lord Jesus today?