

John 5:21-29 / Daniel 12:2-3 - Life, Death & Life After Death (Pt. 6.2)

Intro – This is part 6.2 in LD&LAD. So far, we have defined human life and examined how we are made as body/soul/spirit...braided together. We are 3 parts woven into one unified person. Death is the unnatural separation/tearing of immaterial soul & spirit from the material body. Death isn't extinction; it is a separation. Death is a divorce of body & soul...it separates what God joined together. There is a life after death...or...life continues for the dead. Death is not the destruction of life; it is a transition into a different kind of life. Initially it is a disembodied kind of life where there is form but no physicality. It is a life of conscious rational existence where mind & emotion are active in the psyche of the immortal spirit...just apart from the physical body. The passage of time is still experienced (because only God is timeless). There is memory of the past, awareness of the present, and knowledge of future. The dead know more than the living. Today I want to address two common misconceptions about the afterlife that seem to contradict one another. One says the dead in heaven are better off because they are enjoying their new body. The other is the idea that heaven is a boring ethereal existence where we just float around for eternity as some kind of vacuous spirit (eternity is not empty). Both of these are misconceptions of the afterlife. So today – *The Chronology Before Eternity & The Physicality Of Eternity*. The resurrection of the body is a future event and the future is physical. (full & physical)

CHRONOLOGY

- Order of events
 - There is an order of operation in math...
 - There is an order of salvation - *Election, Redemption, Calling, Regeneration (new birth), Repentance, Faith, Justification, Sanctification & Glorification* (Rom. 8:30; Heb. 6:1-2)
 - There is an order of events for the end of life and the end of time – (eschatology)
 - Eschatology = the study of last things...end of the age
- Eschatology 101 -
 - Jesus' 1st coming...His life, death, resurrection, ascension ...the last days began
 - Jesus is coming again. His 2nd coming will be the last day of the last days.
 - At His coming will be the resurrection and culmination of the Kingdom.
 - Then there will be Judgment and then Eternity.
- The resurrection of the body doesn't happen until Jesus comes back
 - 1 Thess. 4:15-16
 - I believe that only the redeemed will be raised at that time -
 - Rev. 20:5-6 Luke 14:14
 - The resurrection of the righteous will be on the last day - John 6:44 John 11:24
 - My son Ben doesn't have his new body yet...none of the dead do (except Jesus)
 - They have form but no physicality
- Eventually all of the dead will be raised and judged by Jesus
 - Daniel 12:2 John 5:28-29 Rev. 20:12-13

PHYSICALITY

- Basic Christian belief acknowledges the resurrection of the body
 - Christ's resurrection (Rom. 10:9) you can't be a Christian without a belief in the resurrection
 - Our resurrection - 1Cor. 15:22-23
 - There is a proper order to future events...but THE FUTURE IS VERY PHYSICAL
 - The soul departs the body in death, but it is reunited in the resurrection.
 - The resurrection is a reconnection and a reunion of body/soul/spirit.
 - Eternity will be experienced bodily - there is physicality to eternity
 - Not ethereal (formless/nonmaterial) but very physical. ~~vacuous & empty~~ but full & physical
- What kind of a body will we have? What are some qualities of our new body?
 - It will be like Jesus' body
 - 1 John 3:2
 - Physical...flesh and bone body
 - Luke 24:38-40
 - A body that can and does eat
 - Luke 24:41-43
 - Lord's Supper last week - eating with Jesus (LD&LAD 6.1)
 - Luke 22:18, 29-30
 - A physical body without physical limitations
 - Luke 24:30-31 - vanished John 20:19, 26 - shut doors couldn't keep Him out
 - The stone was rolled away not to let Him out but to let us know that He was no longer in
 - A glorious body
 - Phil. 3:20-21
 - 1 Cor. 15:41-43
 - Daniel 12:2-3
 - A powerful and imperishable body
 - 1 Cor. 15:42-43 all of our groans are left in the ground
 - Who is ready for powerful & imperishable? (improvement from weak & wilty)
 - It is our body
 - Luke 24:39
 - John 20:14-18 she recognized His voice
- There is a physicality to eternity
 - Eternity will be lived and experienced bodily
 - River of life, Tree of life, City life...physical life
 - Death is a terrible divorce of body from soul
 - In the resurrection there is a reunion/reconciliation/ reconnection
 - We will again be woven together as a unified whole - a strand of 3 not broken
 - Eternal life will be a physical life
- Eternity is tangible
 - Eternity is real
 - Heaven & Hell are real....physical places to be inhabited with physical people
 - For now, the disembodied dead are awaiting the day...new day...new body