

If Ever There Was A Need for Hope! #5: "Our Hope in Death"

* Some sobering thoughts to consider as we begin!

- Sooner or later each of us is going to die.
- Some people have been healed and even resurrected, but eventually they all died. (Isaiah 38; John 11)
- Ecclesiastes 7:2; Hebrews 9:22
- Yet, this is God's promise to us: Proverbs 14:32

IN WHAT WAY DO WE HAVE "HOPE IN DEATH"?

A. Death is the cessation of _____ , _____ and all that is _____ on earth.

1. Revelation 21:2-4
2. Isaiah 25:6-9

B. Death is the _____ into heaven itself.

1. Three comforting metaphors???
 - a. A _____?
 - b. A _____?
 - c. _____? (Joshua 3)
2. I Corinthians 15:50
3. Hope???
 - a. Colossians 1:5
 - b. Colossians 1:21-23

C. In death we have the _____ of a _____.

1. As believers, the very moment that we die we are immediately transported to heaven! Want proof? (No "soul sleep")
 - a. Psalms 16:9-11
 - b. Luke 23:42,43
 - c. Philippians 1:20-24
 - d. II Corinthians 5:6-9
2. Our bodies "*fall asleep*": Matthew 9:24; John 11:11,14; Acts 7:59,60; Acts 13:36; Not our spirits!
3. But one day Jesus will return! Then what? I Thessalonians 4:13-18; I Corinthians 15:54-56
4. "Pastor Rusty, how does any of this pertain to my thoughts and fears about death?"

D. In death we will gain the _____ that Jesus promised.

1. Ephesians 1:18
2. John 14:1-4: "Where are we staying, anyway?"
3. 'Ever thought about this? Revelation 21:22,23

4. We will see Jesus and our God “_____ to _____”! I Corinthians 13:12; Revelation 22:3b-4
5. I John 3:2:

* Some final thoughts and applications:

- ✓ Hebrews 2:14,15
- ✓ Can you join in the taunt! I Corinthians 15:55-57
- ✓ Does this verse make sense now? Romans 8:24,25