1Thess 86

O death where is your sting?!

HAPPY MOTHER’S DAY!

We are about to embark on a study and the subject matter is probably not very appealing to most, but it is very important to understand!

/1Thes 4:13 But **we do not want you to be uninformed,** brothers *and sisters,* about **those who are asleep**, so that you will not grieve as indeed the rest *of mankind do,* who have no hope. 14 For **if we believe that Jesus died and rose** *from the dead,* so also God will bring with Him those **who have fallen asleep through Jesus**.\

My first question is - do you believe TLJC died and rose again from that tomb?

If you do not fully believe the resurrection, you have a huge weak link in your chain of faith. It is actually a break in the chain of faith that supports you.

*IF WE BELIEVE* – is the Greek first class condition. Meaning… ***IF*** - and it is true, we should believe in the death, burial and resurrection of the LORD!

When a Bel is not properly educated in the plan of God and willing to step forward toward spiritual maturity, they often live in rolling valleys of doubt, fear and even anxiety at different times.

By a rolling valley I simply mean they have good times and bad times like all of us. But they get themselves stuck for long periods of time in dark valleys that keep them in emotional states of weakness.

Death is one of the primary reasons for Bels to struggle in these dark valleys – the death of others, or our own pending day of physical death.

 REPEAT

If the Bel has not fully digested the angelic conflict, the temporal walk and battle we are engaged in.

Then they have an attitude or an ideology, that life is finding perfection and happiness in the cosmic system, then hanging onto that for as long as possible.

 REPEAT

Go over to 1Corinthians chapter 15 RF.

/Once a Bel truly understands spiritual warfare and why we were created and what the end results of this life will be, they will settle into a calm assurance. That calm assurance comes at maturity and with it, is true happiness (contentment). They begin embracing the moments of success and joy while fully understanding and walking through the times of challenges and sadness.\

There is no illusion for the SM Bel, that they reach a secure plateau in the cosmic system and all their dreams come true and they live happily ever after.

They know their happiness is reliant upon TLJC and how close they get to HIM. They know ultimately, heaven can- not be found anywhere else except when they are face to face with LORD.

What we will be touching on in this next series seems morbid on the surface but it is truly freeing if you are willing to digest it and really spend time studying it.

To launch a study on death may not seem popular at first but, I can guarantee that it will liberate the uneducated Bel while building up the growing Bel, pushing them toward maturity.

In 1Cor chapter 15 The Apostle Paul was getting into Mystery Doctrine which he had touched on in chapter 14. Especially in relation to spiritual gifts and God’s timing and desire of how things have an order and a beginning and end.

/1Cor 15:20 But the fact is, **Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits**of those who are **asleep**. 21 For since by a man death *came,* **by a man also *came* the resurrection** of the dead.

Under the doctrine of the Hypostatic Union, we know Jesus was full humanity and HE was raised from death and seated in heaven.\

Jesus was the Passover Lamb slaughter on that holiday and then raised 3 days later on the celebration of First Fruits of the Jewish calendar.

Keep in mind the Nation of Israel struggled with clarity on the doctrine of resurrection because they did not fully grasp the doctrine of the Hypostatic Union.

These were all mysteries yet to be fully revealed. Again, this points us to the importance of dispensations.

Jump down to verse 50;

/1Cor 15:50 Now I say this, brothers *and sisters,* **that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God**; nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Only the flawless perfection of Christ can stand in the heavens – flesh speaks to the OSN.\

Everyone who goes into the eternal security of heaven will have an impeccable, resurrection body designed for a soul that has an imputation of the righteousness of Christ.

All aspects of the sin nature are dead in that flesh and bone body – only the new creature of divine superiority, steps into heaven.

Death is not a loss it is a victory!

/[1Co 15:51](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/15/51/s_1077051) Behold, **I am telling you a mystery; we will not all sleep**, but **we will** (*allassō*)all **be changed** (*allassō*),

The body that goes to sleep is the body of corruption; the body that we receive in resurrection is a body of incorruption. To be transformed, to be exchanged. \

ALL-ASSO, to exchange or change into something new.

It is used twice showing a strong emphasis.

This was going to be a mystery doctrine lesson on resurrection bodies as well as the rapture of the church.

 So going to sleep is an analogy to Christian death; waking up is receiving a resurrection body. Remember that the soul does not sleep. The soul remains in the presence of the Lord until the resurrection when it receives the *“new spiritual suit”* .

 REPEAT

It is possible to be saved without fully understanding the death or resurrection, as most religious Christians are.

The Corinthians were saved and they knew nothing about the resurrection. In fact, Greek culture rejected any concept of a resurrection body.

A study on the Corinthian Bels is a study on the fact that Bels can hear good bible teaching and never fully digest and believe what they were taught.

/[1Co 15:52](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/15/52/s_1077052) **in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye**, at the last trumpet; for **the trumpet will sound**, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

1Thes 4:16 is the same teaching concept. The military call is the Trumpet and shout to ignite the Rapture – so quickly of snatching up, that it is a twinkle of an eye.\

It is believed that only Christians will hear this unique sound and then they will disappear off the earth.

There is a military analogy attached to this because GOD has an organized and structural nature which is never sloppy or able to be second guessed.

This is a military call to bring home the Royal Family, who well also serve in the returning combat and occupying force at the end of the Tribulation period.

The Bels from the time of the Cross of Christ will be raised first and almost a split second behind, we who are alive at the moment of the rapture will go up.

[1Co 15:53](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/15/53/s_1077053) For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal *must* put on immortality.

This is the Apostle Paul speaking to the resurrection body, very similar to what the humanity of Christ had when HE stepped out of the tomb.

Everything TLJC did during HIS 40 days of Resurrected walk on the earth we will be able to do in our resurrection body!

/[1Co 15:54](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/15/54/s_1077054) But **when this perishable puts on the imperishable**, and this mortal puts on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written: “DEATH HAS BEEN SWALLOWED UP in victory.

The Church Age Bel should fully understand that death is a transition into a new resurrection body in the heavens. It is part of our victory IN CHRIST! \

Many Bels of the OT did not understand the full concept on the doctrine of the Hypostatic Union and the resurrection of TLJC.

/Isa 25:8 **He will swallow up death for all time**, And the Lord GOD will wipe tears away from all faces, And HE will
remove the disgrace of His people from all the earth; For the LORD has spoken.

This was a view to the Resurrected life Christ gives us.\

The OT saints had a basic concept that they had victory in the heavens with GOD after death. Yet they did not have a full grasp on resurrection.

/[1Co 15:55](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/15/55/s_1077055) “WHERE, O DEATH, IS YOUR VICTORY? WHERE, O DEATH, IS YOUR STING?”

This is attitude of the mature Bel who knows with all confidence that in Christ everything is fulfilled, all mystery is revealed and they share in everything with HIM! \

Remember many lessons and analogies of the OT where considered a shadow of what was yet to come. A shadow gives you an idea of the shape of something, yet you do not have full knowledge of it until whatever it is, that cast the shadow appears.

/Hos 13:14 **Shall I ransom them from the power of Sheol**? Shall I redeem
them from death? **Death, where are your thorns? Sheol, where is your sting**?
Compassion will be hidden from My sight.

Scriptures like this were designed to cast a shadow of the coming work of Jesus Christ. It was designed to give OT saints faith and comfort. \

The Apostle Paul was a master at bringing forth the OT scriptures to show Bels where it all comes into fruition.

/[1Co 15:56](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/15/56/s_1077056) The sting of **death is sin**, and the **power of sin is the Law**;

The age of LAW and rituals were fulfilled in the person and work of Christ. The OSN brings death and it was shown by those before us who failed at attempting to live spiritual from laws, rituals and commands.\

The Mosaic Law was our teacher - it pointed to our need for the Messiah.

[1Co 15:57](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/15/57/s_1077057) but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

[1Co 15:58](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/1co/15/58/s_1077058) Therefore, my beloved brothers *and sisters,* be firm, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not *in* vain in the Lord.

That with what you do in the NEW NATURE, has great value and meaning, anything we do IN THE LORD is what really matters.

All works of the flesh are burned up at the Bema Seat Judgment of Christ.

In fact, it will be all human good and works of the flesh that Unbels will attempt to present at the Great White Throne Judgement. Nothing from the flesh can cross the heavenly barrier.

Bels have no need to worry about the coming Tribulation or even death itself.

/Rev 3:10 ‘Because you have kept My word of perseverance, **I also will keep you from the hour of the testing**, that *hour* which **is about to come upon the whole world**, to test those who live on the earth. 11 ‘**I am coming quickly**; hold firmly to what you have, so that **no one will take your crown**.\

The fact is the humanity of Jesus would not speak upon the time of the Rapture and neither would any of the Apostles. Just as Jesus taught them, it is imminent and no one know exact times or dates except …God HIMSELF!

That is why it was always taught as if it were about to happen next week.

The Rapture is taught by every Apostle and disciple as if were about to happen very soon. As a pastor-teacher in the CA we are called to follow that trend – because the Rapture needs no prophecy to be fulfilled for it to happen.

/1Thes 1:10 and **to wait for His Son from heaven,** whom He raised from the dead, *that is,* **Jesus who rescues us from the wrath to come**.

No matter if it is the approach of the end time events or death itself, we have the victory in Christ! \

Jesus Christ is not an abusive husband. HE will not allow HIS future bride to suffer along with an Unbelieving world.

The Bel who is unaware what dispensation they live in and therefore, have little or no knowledge of Mystery Doctrine.

That is the Bel who will fall prey to emotional waves of doubt, fear and anxiety.

Death is never an easy subject to study. Yet when you truly begin to tear into the scriptures correctly, it is not only an interesting study it gives enlightenment and lifts us up into a calm assurance.

Let me close today going over the terms we are about to begin to study;

/Within Theology there are 8 doctrines in relation to the subject of death;

Spiritual Death of the Human Race.

 Positional Death of the Believer.

The Carnal Death of the Believer.

The Believer with - Dead Works.

Sexual Death.

Physical Death of the Human Race.

The Second Death.

The Sin unto Death.\

We will spend the next few hours covering the bulk of this subject matter under these theological terms.

You may think you already know them.

Yet I challenge you to stick it out and see if it doesn’t lift you up in the end and give you greater confidence in the future.