

What We Believe

ABOUT END THINGS (Part 1 of 2)

1. The Study of End Things is called _____.

2. The Study of End Things Should Include _____ Eschatology.

a. Hebrews 9:27, "...people are _____ to die once, and after that to face _____."

b. Death is the inevitable, undeniable END of each of us regarding our life on earth.

- Biblically, death is described as the soul being separated from the body.
- Ecclesiastes 12:7, "*The dust returns to the ground it came from, and the spirit returns to God who made it.*"
- James 2:26, "*As the body apart from the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead.*"

c. David's Song (2 Samuel 22:5,6), "*The **waves** of death swirl about me; the **torrents** of destruction overwhelmed me. The **CORDS** of the grave coiled around me; the **snare**s of death confronted me.*"

- **Q** – WHAT DO THE BOLDFACED WORDS IN 2 SAMUEL 22 SAY TO US?

d. Some people are unwilling to face or even acknowledge death.

e. YET, "Life, if it is to be lived properly, must include the acceptance of the fact of death. Death is simply the end process, the final stage of life, and we must accept it."
(Erickson, *Systematic Theology*)

f. Death is a Transition to....Somewhere Else....

- Luke 25:43, Jesus to the thief on the cross, "Today you will be with me in _____."

- 2 Cor. 12:4, Paul was caught up into *Paradise* where he heard inexpressible things.
- Rev. 2:7, Jesus promised those who over the right to eat of the tree of life which is in the *paradise* of God.

- Luke 16:19-31 may give us a glimpse of what it is like on the 'other side.'

- Hades means the _____. In Greek mythology, Pluto was the god of the underworld. He was also called 'Hades.' Hades to the Greeks generally meant the nether world, the realm of the dead.
- TOMB INSCRIPTION: "*I was not. I became. I am not. I care not.*"

g. Q – IS PHYSICAL DEATH NATURAL OR UNNATURAL?

- Genesis 3:3, Adam and Eve were not to eat of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil or they would die.
- Romans 5:12, “Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way _____ came to all people, because all sinned....”

h. Each of us must be ready for the end of our life on earth.

- James 4:13-17, Your life is like a vapor, so live humbly before God.
- Job 7:6, “My days are _____ than a weaver’s shuttle.” 14:1, “Man, born of woman, is _____ of days and full of trouble.”
- Psalm 90:1-12 – [READ]

i. The Final word comes from Jesus Himself: Matthew 24:36-44.