

YOUR FUTURE IN CHRIST

Death is the beginning of a fantastic adventure

A clear understanding of your future in Christ will strengthen your courage and give you peace in challenging times like these. A clear understanding of your future in Christ will set you free from the fear of death.

First, you need to understand who you are. You are created in the image of God. You are created with a physical body and a nonphysical soul. Your physical body is mortal; it will die and go back to dust. Your soul is immortal; that means, your soul is deathless, it will never die but live on for eternity. Your soul is you – your personality, your character, your memories, your feelings.

I AM CREATED IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

I AM A BODY AND A SOUL

MY BODY WILL DIE, BUT MY SOUL LIVES FOREVER

A quick test to prove you possess a soul. Right now, do you have an awareness that you are listening to me? Do you have an awareness that you are having thoughts? Do you have an awareness you are sitting in a crowd observing all this?

If you answered yes to any of those questions, you have “self-awareness”. Self-awareness is a characteristic of the soul. Physical things don’t have self-awareness. You do have a soul and your soul will survive the death of your body.

To our students: many of your secular teachers and professors will teach you that you are a product of evolution and that you are only a physical body without a soul. When your body quits, you cease to exist. No wonder death is so terrifying. Those who believe existence ends with physical death will be horrified to find themselves very much alive and ill prepared to stand before God.

You are a body and a soul. When your physical body quits, your soul continues.

What happens to your soul?

For the answer to that question, please turn to **2 Corinthians 5:1-10**. The Apostle Paul explains that between now and the Rapture, a Christian’s soul can only be one of two places.

What happens to your soul when you physically die?

WHEN MY BODY DIES, MY SOUL GOES TO BE WITH JESUS

If you are a born-again follower of Jesus Christ, your soul can only be in one of two places: at home in your physical body here on earth and away from the Lord or at home with the Lord in heaven.

As wonderful as it is to be set free from these sinful, decaying bodies and to be in the presence of the Lord, there's still a "problem". It goes back to understanding what you are as a human being. You are a body-soul. You are not fully human without a physical body. That's why the Apostle Paul said we do not want to be "naked", that is, we do not want to be a soul without a body. A physical body is essential to your humanity; to your ability to interact in the physical world. The body you inhabit now is infected with sin and under sentence of death. You need a body uninfected by sin that can live forever. The good news is that God is going to give you a new, uninfected, immortal body to match your immortal soul.

But you don't receive your new body when your soul goes to be with Jesus. Your soul is safe with Jesus, but there's a lot more yet to come....

Remember:

DEATH IS THE BEGINNING OF A FANTASTIC ADVENTURE!

To review:

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