

2010 BIBLICAL STUDY FOCUSING ON

DEATH



AFTERLIFE

AND

THE END TIME

Session #2

STUDY COMPILED, EDITED AND PRESENTED
BY CHAPLAIN LARRY P. VANCE
PASTOR, VINE GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

**BIBLICAL ANSWERS AND
KEY QUESTIONS ABOUT DEATH:**

#1 - IS THERE AN APPOINTED TIME TO DIE? YES

Heb 9:27 NKJV

And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,

**#2 - CAN YOU LIVE PAST YOUR ULTIMATE
APPOINTED TIME TO DIE? NO**

Job 14:5 NLT

You have decided the LENGTH OF OUR LIVES. You know how many months we will live, and WE ARE NOT GIVEN A MINUTE LONGER.

**#3 - WHO IS IN CHARGE OF GIVING
LIFE AND TAKING LIFE? GOD**

Deut 32:39 NIV

"See now that I MYSELF AM HE! There is **no god besides me**. I PUT TO DEATH and I BRING TO LIFE, I HAVE WOUNDED and I WILL HEAL, and NO ONE can deliver out of my hand.

Ps 139:16 NLT

You saw me BEFORE I WAS BORN. EVERY DAY of my life was recorded in your book. EVERY MOMENT was laid out before a single day had passed.

#4 - IS GOD THEN - THE CAUSE OF EVERY DEATH? NO

#5 - WHAT IS THE CAUSE OF PREMATURE DEATH? SIN

PERSONAL SINS - NEGLECT OF **HEALTH** - TEMPTING **GOD**

SINS OF OTHERS - **TERRORISTS** - **MURDER** - **NEGLIGENCE**

#6 - WHAT CAN PREVENT PREMATURE DEATH ? PRAYER

2 Kings 20:1-6 NLT

About that time Hezekiah became deathly ill, and the prophet Isaiah son of Amoz went to visit him. He gave the king this message: **"THIS IS WHAT THE LORD SAYS: SET YOUR AFFAIRS IN ORDER, FOR YOU ARE GOING TO DIE. YOU WILL NOT RECOVER FROM THIS ILLNESS."** ² When Hezekiah heard this, **he turned his face to the wall AND PRAYED TO THE LORD**, ³ "Remember, O LORD, how I have always been faithful to you and have served you single-mindedly, always doing what pleases you." Then **HE BROKE DOWN AND WEPT BITTERLY**. ⁴ But before Isaiah had left the middle courtyard, this message came to him from the LORD: ⁵ **"GO BACK TO HEZEKIAH**, the leader of my people. Tell him, 'This is what the LORD, the God of your ancestor David, says: **I HAVE HEARD YOUR PRAYER AND SEEN YOUR TEARS. I WILL HEAL YOU**, and three days from now you will get out of bed and go to the Temple of the LORD. ⁶ **I will add FIFTEEN YEARS to your life**, and **I WILL RESCUE YOU** and this city from the king of Assyria. I will defend this city for my own honor and for the sake of my servant David.'"

Ps 31:15 NIV

MY TIMES ARE IN YOUR HANDS; deliver me from my enemies and from those who pursue me.

#7 - IS THERE ANY BIBLICAL REFERENCE THAT SUPPORTS STATEMENTS THAT SOME PEOPLE GET A GLIMPSE OF HEAVEN BEFORE THEY DIE? YES

Acts 7:55-60 NLT

⁵⁵ But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, **GAZED STEADILY INTO HEAVEN AND SAW THE GLORY OF GOD, AND HE SAW JESUS STANDING IN THE PLACE OF HONOR AT GOD'S RIGHT HAND**. ⁵⁶ And he told them, **"LOOK, I SEE THE HEAVENS OPENED AND THE SON OF MAN STANDING IN THE PLACE OF HONOR AT GOD'S RIGHT HAND!"** ⁵⁷ Then they put their hands over their ears and began shouting. They rushed at him ⁵⁸ and dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. His accusers took off their coats and laid them at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ As they stoned him, **STEPHEN PRAYED**, "Lord Jesus, **RECEIVE MY SPIRIT**." ⁶⁰ He fell to his knees, shouting, **"LORD, DON'T CHARGE THEM WITH THIS SIN!"** And with that, **HE DIED**.

#8 - WHAT IS THE GREATEST FEAR OF MANKIND?

DEATH THE KING OF TERRORS

Heb 2:14-15 The Message

14 Since the children are made of flesh and blood, IT'S LOGICAL that the Savior took on flesh and blood in order to RESCUE THEM BY HIS DEATH. By embracing death, taking it into himself, HE DESTROYED THE DEVIL'S HOLD ON DEATH 15 and freed all who cower through life, SCARED TO DEATH OF DEATH.

#9 - WHAT ARE THE 3 MAIN CAUSES OF THIS FEAR?

#1 APPREHENSION OF THE UNKNOWN

THE BIBLE TELLS US **ONLY SOME THINGS** ABOUT THE AFTERLIFE
BUT MOST REMAINS A MYSTERY

#2 PROSPECT OF **STANDING BEFORE GOD**

DEEP DOWN WE KNOW WE ARE **GUILTY**
MANY STILL THINK THEY WILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE

#3 THE **WHOLE IDEA OF ETERNITY IS BEYOND OUR FINITE MINDS**

ETERNITY IS SIMPLY TOO BIG FOR US

Ecc1 3:11NIV

He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also SET ETERNITY IN THE HEARTS OF MEN; yet THEY CANNOT FATHOM WHAT GOD HAS DONE from beginning to end.

#10 - DOES GOD HAVE A REMEDY FOR THIS FEAR? YES

FAITH IN GOD'S PROMISES IS THE ANTIDOTE TO FEAR

1 Cor 15:54-55 NLT

54 Then, WHEN OUR DYING BODIES HAVE BEEN TRANSFORMED INTO BODIES THAT WILL NEVER DIE, this Scripture will be fulfilled: "DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP IN VICTORY.
55 O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY? O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING?*"

BELIEVERS GRIEVE AT DEATH - YES BUT NOT AS THOSE WHO HAVE NO HOPE

1 Thess 4:13-18 NLT

13 And now, dear brothers and sisters, we want you to know what will happen to the believers who have died* so you will not grieve like people who have no hope. **14** For since we believe that Jesus died and was raised to life again, we also believe that when Jesus returns, God will bring back with him the believers who have died. **15** We tell you this DIRECTLY FROM THE LORD: We who are still living when the Lord returns will not meet him ahead of those who have died.* **16** For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a COMMANDING SHOUT, with the voice of the archangel, and with the TRUMPET CALL OF GOD. FIRST, the CHRISTIANS WHO HAVE DIED will rise from their graves. **17** Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. THEN WE WILL BE WITH THE LORD FOREVER. **18** SO ENCOURAGE EACH OTHER WITH THESE WORDS.

Phil 1:21-24 NLT

21 For to me, living means living for Christ, and DYING IS EVEN BETTER. **22** But IF I LIVE, I CAN DO MORE FRUITFUL WORK FOR CHRIST. So I really don't know which is better. **23** I'm torn between two desires: I long to go and be with Christ, which WOULD BE FAR BETTER FOR ME. **24** But for your sakes, it is better that I continue to live.