



**May 17, 2026**

**Learning #1: When a believer dies, their body stays on earth and their spirit goes to be with Jesus.**

2 Corinthians 5:6-8 (NKJV) - *So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord. For we walk by faith, not by sight. We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.*

Ecclesiastes 12:7 (NLT) - *For then the dust will return to the earth, and the spirit will return to God who gave it.*

Genesis 3:19 (NLT) - *By the sweat of your brow will you have food to eat until you return to the ground from which you were made. For you were made from dust, and to dust you will return.”*

**Learning #2: Death is not the end. Death is the beginning of a promise.**

1 Thessalonians 4:13-14 (NLT) - *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. 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.*

1 Thessalonians 4:16 (NLT) - *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 believers who have died will rise from their graves.*

1 Thessalonians 4:17 (NLT) - *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.*

**Learning #3: When Jesus returns, believers will receive resurrected bodies.**

Philippians 3:21(NLT) - *He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own...*

Revelation 21:1-4 (NKJV) - *Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."*

**Learning #4: Knowing what happens after death should change how we live our lives today.**

1 Thessalonians 5:13–18 (NLT) - *Brothers and sisters, we urge you to warn those who are lazy. Encourage those who are timid. Take tender care of those who are weak. Be patient with everyone.*

*See that no one pays back evil for evil, but always try to do good to each other and to all people.*

*Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.*

1 Corinthians 15:55-57 (NLT) - *O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power. But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

