LIFE'S BIG QUESTIONS

WHAT LIES BEYOND THE GRAVE?

Acts 24:15

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There is an appointed time for everything. And there is a time for every event under heaven--a time to give birth, and a time to die.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2

What is going to happen to you after you die?

1. Most religions teach of a life after death.

A. Only Jesus conquered death.

Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades. Revelation 1:17-18

B. Only Jesus offers true victory over death.

Because I live, you shall live also. John 14:19

C. Only Jesus is going to judge every person.

"Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all everywhere should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead." Acts 17:30-31

... there shall certainly be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked. Acts 24:15

2. When a Christian dies, he/she goes to heaven.

- A. The translation from earth to heaven is <u>immediate</u>.
- B. The judgment seat of Christ awaits every believer.

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. 2 Corinthians 5:10

3. When a non-Christian dies, he/she goes to Hades.

"Now it came about that the poor man died and he was carried away by the angels to Abraham's bosom; and the rich man also died and was buried. And in Hades he lifted up his eyes, being in torment" Luke 16:22-23

A. The translation from earth to Hades is immediate.

- "Until this moment I thought there was neither a God nor a hell. Now I know and feel that there are both, and I am doomed to perdition by the just judgment of the Almighty." Sir Thomas Scott, Chancellor of England
- "You need not tell me there is no God for I know there is one, and that I am in His presence! You need not tell me there is no hell. I feel myself already slipping. Wretches, cease your idle talk about there being hope for me! I know I am lost forever! Oh, that fire! Oh, the insufferable pangs of hell!" Sir Francis Newport, the head of an English Atheist club

"I am in flames!" David Hume, atheist philosopher

- B. The great white throne judgment awaits every unbeliever.
- C. Eternal hell is not God's will for anyone.

What happens after death depends solely on what you do with Jesus in life.