

“This is YOUR Life !!”

1 Corinthians 15:51-57; 2 Corinthians 5:6-10

East Berlin Community Church

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Introduction

- *“This is Your Life!”*
- Next prophetic event: Rapture of the Church when Jesus Christ returns for His “bride”
 - John 14:2-- *“In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.”*
 - John 14:3-- *“And if I go and prepare a place for you, I WILL COME AGAIN and receive you to Myself; that where I am there you may be also!”*

“This is YOUR Life !!” or What happens after the rapture?

A. We will be PHYSICALLY CHANGED, fitted with new bodies.

1. Scriptural Support for the Physical Change

- 1 Corinthians 15:51-57-- *“Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: ‘Death is swallowed up in victory. O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?’ The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”*
- Philippians 3:20-21 -- *“Our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.”*

2. Characteristics of our New Bodies fashioned after Christ’s “glorified” body

- a. Our bodies will have a material makeup.
 - Luke 24:39-- *“Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bone as you see I have.”*
- b. Our new bodies will have marks that identify us.
- c. Our new bodies may not be limited like we are today.—Luke 24
- d. Our new bodies will not be subject to death nor decay.
 - 1 Corinthians 15:53 -- *“For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.”*
- e. Our new bodies will be perfect in every way.
 - Romans 8:23-- *“we also who have the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.”*

B. We will be SPIRITUALLY PREPARED at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

1. **Cultural Background of the “bema” or “judgment seat”**
2. **The “judgment seat of Christ” primarily concerns our works**
 - 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 -- *“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. Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”*
 - a. Paul’s pursuit in life is to please the Lord in everything.
 - 2 Corinthians 5:9 -- *“Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.”*
 - b. Jesus Christ loves you and I unconditionally.
 - c. Jesus Christ has also accepted us unconditionally
 - Ephesians 1:6—*“To the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.”*
3. **The “judgment seat of Christ” is not a place of CONDEMNATION.**
 - Romans 8:1a-- *“There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus.”*
4. **But the “judgment seat of Christ” is a time and place for...**
 - a. **COMMENDATION**-- rewards for faithful, fruitful service
 - b. **CLARIFICATION**-- full disclosure of all facts
 - c. **CONCILIATION**-- repaired relationships
5. **The GOAL:** So that Jesus Christ might present to Himself a *“glorious church not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but a church that is holy and blameless before him”*, spiritually prepared for the wedding.
6. **The CHOICE:** Commendation and Celebration or Condemnation and Torment
 - Revelation 20:11-13-- *“Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each according to his works.”*
 - Revelation 20:15-- *“And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.”*