

Finding Hope In Hard Times
“Hope For Our Future”
(Part 5)

May 16 & 17, 2009

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I. Eternity Is _____

A. There is a literal place to look forward to

John 14:1-2 “Don’t let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. There is more than enough room in my Father’s home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?” (NLT)

B. We continue living as literal people

Matt. 22:32 “I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ So he is the God of the living, not the dead.” (NLT)

II. Eternity Is About _____

A. Our relationship with Jesus continues

John 14:2-3 “I am going to prepare a place for you... so that you will always be with me where I am.” (NLT)

B. Our relationships with others continue

Heb. 12:22-23 “You have now come to Mount Zion and to the heavenly Jerusalem. This is the city of the living God, where thousands and thousands of angels have come to celebrate. Here you will find all of God’s dearest children, whose names are written in heaven...” (CEV)

III. Eternity Is About _____

A. Rewards give us motivation in this life

I Cor. 3:12-15 “Whatever we build on that foundation will be tested by fire on the day of judgment. Then everyone will find out if we have used gold, silver, and precious stones, or wood, hay, and straw. We will be rewarded if our building is left standing. But if it is destroyed by the fire, we will lose everything. Yet we ourselves will be saved, like someone escaping from flames.” (NLT)

B. Rewards will be enjoyed eternally

Matt. 6:19-20 “Don’t store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal.” (NLT)

IV. Eternity Is About _____

A. God will renew our physical bodies

II Cor. 5:1-3 “For we know that when this earthly tent we live in is taken down (that is, when we die and leave this earthly body), we will have a house in heaven, an eternal body made for us by God himself and not by human hands. We grow weary in our present bodies, and we long to put on our heavenly bodies like new clothing. For we will put on heavenly bodies; we will not be spirits without bodies.” (NLT)

B. God will renew His physical creation

Rom. 8:21-22 “...the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God’s children in glorious freedom from death and decay. For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.” (NLT)

Rev. 21:1 “Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared...” (NLT)

V. Eternity Is About A _____

A. The current heaven is not our final destination

B. The new heaven and new earth is our final destination

Rev. 21:1 “Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared... And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.” (NLT)