

INTRODUCTION

- * Last week we concluded our study of the book of Daniel by considering the prophetic words regarding the end-times. In that message, we saw how YHWH revealed to Daniel that there would be a time when the dead would "awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting contempt."
- * The doctrine, or teaching, of the resurrection - RAISING FROM THE DEAD IN A TRANSFORMED MANNER - is not just a New Testament teaching. Rather, even Job declared: "For I know that my Redeemer lives, and He shall stand at last on the earth; and after my skin is destroyed, this I know, that in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!" (Job 19:25-27)
- * Note that both Daniel and Job looked forward to this moment ... they looked toward the future. They didn't state that it would be instantaneous for them. It wasn't "to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord." Why? Because, Christ had not yet conquered death. That is what he accomplished through His resurrection.
- * NOW ... because of His victory ... we have the assurance of our resurrection. What awaits us on the other side? There are many things that we do not know. However, one thing that we are told clearly is something that YHWH encouraged Daniel with at the very end of his book: "You shall rest, and will arise to your inheritance at the end of the days." THERE IS A REWARD WAITING THOSE WHO HAVE BELIEVED IN, AND HAVE SERVED, YHWH.

INSTRUCTION

I. THE PROMISE OF OUR REWARD

- * DANIEL 12:13
- * COLOSSIANS 3:23-25
- * REVELATION 11:18
- * MATTHEW 5:11-12
- * MATTHEW 5:46
- * MATTHEW 6:1-6, 16-18
- * MATTHEW 10:40-42

II. THE PORTRAITS OF OUR REWARD

- A. The Crown of Life** (cf. James 1:12; Revelation 2:10; 6:2; 4:4,10; 1 Corinthians 9:25)
- B. The Crown of Righteousness** (cf. 2 Timothy 4:8)
- C. The Crown of Glory** (cf. 1 Peter 5:4; 1 Thessalonians 2:19; Philippians 4:1)

III. THE PREREQUISITE OF OUR REWARD

- * MATTHEW 16:24-27
- * 1 CORINTHIANS 3:8,12-15
- * 1 CORINTHIANS 9:17
- * 2 JOHN 1:8
- * REVELATION 22:12

INTROSPECTION

- * WHAT IMPACT HAS THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST HAD UPON YOUR LIFE?
- * ARE YOU LIVING IN LIGHT OF ETERNITY?
- * IF YOU WERE TO DIE RIGHT NOW, WOULD YOU BE LOOKING AT EVERLASTING LIFE OR CONDEMNATION?
- * WHERE ARE YOU LAYING UP YOUR TREASURES?
- * IS THERE A NEED TO CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK ... AND, THEREFORE, THE WAY YOU ACT?