

JUDGEMENT

God has appointed a day by which He will judge the world by Jesus Christ (Acts 17:31).

3. In Thes 5:1-11 and 2 Cor 5:9-10, why does Paul remind people who have been delivered from the judgement that it is none-the-less on its way?

HOPE BUILT UPON A FIRM FOUNDATION (1 JHN 2:28; 3:14-24)

4. How might the truth about judgement produce hope in God?

A knowledge of Truth is the only firm foundation. Therefore, hope that is not built upon truth is a false hope.

Hope is genuine when it is placed in the great and precious promises (truth) spoken by God. (1 Pet 1:1-11)

Likewise, genuine freedom in Christ is experienced when, "fully convinced in our own mind" (Rom 14:5) by the truth, we abide in it.

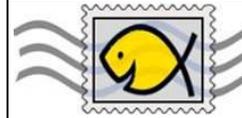
"If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (John 8:31-32)

As we walk the journey home, motivated by love, we simultaneously:

Overlook one another's weaknesses **and,**

encourage, admonish and exhort one another to be firmly established in the truth, **so that,** we might give one another real hope.

Hope that we are walking the right path **and,** Hope that we will one day be together in Paradise with Jesus.



**THIS, THE SCRIPTURES
TEACH AND THIS WE
BELIEVE ABOUT...**

RESURRECTION & JUDGEMENT



**"THEREFORE, ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER WITH THESE WORDS."
(1 THESS 4:18)**

RESURRECTION & JUDGEMENT

1 Thes 4:13-5:11

In our previous study, we saw that our ongoing freedom in Christ involved at least three things. First, the freedom from condemnation, now and in the age to come. Second, the God glorifying task of seeking the mind of God in questions of liberty and third, the responsibility to build one another up in love.

In Romans 14, Paul links building one another up with a future event (vs7-13) and it is to that future event that we now turn.

THE PRESENT STATE

Both Jesus and Paul recognise two ages. This age, and the age to come.

IN THIS AGE

- We will receive 100 times as much, with persecution. (Mk 10:30; Lk 18:30)
- People are given in marriage. (Lk 20:34)
- Jesus rescues us from the power of Satan. (2 Cor 4:4)

IN THE AGE TO COME

- We will receive eternal life. (Mk 10:30; Lk 18:30; 1 Tim 6:9)
- We do not marry. (Lk 20:35)

In this present age, bodies decay, but our inner nature is being renewed daily (2 Cor 4:16; Col 3:10) and in the age to come, we will put on a body of immortality (perfection). (1 Cor 15:53)

The definitive event between these two ages is the return of Jesus Christ.

1. What is Paul's reason for discussing the return of Jesus in 1 Thes 4:13-5:23? (cf. Rom 13:11-13; Phi 4:5; Jam 5:8; 1Pet 4:7)

THE INTERMEDIATE STATE

This phrase is used to designate the period where our spirit is removed from the perishing body (2 Cor 5:1) and at rest with the Lord (2 Cor 2 Cor 5:8), awaiting the resurrection of our bodies to perfection (2 Cor 5:4, cf. Lk 16:23; 23:43).

2. What is it that gives Paul courage to press on in 2 Cor 5:1-10?

THE FINAL STATE

As we have seen, the bible frequently refers to our future as a means of encouragement and hope (cf 1 Cor 15:58) as we travel the road home.

The home for which the believer longs includes,

- A New Heaven and Earth, in which to dwell, without sin. (Rom 8:19-23; Rev 21:1, 4)
- A New body, imperishable, in which we live, move and have our being. (1 Cor 15:51-54)
- A New Kingdom in which relationships are permanent and satisfying. (Isa 65:17-25)

