

THE LAST DAY

John 11:24

THE LAST DAY

- *"Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to Him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?'"* – John 11:23-26

"The Last Day" = "Resurrection Day"

THE LAST DAY

- Martha understood more about the "Last Day" than many religious people do today. She knew that her dead brother would be a part of a bodily resurrection. She said, *"he will rise again."*
- She knew that Lazarus would be resurrected *"on the last day."* She must have learned this truth from listening to the teaching of Jesus, because He referenced it often. (John 6:39-40, 44, 54; 11:24; 12:48)

THE LAST DAY

- The body that is resurrected will not be like the body we have now. It will be a spiritual body.
- *"So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown a perishable body, it is raised an imperishable body; it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body."*

– 1 Corinthians 15:42-44

(See 1 Corinthians 15:35-50)

THE LAST DAY

- We find several references to "the last days" in scripture. Isaiah prophesied God's kingdom would be established in the last days of the nation of Israel, the destruction of Jerusalem:
- *"Now it will come about that in the last days the mountain of the house of the Lord will be established as the chief of the mountains, and will be raised above the hills; and all the nations will stream to it."*

– Isaiah 2:2

(See also Jeremiah 23:20; Micah 4:1; Acts 2:17)

THE LAST DAY

- Paul warned Timothy about men lacking faith in the last days. This was in Timothy's lifetime, as he was told to avoid such men. We live in the same last days.
- *"But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these"* – 2 Timothy 3:1-5

THE LAST DAY

- The writer of Hebrews calls the present day "*these last days*." We are still living in the last days, where God has spoken to us through His Son.
- "*God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.*" – 2 Timothy 3:1-5

THE LAST DAY

- The "last day," the day of resurrection, will be the end of world history. It will be the day when Jesus returns.
- "*For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.*" – 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17

THE LAST DAY

- There has been much error taught on this subject. Even during the first century, false teachers had spread lies.
- "*... and their talk will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, men who have gone astray from the truth saying that the resurrection has already taken place, and they upset the faith of some.*" – 2 Timothy 2:16-17
- Likewise, some are teaching today that all prophesy of scripture, including the second coming, had occurred by the year 70 AD. But Martha's statements in John 11, as well as other scriptures show such to be false.

THE LAST DAY

- Throughout the centuries there have been false prophecies and predictions on the second coming of Christ.
- William Miller falsely predicted Christ's return in 1843 or 1844. His followers eventually formed the Adventist Christian Church and the Seventh Day Adventist Church.
- Charles Taze Russell falsely predicted the return of Christ as "an invisible spirit" in 1874, and that He would establish the kingdom of God in 1914. His followers began the Jehovah's Witnesses Church.

THE LAST DAY

- Jesus taught that no one but the Father knows when that day will come, not even the angels, nor the Son.
- "*Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away. But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.*" – Matthew 24:35-36
- Anyone claiming to know or to be able to accurately predict the last day is a liar, boldly declaring to know more than the Son of God.

THE LAST DAY

- The second coming of Christ will not be silent or secretive, but will consist of the resurrection of the dead, a loud trumpet, and shout.
- "*For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.*" – 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17

THE LAST DAY

- The scripture says that every eye will see Him!

"Behold, He is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him; and all the tribes of the earth will mourn over Him. So it is to be. Amen."
– Revelation 1:7

- Every knee will bow and every tongue will confess.

"... so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."
– Philipians 2:10-11

THE LAST DAY

- Jesus frequently spoke of the resurrection as occurring on the "last day."

"This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day." – John 6:39-40

THE LAST DAY

- Jesus said, *"No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught of God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father, comes to Me."*
– John 6:44-45

THE LAST DAY

- Jesus also spoke of the last day as one general resurrection where all people who have ever lived throughout all time will be raised up.

"Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment." – John 5:28-29

THE LAST DAY

- In order for there to be a resurrection of some into life and some into judgment, the scripture implies that a judgment has taken place!

➤ Luke records Paul as stating, "... having a hope in God, which these men cherish themselves, that there shall certainly be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked." – Acts 24:15

- We can conclude that the last day is judgment day.

THE LAST DAY

- Jesus identified for us what the standard of our judgment will be on the last day.

➤ "He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him – the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day." – John 12:48

THE LAST DAY

- It is not only the words which Jesus personally spoke that will judge us, but also the words revealed to the apostles through the Holy Spirit to teach and write down.
- "... that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief. By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ ..." – Ephesians 3:3-4
- "If anyone thinks he is a prophet or spiritual, let him recognize that the things which I write to you are the Lord's commandment." – 1 Corinthians 14:37

THE LAST DAY

- "For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe."
– 1 Thessalonians 2:13
- "For you know what commandments we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus." – 1 Thessalonians 4:2
- "... having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone ..." – Ephesians 2:20

THE LAST DAY

- Jesus prayed concerning the apostles and for us.
- "Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth. As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. For their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth. I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word ..." – John 17:17-20

THE LAST DAY

- At the judgment on the last day, we will all appear individually. We cannot slip through on a "group pass."
- "But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you again, why do you regard your brother with contempt? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.' So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God." – Romans 14:10-12

THE LAST DAY

- "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad." – 1 Corinthians 5:10

THE LAST DAY

- "Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts, and saying, 'Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation.' For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago and the earth was formed out of water and by water, through which the world at that time was destroyed, being flooded with water. But by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men." – 2 Peter 3:3-7

THE LAST DAY

- *"But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day. The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up." – 2 Peter 3:8-10*

THE LAST DAY

- *"Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat! But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless, and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation ..." – 2 Peter 3:11-15*

GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

- **Hear the word** (Romans 10:12-17; James 1:21)
- **Believe the gospel** (Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24)
- **Repent of sins** (Luke 3:13; Acts 17:30-31)
- **Confess Jesus Christ** (Romans 10:10; Matthew 10:32-33)
- **Be Baptized** (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:38)
- **Remain Obedient** (1 Corinthians 15:1-2, Revelation 2:10)