

Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13 - 18

## Introduction

- Secular World View VS Christian World View Regarding Earth And Humanity's Future.
- The 1st says, the world and humanity will all one day be doomed the victim of some cataclysmic event.
- The same view says, all we have to look forward too is a return to dust and nothingness.
- The 2nd says, there will be the creation of a new earth as a result of Christ coming 'the Second time.'
- · What other events result from Christ's Coming?

## 1 The Resurrection Of The Believer

- [1 Thess 4:16] "the dead IN CHRIST (Gk: ston Christo) will rise first."
- This is 'only' the experience of the 'Christian dead.'
- Millions upon millions of souls resurrected stretching back as far OT saints even to Adam.
- The Christian dead are not going to miss this 'climax of the ages.'
- They will be 're-created' regardless of what state of decay their mortal remains are in.

- For the Christian dead, death is not the end. Its just the end of the beginning.
- Other religions (Buddhism, Sikhism & Hinduism) believe in 're-incarnation.'
- This is an endless cycle of birth, death, re-birth, death and re-birth......
- Nor is it existing as a dis-embodied spirit but rather in a resurrection body at Christ's coming.
- NB. The ungodly will also experience a bodily resurrection to stand in God's judgement.

## There are 2 resurrections

- For the believer: [John 5:29], [Luke 14:14], [Hebrews 11:35], [Revelation 20:5/6].
- For the unbeliever: [John 5:29], Daniel 12:2].
- The truth of the 'believer's resurrection' is such a comfort when we lose one who
  has died 'in the Lord.'
- This great truth is reflected in many of the great hymns of the church.
- Christians often put the words on head stones 'till He comes.' The grave and death is only UNTIL Christ comes. Hallelujah.

## 2 The Believer's Glorification

- This is the last of the links in the 'golden chain' of redemption. (The 'Ordo Salutus').
- Consider [Philippians 3:20/21], [1 John 3:2], [1 Corinthians 51 54].
- NB. Our glorification takes place in the twinkling of an eye NOT the Coming of Christ and attendant events.
- We will inherit a body that will have eternal health and mobility. No disease. No aging.
- It will be a body with no ability to sin.
- The 'optimum' of His Coming will be 'to see His face.'
- "Face to face shall we behold Him."