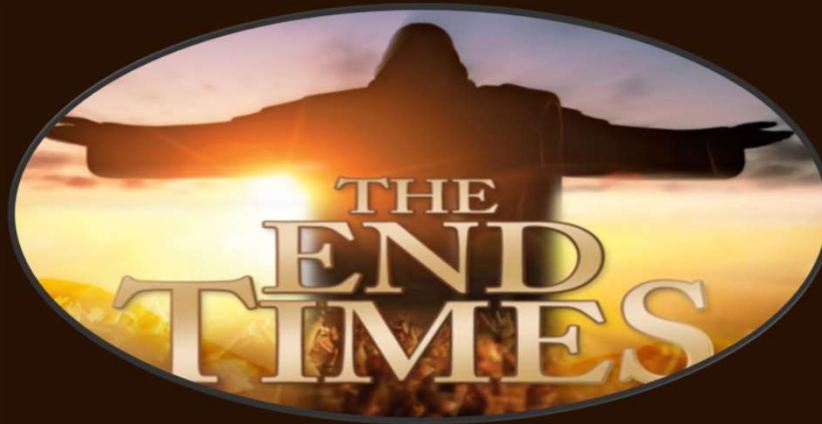


SRMBC FAMILY BIBLE STUDY



Practical Heavenly Mindedness

SOLID ROCK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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Harrisburg PA 17111

1

Study Schedule Apr – May 2020

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lesson Title</u>	<u>Scriptures</u>
4/15/2020	The Last Days Are Here!	Acts 2
4/22/2020	He Will Come Back	John 14:1-27
4/29/2020	Waiting With Hope	Matt. 25:1 -13; 31 – 46
5/6/2020	God's Timing—and Ours	Joel 2:12-32
5/13/2020	The Future of the Human Person	1 Cor. 15:12-28, 35-44, 58
5/20/2020	Investing in Heaven	1 Thess. 4:13—5:11; 2 Thess. 3:6-18
5/27/2020	Going to the Lamb's Wedding	Rev. 7:9-17; 19:1-10; 21:1-9



2

This Week's Lesson – May 20, 2020

The End Times:

Practical Heavenly Mindedness

Lesson 5:

The Future of the Human Person

1 Cor. 15:12-28; 5-44, 58



3

"What is Christian Eschatology/Last Days?"

Eschatology - is the study of what the Bible says is going to happen in the end times.

Last Days – Refers to the period of Grace (after the death, burial & resurrection of Christ) before the final Judgement.

End Times - The series of events – leading up to the Final Judgement.



4

Introduction II Corinthians

Author: The Apostle Paul (II Cor.1:1)

Date of Writing: A.D. 55-57

Purpose of Writing: In II Corinthians, Paul rejoices in the Church's positive response to his previous letter(s).

Practical Application:

- Living in unity requires us to humbly forgive one another and to follow our leaders.
- God gives Grace for the trials His servants will face in the ministry of the Gospel.
- As Christ died and rose to give us eternal life, we ought to give all we have to God.



The Apostle Paul



5



6

Read 1 Cor. 15:12-28

7

1 Corinthians 15:12 – 15 (NKJV)

12 Now if Christ is preached that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?

13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen.

14 And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty.

15 Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ, whom He did not raise up—if in fact the dead do not rise.



8

I Corinthians 15:16 – 20 (NKJV)

16 For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen.

17 And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins!

18 Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.

19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.

20 But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.



9

I Corinthians 15:21 – 24 (NKJV)

21 For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead.

22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.

23 But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming.

24 Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power.



10

I Corinthians 15:26 – 28 (NKJV)

25 For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet.

26 The last enemy that will be destroyed is death.

27 For “He has put all things under His feet.” But when He says “all things are put under Him,” it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted.

28 Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.



11

1. Corinthians had stopped believing in resurrection. What does Paul say are the consequences of this belief (vv. 12-15)?

- No one can be risen: (There’s no hope for anybody).
- Our preaching is meaningless: (like a broken pencil no point).
- Our faith is empty: Christianity is meaningless (No forgiveness of sins, eternal life, no reason for living/ministry).
- The Ministry/Worship of God is foolish: All we believe is a lie.



12

2. Paul is arguing from Christ rising from the dead. What will be the consequences if this fundamental fact is denied (vv. 16-19)?

- **Our Faith, Christianity is worth nothing. It makes no difference to us or in us.**
- **We will still be in our sins – no forgiveness or resurrection power to change us.**
- **Those who have already died have no eternal life – nothing to look forward too.**
- **Living holy and righteous lives - avoiding sinful pleasures would be a pity.**



13

3. In what ways does verse 19 run counter to the contemporary Western view of Christian living?

- **Contemporary View: We need not focus on the future/Eternity – but on today’s “practical” issues.**

“Heavenly bound but no earthly good...”

- **Scriptural View: Since Christ is risen from the dead we have present forgiveness (v. 17) but also hope for the future.**

“Earthly good by being Heavenly bound...”



14

4. What does the resurrection of Christ (“the firstfruits,” v. 20) guarantee for the rest of us?

- **Victory Over Death** – Death is an enemy that been defeated by Christ. We share that victory.
- **Resurrection** – We will rise from the dead from the Grave – just as Jesus did.
- **Glorification** – We are to receive a glorified body – Just like Jesus’ body.
- **Rewards** – Eternal Life along with rewards for faithful service to the Lord.



15

5. The Greeks viewed death as a release for the soul. Why does Paul take a less positive view (vv. 21-26)?

- **Death Is A Penalty** – Death is the penalty of Adam’s sin – which we all inherit.
- **Death Is An Enemy** - Paul viewed death as an enemy. It brings pain, grief and a sense of loss.
- **Death Is Costly** – To defeat death it took the death and blood of God’s Son – Jesus Christ.
- **Death Is Temporary** – Christ is the 1st to rise from grave. It will be an enemy – until His Kingdom comes.



16

Read 1 Cor. 15:35-44, 58

17

1 Corinthians 15:35 – 39 (NKJV)

35 But someone will say, “How are the dead raised up? And with what body do they come?”

36 Foolish one, what you sow is not made alive unless it dies.

37 And what you sow, you do not sow that body that shall be, but mere grain—perhaps wheat or some other grain.

38 But God gives it a body as He pleases, and to each seed its own body.

39 All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of animals, another of fish, and another of birds.



18

I Corinthians 15:40 – 43 (NKJV)

40 There are also celestial bodies and terrestrial bodies; but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another.

41 There is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differs from another star in glory.

42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption.

43 It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power.



19

I Corinthians 15:44, 58 (NKJV)

44 It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

58 “O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?”



20

6. What similarities and differences will exist between this life and the next?

Similarities:

- **We will have a body** In this life, and the next, we'll have a Body fitting for our environment (Natural/Spiritual).
- **We will be in God's Presence** – God is in the midst of us now and will be in the future.
- **We will worship/serve** – God's people worship and serve the Lord on earth and in Heaven.



21

6. What similarities and differences will exist between this life and the next?

Differences:

- **Our Bodies:** We have natural Body (corruption), in the next life, a glorified body (incorruption).
- **God's Presence** – Right now, we see God veiled, in the next, we will God presence fully.
- **Our Worship/Service** – Our worship and service will not be tainted by sin and will be Holy and pure.



22

7. Read 1 Corinthians 15:58. How does Paul's final exhortation encourage you today?

1) Christ victory over death provides encouragement for our Christian activities (vv. 12 – 19):

Preaching & Believing (V. 14)	Forgiveness For The Past (V. 17)
Truthful Testimony (V. 15)	Hope For The Future (Vv. 18-19).
Faith For The Present (V. 17)	



23

7. Read 1 Corinthians 15:58. How does Paul's final exhortation encourage you today?

2) Christ victory over death provides hope and fuel for our purpose:

- We Know our bodies were not made for sin but for the purpose of God (Rom 12:1 -2)
- Our bodies are now the Temple of the Holy Spirit We are Holy and separated for Him (I Cor. 6:19 – 20).
- God gives us time to make a difference for the Kingdom (Matt 5:14 – 15) .



24

8. How does this study show that our own future resurrection brings great meaning to our life and work as Christians now?

- Seriousness – The Gospel is serious – we need salvation and to help others to be saved.
- Tirelessness – This is not the time to quit, we must press through – despite the obstacles.
- Hopefulness – Despite what things look like, we have unshakeable hope in Christ.
- Thankfulness – Joy and gratitude is the fuel for our service to Christ and for others.



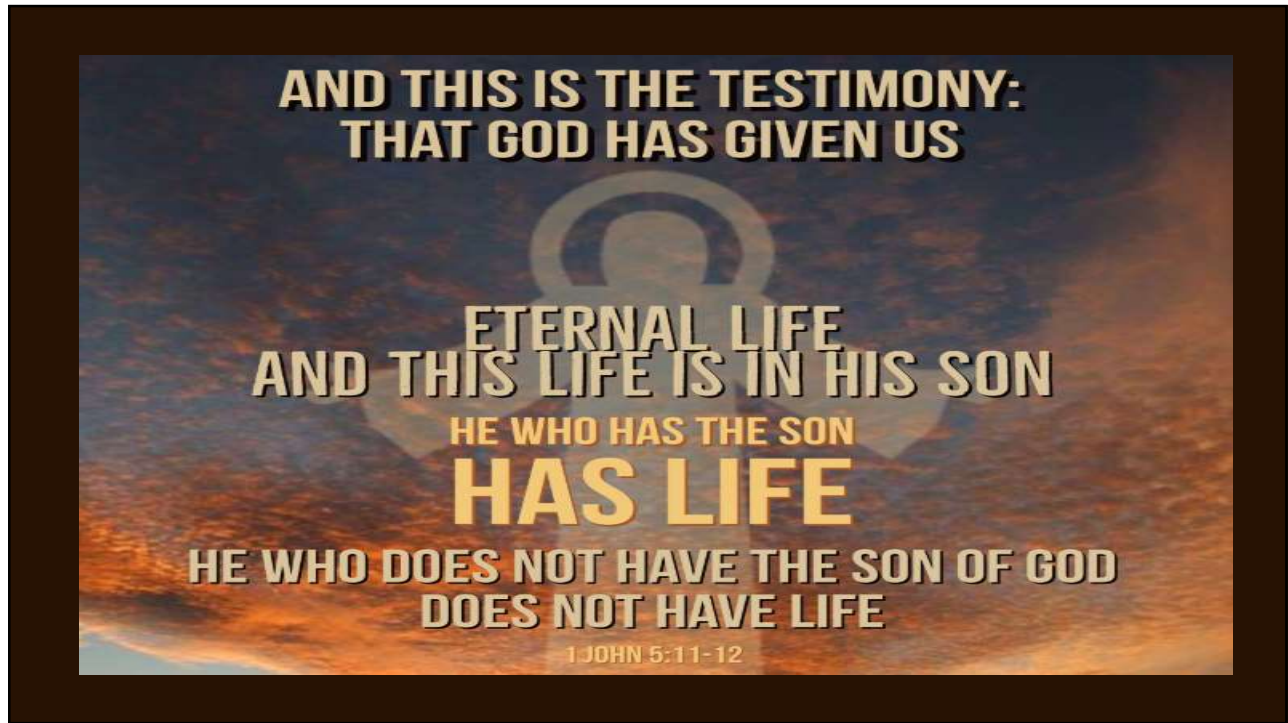
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Keys For Living

- The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the most important message in the world – it is literally the difference between life and death.
- Jesus has defeated death by rising from the grave, we can be confident in our own resurrection. (cf. John 11:25).
- Weighing our earthly life with the glory of our life eternal, motivates us to give our all in Christ's service (cf. II Cor 4:17; Eph. 5:16).



26



27