

**What Lays Beyond**

What lays beyond for the Believer?

**III: A \_\_\_\_\_ Confidence:** v6-8

This is a wonderful passage because these are the words that not only bring us a hope, but they also bring us a joy whenever a saved loved one passes away.

The word confident comes from the Greek which offers a two-fold meaning and in v6-8 we see both definitions applied.

The first definition, as it applies to what lays beyond is a ...

A. noticeable \_\_\_\_\_: v6-7

Paul is saying that a Believer can be still be courageous even in this dark world because the Believer doesn't live according to what they see happening in this world but rather they live according to their faith in Jesus Christ. And when a Believer lives by faith and not by sight others will notice.

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The second definition, as it applies to what lays beyond is a ...

B. noticeable \_\_\_\_\_: v8

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While the *obvious* principle is that such courage / such cheer only comes by faith in Jesus Christ, the *operative* principle is that as we live here on this earth, we are to live our lives waiting in anticipation of the Lord's return. We are to live our lives waiting for that day when an even greater home will be received because the instant the Believer's soul is separated from the body is the same instant he or she is with the Lord for all eternity.

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**What Lays Beyond**

2 Cor. 5:1-8

While there is sadness and weeping when a saved loved one dies, for the Christian, there can also great joy, because for the Christian, what lays beyond this life is greatly comforting.

We understand that when a Christian dies there are some things that we know - we know that there will be a judgment of works, not sin, at the Judgment Seat of Christ. We know this body, which is made up of corruptible flesh will deteriorate and decay when it dies.

But beyond these things, this passage teaches us some additional things that we can know happens in the future of every Believer.

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## What Lays Beyond

What lays beyond is ...

**I: A \_\_\_\_\_ Body: v1**

The Bible teaches two resurrections (Daniel 12:1-2). A resurrection to everlasting life (1 Cor. 15:20, Matt. 27:52-53, 1 Thess. 4:16, Rev. 20:4) and a resurrection to shame, everlasting contempt and damnation (Dan. 12:2, John 5:29, Rev. 20:14).

At the resurrection to everlasting life, the Believer will receive...

A. a \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ body  
Jesus resurrected in a literal body (John 20:27). Our current body is temporary (like a tabernacle) and will be replaced with a new body (a building) at the resurrection.

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B. a \_\_\_\_\_ body  
**dissolved** = to *disintegrate* / to *demolish* / to *destroy*  
Our new body will be **eternal in the heavens**.

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C. a \_\_\_\_\_ body (1 Cor. 15:42-44)  
Our new body will be raised in incorruption, glory and power ... not subject to sin, dishonor or weakness.

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What did Paul say in our text? It is ... **a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens**. The body made with hands, while the process of conception and what happens in a woman's body as that baby grows in the womb is miraculous, the procedure for pregnancy isn't miraculous; it is of man. But with the resurrected Believer, that process and procedure of the new body being generated at the resurrection is supernatural—*it is of God not of man*.

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## What Lays Beyond

What lays beyond is ...

**II: A \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Guarantee: v5**

Our resurrection unto everlasting life is a never-failing guarantee because...

A. it has been \_\_\_\_\_ by God  
**wrought** = to *work fully*, to *accomplish*; to *finish*

A Believer's resurrection to everlasting life has already been fully worked out—accomplished—and finished through the first fruits of Jesus' resurrection.

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It has also been guaranteed because...

B. it has been \_\_\_\_\_ by God  
**earnest** = of Hebrew origin = a *pledge*, that is, part of the purchase money or property given in advance as *security* that the transaction will take place.

As a guarantee that the Believer will be resurrected to everlasting life, God has secured us with the down payment of His Holy Spirit to seal us until that day.

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The Believer has been purchased with the Blood of Jesus Christ and the redemption, or the fullness of that of that purchased possession, will ultimately be completed at the resurrection. But until that time as we still reside in our current bodies, God has sealed us with His Holy Spirit as security.

And so, what lays beyond for the Believer is a new resurrected, permanent and perfect body and a never-failing guarantee, which is secured by the Holy Spirit of God, that we will not only be resurrected, but we will be resurrected to everlasting life and not death.

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