

Lazarus, Come Forth

This story is about the death and resurrection of Lazarus, a close friend of Christ who was sick. Even though Lazarus was only two miles away when Christ received the word that he was sick, it was not until he was in the tomb for four days that Jesus showed up. Why did Christ wait to go to him? What lesson can we glean from this story?

Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus send a message to Jesus regarding his sickness.

John 11:4 When Jesus heard that, He said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby.

Let's consider what He was meaning when He said, "**but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby.**" We have the explanation given in the following verses.

John 11:15 And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent ye may believe; nevertheless let us go unto him.

John 11:40 Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?

What did Christ mean when He said, "**This sickness in not unto death?**" He well knew that Lazarus would die and that He was planning to resurrect him, so what **death** was He referring to? He had to be referring to the *eternal* death, known as the second death in the book of Revelation chapter twenty.

In His discourse with Martha later on in the story, He alludes to this as the eternal death.

John 11:25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: 26) And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

Jesus made it very clear regarding the temporal death that Lazarus experienced. The Bible's terminology for the first death is sleep.

John 11:11 These things said He: and after that He saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep. 12) Then said His disciples, Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well. 13) Howbeit Jesus spake of his death: but they thought that he had spoken of taking of rest in sleep. 14) Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead.

Christ knowing the extent of their belief, realized they needed to witness this miracle. When they should see this extreme miracle, the raising of Lazarus after being dead four days, they might be convinced He truly was the Son of God. We will discover that even this was not enough for most of them.

We can see that even Martha, as close as she was to Christ, was somewhat compromised in her belief. Even though she starts out by affirming her belief that He could have healed Lazarus and later even declares her faith in Him as the Christ, she shows her lack of belief in His ability to resurrect Lazarus immediately.

John 11:19 And many of the Jews came to Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother. 20) Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met Him: but Mary sat still in the house. 21) Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died. 22) But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee.

Christ recognizes her lack of complete faith and attempts to reveal to her His power to resurrect her brother even now.

John 11:23 Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again.

Martha is unaware of her lack of faith as she answers Christ.

John 11:24 Martha saith unto Him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.

Jesus answers, again trying to relay to her the glory, power and authority that He has. He tells her "I AM the RESURRECTION and the LIFE."

John 11:25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: 26) And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

Martha assures Him that she believes He is the Christ.

John 11:27 She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.

Yet later on she reveals her lack of faith in His power to resurrect Lazarus now.

John 11:39 Jesus said, Take ye away the stone. Martha, the sister of him that was dead, saith unto Him, Lord, by this time he stinketh: for he hath been dead four days. 40) Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?

Mary, Martha's sister also lacks faith even though she speaks of her faith in His healing power.

John 11:32 Then when Mary was come where Jesus was, and saw Him, she fell down at His feet, saying unto Him, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.

Had she had full faith in Him and His power to resurrect her brother after being dead four days, would she be crying?

John 11:33 When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, He groaned in the spirit, and was troubled, 34) And said, Where have ye laid him? They said unto Him, Lord, come and see. 35) Jesus wept.

Many today believe that the reason Christ wept was only because of the love He had for Lazarus. They are not alone, even those that heard Him also believed that.

John 11:36 Then said the Jews, Behold how He loved him! 37) And some of them said, Could not this man, which opened the eyes of the blind, have caused that even this man should not have died?

But why would Jesus weep because of the loss of a beloved friend if He knew He was about to resurrect him? Again it states the sorrow Christ had, this time over those Jews who had witnessed His many miracles.

John 11:37 And some of them said, Could not this man, which opened the eyes of the blind, have caused that even this man should not have died? 38) Jesus therefore again groaning in Himself cometh to the grave.

Just like Martha and Mary, they had a partial faith—not the faith that is a saving faith. This is why He grieved. He longed in His inner most soul that they would believe in His power to resurrect, His power to save to the uttermost all who would come unto Him.

John 11:38 Jesus therefore again groaning in Himself cometh to the grave. It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it. 39) Jesus said, Take ye away the stone. Martha, the sister of him that was dead, saith unto Him, Lord, by this time he stinketh: for he hath been dead four days.

The Saviour again refers to the reason He had waited to perform the most convincing miracle for those who had yet the lack of faith necessary for salvation.

John 11:40 Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?

Christ then resurrects Lazarus by the power of His word only.

John 11:41 Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up His eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. 42) And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me. 43) And when He thus had spoken, He cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth.

Lazarus and The Rich Man

Our story begins in Luke 16:19. This is a parable. How do we know it is? It starts out, “And there was a certain rich man. . .” In the gospel of Luke we find many parables starting the same way. They can be found in the following passages. Luke 12:16; 13:6; 16:1; 19:11, 12; 20:19. Christ chose to use well known parables already in existence that He might convey deep spiritual lessons. This is the case regarding the parable of Lazarus and the Rich Man. This fact can be verified by checking the Zondervan Encyclopedia of the Bible.

If we want to understand the lesson Christ desired to teach in this parable, we must first notice who He was talking to and what their condition was. This we can find in the verses before the parable starts.

Luke 16:14 And the Pharisees also, who were covetous, heard all these things: and they derided Him.

Does the parable deal with covetousness? We will find that it does. Not only that, but the rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen represented the Pharisees. They believed they were the “chosen people” to whom the gift of salvation was only granted.

Matthew 23:13 But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.

Christ knew of their spiritual destitution, and tried to reach them many different ways, including clothing the lessons for them in parables.

Matthew 23:27 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men’s bones, and of all uncleanness.

Matthew 13:3 Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. 14) And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: 15) For this people’s heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and

should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. 16) But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear.

Matthew 13:13 This is why I speak to them in parables: "Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand. 14) In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: "You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving. 15) For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them." (NIV translation)

In this parable of Luke 16:19-31, the rich man represents the Pharisees, and the beggar, the Gentiles. They both die and their positions have reversed. The rich man is suffering torment in hell seeking favors from Lazarus, the beggar who is in heaven. On earth the rich man was made a steward of the Lord's goods, yet coveted them for himself.

Luke 16:19 There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day: 20) And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, 21) And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. 22) And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; 23) And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. 24) And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.

We can observe that this is a parable and not a literal story because of the following:

1. The beggar obviously could not fit in Abraham's bosom.
2. The rich man died and his body was buried, therefore how could he have eyes to see, ears to hear, and a tongue to be soothed. Would a drop of water even begin to soothe?
3. Will there be communication between those in heaven and those in hell fire? Would you like to watch your loved ones being tortured?

Why is the rich man praying to father Abraham and not to God? The Jews were very proud of their heritage and felt secure of their salvation because of it. But Christ taught them that it was not enough to be descendants of Abraham.

Luke 3:8 Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance, and begin not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, That God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.

They were far from true descendants of Abraham for they were plotting to kill Him.

John 8:37 I know that ye are Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you. 38) I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with your father. 39) They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. Jesus saith unto them, If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham. 40) But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham. 41) Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God.

The parable continues. Once we have been judged and have received our reward, it is final. The great gulf **fixed** represents this truth.

Luke 16:25 But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. 26) And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence.

The rich man pleads for him to send Lazarus to his brothers to warn them of their fate should they not change their ways.

Luke 16:27 Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house: 28) For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.

But Abraham answers, let them read the Scriptures which have been entrusted to them.

Luke 16: 29 Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.

The rich man answering says, "That is not enough to convince them, but if one came back from the dead with a warning, they would surely believe."

Luke 16:30 And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent.

Now comes the hard hitting truth. There was nothing that Jesus could do to reach the Pharisees.

Luke 16:31 And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

Going back to the story of the resurrection of Lazarus we find proof that they would not believe even if one rose from the dead. What did the Pharisees want to do with Lazarus who was truly raised from the dead?

John 12:9 Much people of the Jews therefore knew that He was there: and they came not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might see Lazarus also, whom He had raised from the dead. 10) But the chief priests consulted that they might put Lazarus also to death;

They wanted to destroy both, Christ and the one miracle that proved who He was, the raising of Lazarus.

Where Is Father Abraham?

For our answer, we will be looking at the faith chapter in the book to the Hebrews.

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. 2) For by it the elders obtained a good report.

Who were these elders who obtained a good report?

Hebrews 11:4 By faith Abel . . .

Hebrews 11: 7 By faith Noah,

Hebrews 11:8 By faith Abraham,

Hebrew 11: 11 Through faith also Sara

Hebrews 11: 20 By faith Isaac

Hebrews 11:21 By faith Jacob,

Hebrews 11:22 By faith Joseph,

Hebrews 11:31 By faith the harlot Rahab

Hebrews 11:32 And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gideon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:

Hebrews 11:33 Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, [referring to Daniel]

Hebrews 11:37 They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;

Hebrews 11:38 (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

What does it say regarding these faithful elders?

Hebrew 11:39 And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:

What was the promise?

Hebrews 11:8 By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

Genesis is where we first read of the promises made to Abraham. Not only was he promised the land of Canaan, but he was also promised to be the father of many nations.

Gen 13:14 And the LORD said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: 15) For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever. 16) And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered.

Abraham did dwell in the land of Canaan and he was the father of many nations.

Genesis 13:12 Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, and pitched his tent toward Sodom.

Then what were the promises that were “seen afar off” and “not received”?

Hebrews 11:13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

The first promise was the earthly Canaan which was a type pointing to the heavenly Canaan.

Hebrews 11:9 By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: 10) For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

Hebrews 11:13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. 14) For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country...

16) But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for He hath prepared for them a city.

They were free to choose to return to their country from whence they came, the Ur of the Chaldees, also known as Babylon. God called Abraham out of literal Babylon, just as He is now calling His faithful out of spiritual Babylon.

Hebrews 11:15 And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned.

What was the second promise made to Abraham? His seed would be as the stars of heaven.

Genesis 26:4 And I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto thy seed all these countries; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed;

Abraham truly was the father of many nations, so what part of this promise did he not receive but only saw it afar off? We have a clue in the preceding verse.

Genesis 26:4b . . . and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed;

What **seed** could be said to have “blessed all nations”? Is there a spiritual application to “seed” just as there was to “land”?

Galatians 3:16 Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of One, And to thy Seed, which is Christ.

Abraham saw the “Seed afar off” through his experience of preparing to offer Isaac his son as a sacrifice, which typified Christ who was offered as a sacrifice.

John 8:56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad.

These faithful saints died before Christ came to earth, but were persuaded of the promises. The promised “Seed” brought hope of a resurrection and the fulfillment of the promised “Heavenly Canaan.” By faith they embraced these promises not having seen them. It was by faith that they obtained a good report.

Hebrews 11:13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. 14) For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country.

Hebrews 11:16 But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for He hath prepared for them a city.

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. 2) For by it the elders obtained a good report.

This promised “Seed” has another typological application.

Galatians 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. 29) And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Christ would see the travail of His soul and be satisfied.

Revelation 7:9 After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;

Where are these faithful elders mentioned in Hebrews 11? They are sleeping in their graves awaiting the resurrection of those who sleep in Jesus.

Job 14:12 So man lieth down, and riseth not: till the heavens be no more, they shall not awake, nor be raised out of their sleep.

Hebrews 11:40 God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

King David, one of the faithful mentioned in Hebrew 11, is sleeping in his grave awaiting the promised resurrection of the just.

Acts 2:29 Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day...34) For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, 35) Until I make thy foes thy footstool.

What does "be made perfect" mean? They had already obtained a good report. They went into their graves with a body which saw corruption, and they will be raised with a perfect body which shall never see corruption.

1 Corinthians 15:35 But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come?

1 Corinthians 15:42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:

1 Corinthians 15:51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52) In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

The change that comes is not our character for that is sealed at death or if we are alive, at His coming, for His reward is with Him to give to every man according as his work shall be.

Revelation 22:11 He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. 12) And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

The change that comes is our physical bodies. It is our physical bodies that corrupt and return to dust. Our bodies must be physically changed in order for them not to see corruption ever again. When we awake we will have heavenly bodies like our Lord.

Isaiah 26:19 Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead.

Psalms 17:15 As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.

1 John 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is.

What kind of body does our resurrected Lord have?

Luke 24:36 And as they thus spake, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. 37) But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit. 38) And He said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? 39) Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have. 40) And when He had thus spoken, He shewed them His hands and His feet. 41) And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, He said unto them, Have ye here any meat? 42) And they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb. 43) And He took it, and did eat before them.

Job understood the resurrection of his physical body at the latter days. Corruptible flesh and blood will not enter Heaven, but our natural bodies will be changed into heavenly, spiritual bodies of flesh at the last trump.

Job 16:25 For I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: 26) And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God:

Let's go back to Hebrews and consider this verse again.

Hebrews 11:40 God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

What is meant by "they without us"? Paul speaks similarly in another passage referring to the blessed resurrection.

1 Thessalonians 4:13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14) For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him. 15) For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 16) For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the Archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17) Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18) Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

What is meant by the phrase "shall not prevent them"? Let us look to the original Greek word for a better understanding. We will discover that prevent translates precede.

Prevent: Greek #5348. Fyanw: apparently a primary verb; to be beforehand, i.e. anticipate or precede; by extension, to have arrived at:-- (already) attain, come, prevent.

So let's look at the verse again plugging in the translation.

1 Thessalonians 4:15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not precede them which are asleep.

Let's consider the phrase "will God bring with Him". This also has brought about a lot of confusion. The confusion disappears by looking at the definition.

Bring Greek #71. Agw: a primary verb; properly, to lead; by implication, to bring, drive, (reflexively) go, (specially) pass (time), or (figuratively) induce:-- be, bring (forth), carry, (let) go, keep, lead away, be open.

Now let's visit the verse again and plug in the definition of **bring**.

1 Thessalonians 4: 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God lead with Him.

Where will He lead them? Back to Heaven as promised in John 15:1-3. Christ is coming back as He promised to resurrect those faithful who sleep in Jesus. We which are alive and remain shall not go before hand to receive the promise but "God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect." (Hebrews 11:40)

John 14:1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 2) In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3) And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

1 Thessalonians 4:17. . . And so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18) Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

Regarding the confusion over whether the Lord **brings** the saints from Heaven or leads them back to Heaven, let us ask ourselves this question; Does it make any sense that God would "bring" **sleeping** (dead) saints with Him from Heaven?

When does this blessed resurrection take place? Jesus plainly told us repeatedly in John's gospel.

John 6:39 And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which He hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. 40) And this is the will of Him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on Him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

John 6:44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

John 6:54 Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.

It will be then that we shed these mortal, corruptible bodies and are given new heavenly bodies that will never again be subject to death.

1 Corinthians 15:51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52) In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53) For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54) So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. 55) O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? 56) The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. 57) But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Praise God, for:

1 Corinthians 15:26 The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.