

LESSON 15



When Death

NO LONGER HAS THE FINAL WORD

INTRODUCTION

Death is the one reality no one escapes and no one wants to talk about. We avoid the subject, we soften the language, we distract ourselves with noise, because facing mortality feels too heavy. But deep down, everyone asks the same question: “Is this really the end?”

The Bible doesn’t answer with fantasy or denial it answers with a promise. A promise that death is not a wall, but a doorway. A promise that the grave is not the final sentence, but a temporary pause. A promise that the One who conquered death will call every sleeping heart back to life.

Death may silence a voice, but it cannot erase a story written by God. And when Jesus speaks, even the grave listens.

That is why this lesson is not one of despair, but of trust. We will talk about death, yes, but above all about the powerful hope of the resurrection in Christ. Because the gospel not only transforms the present: it guarantees a future where life will triumph forever.

LET'S EXPLORE THE BIBLE

A. Death as a sleep

When Jesus spoke of His friend Lazarus, He said, “Our friend Lazarus sleeps” (John 11:11, NKJV). The disciples thought of a common rest, but Jesus clarified: “Lazarus is dead” (v. 14). For Christ, death is not a state of conscious activity, but a sleep from which only He can awaken. The wise man of Ecclesiastes confirms it: “The dead know nothing... their love, their hatred, and their envy have already perished” (Ecclesiastes 9:5-6, NKJV).



B. The reality of death

Why does death exist? Paul answers clearly: “For the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23, NKJV). It was not in God’s original plan; it was the result of rebellion in Eden. Disobedience brought separation from the source of life, and with it suffering, pain, and death.



C. The hope of resurrection

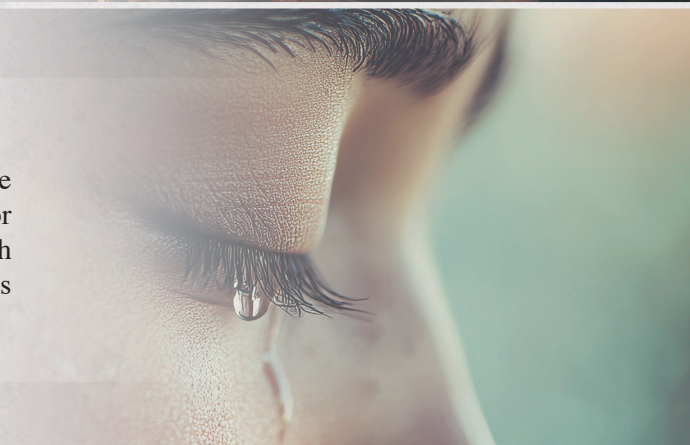
But the Bible does not end in defeat. Paul proclaims: “But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep” (1 Corinthians 15:20, NKJV). The resurrection of Jesus was not just an isolated miracle: it is the guarantee that those who believe in Him will also rise.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 (NKJV). This promise assures that death is not the end, but a pause until the glorious dawn of the Second Coming.



D. The final promise

The Bible closes with a vision full of hope: “He will wipe every tear from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying, nor pain” (Revelation 21:4, NKJV). Death will not be eternal. The last enemy will be destroyed, and God’s abundant life will reign forever.





LET'S REFLECT ON A FEW POINTS

1. What do you believe happens after death?

2. How does your view of life change knowing that Jesus promises resurrection and eternal life?

3. What does it mean to you that death is not the end, but a sleep from which God can awaken you?

PERSONAL DECISION

In a world full of confusion about what happens after death, the Bible shows us a safe path. God warns us not to consult the dead or seek messages from them, because they are silent, waiting for the resurrection Ecclesiastes 9:5; Isaiah 8:19 (NKJV).

Today you can make a clear decision: do not be deceived by spiritualism or philosophies that contradict the Word of God. Cling to Christ as your hope, your security, and your life. With Him, death is no longer a dark ending, but a sleep from which you will awaken in glory.

PRACTICAL ADVICE FOR THIS LESSON

What about purgatory, limbo, reincarnation, or the idea that the dead “walk around”?

These are human beliefs that have arisen throughout history, but none have a foundation in the Word of God. The Bible never speaks of a purgatory where souls “pay” for their sins, nor a limbo for the innocent, nor multiple reincarnations.

When someone dies, are they already in heaven?

The biblical answer is clear: “The dead know nothing” (Ecclesiastes 9:5, NKJV). Jesus said that the dead will hear His voice when He returns, John 5:28-29 (NKJV). No one immediately receives heaven or hell. God’s plan is more beautiful: to enjoy the victory of eternal life together, in the great final resurrection.

So, what is death?

The Bible compares it to a deep sleep. There is no awareness of the passage of time.

For the one who dies, the next moment will be Christ’s call in the resurrection: “For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven... and the dead in Christ will rise first” (1 Thessalonians 4:16, NKJV).

Is death the end of everything?

No. For those who have no hope in Christ, death seems final. But Jesus promised: “He who believes in Me, though he may die, shall live” (John 11:25, NKJV). That promise ensures that the tomb is not the end, but the threshold of eternal life.

Why do we need the resurrection if the soul continues to live?

Because the Bible teaches that the human being is not a spirit floating in search of a body, but an indivisible unit of body, mind, and spirit Genesis 2:7 (NKJV). Without a body, there is no life.



DID YOU KNOW...?

The idea of an immortal soul separated from the body does not come from the Bible, but from Greek philosophy, especially Plato, who taught that the body was a prison of the soul and that death liberated the spirit to another existence. Over time, that vision mixed with religious traditions and became popular in the Western world.

The Bible, on the other hand, presents a radically different and much more hopeful message: the human being is not a spirit trapped in a body, but an integral unity of body, mind, and spirit, Genesis 2:7 (NKJV). When we die, we do not continue living in another dimension, but rest in a deep sleep. God’s promise is not a “partial heaven” for the soul, but a complete eternal life that will be received at the resurrection when Christ returns, 1 Thessalonians 4:16–17 (NKJV).

This means that the Christian hope is not based on human philosophies, but on Jesus’ victory over the tomb. His resurrection is the guarantee of ours.

IMPORTANT TIP

Do not fear death or be confused by human theories. The Bible teaches that death is temporary and that the resurrection is certain for those who are in Christ. Live each day with the assurance that the same Jesus who conquered the tomb will return to awaken you to an eternal life of joy, without pain and without end. What a wonderful hope fills us in the Word of God. Let us continue with that living hope which is Christ.

KEY TEXT

“FOR THE LORD HIMSELF
WILL DESCEND FROM HEAVEN...

— AND THE
DEAD IN
CHRIST
WILL RISE
FIRST”

(1 Thessalonians 4:16, NKJV)



FINAL TIP

A journalist told the story of a woman who, after the death of her little son, slept every night hugging the child's clothes. She could not accept the idea that his little body would never again run or laugh. With tears she said: "The only thing that sustains me is the hope of seeing him again."

Death is the greatest certainty of life... and at the same time, the deepest wound of the human being. No science has been able to prevent it, no philosophy has fully explained it, and no human power has defeated its sting. Cemeteries are a silent reminder of our fragility and the limit that sooner or later we all face.

But the Bible does not remain in the silence of the grave. In its pages resounds a promise that changes everything: "Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live" (John 11:25, NKJV). In Christ, death does not have the last word. What for the world is an irreversible end, for the believer is a sleep from which he will awaken in the glory of the resurrection.

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CONCLUSIÓN

You don't have to fear what comes after. You don't have to guess. You don't have to live with the quiet terror that everything ends in darkness. Jesus walked into death so you wouldn't face it alone. He broke its power so you wouldn't remain in it.

And because He lives, hope lives. Promise lives. Your future lives. For those who belong to Him, death is not goodbye it's rest. A moment. A breath. And the next voice you hear will be the One who loved you first. When death loses its power, life finally becomes what it was always meant to be.

EVALUATE YOUR LEARNING

1. Mark with a T if the statement is true or F if it is false.

- () According to the lesson, death is a state of consciousness in which the soul remains active and communicating.
- () The Bible compares death to a sleep from which God will awaken His own in the resurrection.
- () The resurrection of Jesus is presented as the guarantee of the resurrection of believers.

2. According to the lesson, what is the cause of death?

- a) The natural cycle of life
- b) A direct decision by God to punish
- c) The result of sin and separation from the source of life
- d) Biological evolution

3. What is the central hope that the Bible presents in the face of death?

- a) That the soul continues living in another dimension
- b) That the dead reincarnate
- c) That believers rest until they are awakened in the resurrection when Christ returns
- d) That death does not really exist

4. According to the lesson, why does death not have the final word for the believer?

WHAT MOST CAUGHT YOUR ATTENTION IN THIS LESSON

Do you want to know more about this lesson?

We want to accompany you every step of the way on your spiritual journey, not just through knowledge. By scanning the QR code below, you will access the video lesson for Lesson 15 and discover a comprehensive space designed to address your questions, strengthen your learning, and connect us in prayer.

