

DEATH, JUDGEMENT, RESURRECTION

“The meaning of Christian death

Because of Christ, Christian death has a positive meaning: ‘For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.’⁵⁷⁶ ‘The saying is sure: if we have died with him, we will also live with him.’⁵⁷⁷ What is essentially new about Christian death is this: through Baptism, the Christian has already ‘died with Christ’ sacramentally, in order to live a new life; and if we die in Christ’s grace, physical death completes this ‘dying with Christ’ and so completes our incorporation into him in his redeeming act:

It is better for me to die in (eis) Christ Jesus than to reign over the ends of the earth. Him it is I seek - who died for us. Him it is I desire - who rose for us. I am on the point of giving birth . . . Let me receive pure light; when I shall have arrived there, then shall I be a man.⁵⁷⁸” *Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) 1010*

⁵⁷⁶ *Phil* 1:21.

⁵⁷⁷ *2 Tim* 2:11.

⁵⁷⁸ St. Ignatius of Antioch, *Ad Rom.*, 6, 1-2: *Apostolic Fathers*, II/2, 217-220.

“The resurrection of all the dead, ‘of both the just and the unjust,’⁶²³ will precede the Last Judgment. This will be ‘the hour when all who are in the tombs will hear [the Son of Man’s] voice and come forth, those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of judgment.’⁶²⁴ . . .” *CCC 1038*

“In the presence of Christ, who is Truth itself, the truth of each man’s relationship with God will be laid bare.⁶²⁶ The Last Judgment will reveal even to its furthest consequences the good each person has done or failed to do during his earthly life . . .” *CCC 1039*

“The Last Judgment will come when Christ returns in glory. Only the Father knows the day and the hour; only he determines the moment of its coming. Then through his Son Jesus Christ he will pronounce the final word on all history. We shall know the ultimate meaning of the whole work of creation and of the entire economy of salvation and understand the marvellous ways by which his Providence led everything towards its final end. The Last Judgment will reveal that God’s justice triumphs over all the injustices committed by his creatures and that God’s love is stronger than death.⁶²⁸” *CCC 1040*

“The message of the Last Judgment calls men to conversion while God is still giving them ‘the acceptable time, . . . the day of salvation.’⁶²⁹ It inspires a holy fear of God and commits them to the justice of the Kingdom of God. It proclaims the ‘blessed hope’ of the Lord’s return, when he will come ‘to be glorified in his saints, and to be marvelled at in all who have believed.’⁶³⁰” *CCC 1041*

⁶²³ *Acts* 24:15.

⁶²⁴ *Jn* 5:28-29.

⁶²⁶ Cf. *Jn* 12:49.

⁶²⁸ Cf. *Song* 8:6.

⁶²⁹ *2 Cor* 6:2.

⁶³⁰ *Titus* 2:13; *2 Thess* 1:10.

What Did You Learn About Death, Judgement, Resurrection?

for younger saints

1. What happens when we die?
 - a. Nothing happens.
 - b. We meet Jesus face-to-face.
 - c. We become angels.
2. Where does our soul go?
 - a. to the Father, Son, or Holy Spirit
 - b. to heaven, hell, or purgatory
 - c. nowhere, it stays in our body
3. Does God want anyone to go to hell?
 - a. No, He wants everyone to be with Him in heaven.
 - b. Yes, He wants evil people to go there.
4. Can we pray for people who have died?
 - a. Yes, our prayers can help them get out of purgatory and into heaven faster.
 - b. No, it is too late.
5. What part of us goes to heaven after death?
 - a. our body
 - b. our thoughts
 - c. our soul
6. Has anyone ever gone straight to heaven, body and soul?
 - a. Yes, Jesus and Mary have.
 - b. Yes, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John have.
 - c. No, this has never happened.
7. When someone dies, we might be sad because ...
8. And at the same time, happy because ...
9. Recite your memory verse.

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 - c. No, this has never happened.

7. When someone dies, we might be sad because ...

We will miss them.

8. And at the same time, happy because ...

They are with Jesus.

9. Recite your memory verse.

"You are my hope, Lord; my trust, God, from my youth." Psalm 71:5

What Did You Learn About Death, Judgement, Resurrection?

for older saints

1. What happens when we die?
 - a. Nothing happens.
 - b. We meet Jesus face-to-face.
 - c. We become angels.
2. What are the consequences of original sin?
 - a. death
 - b. We tend to do evil rather than good.
 - c. Humans lost the original holiness they were created to have.

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The events in the left column are in order of their occurrence.  
Match each term with its definition.

- |                                    |                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3. ____ Death                      | a. Every soul will go to one of these places.                                            |
| 4. ____ Particular Judgment        | b. Everyone's sins will be made known to all mankind. Bodies and souls will be reunited. |
| 5. ____ Heaven, Hell, or Purgatory | c. Our soul leaves our body and meets Jesus face-to-face.                                |
| 6. ____ Final Judgment             | d. We will be judged on how well we have loved during our life.                          |

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7. What can we do to earn eternity in heaven?
 - a. We can be really, really good during our life on earth.
 - b. We can follow all the Commandments.
 - c. This is a trick question. We could never be "good" enough to get to heaven without the sacrifice that Jesus made on the cross.
8. Recite your memory prayer.

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for older saints

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- a. Nothing happens.
 - b. We meet Jesus face-to-face.
 - c. We become angels.
2. What are the consequences of original sin? (All of the answers are correct.)
- a. death
 - b. We tend to do evil rather than good.
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  - b. We can follow all the Commandments.
  - c. This is a trick question. We could never be "good" enough to get to heaven without the sacrifice that Jesus made on the cross.
8. Recite your memory prayer. **Act of Hope** O my God, relying on Your infinite goodness and promises, I hope to obtain pardon of my sins, the help of Your grace, and life everlasting, through the merits of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Redeemer. Amen.