

Fear of Life's Final Moments

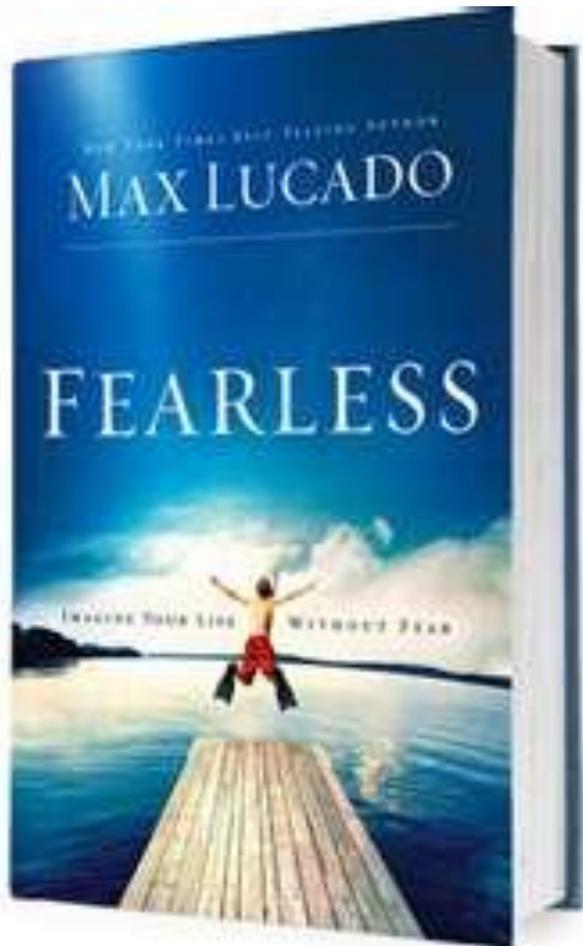
Fearless Study, Discussion 4

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Maranatha Chapel

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Let's Watch Max Lucado Now



WHY DO WE DIE?

Romans 6:23

Death Results From Our Sin

- For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 5:12

Death Came From Adam's Sin

- 12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned...

Romans 5:17,21

Adam & Christ

- 17 For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ....
- 21 so that, as sin reigned in death, even so grace would reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 Cor. 15:20-26

Adam and Christ

- 20 But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep.
- 21 For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead.
- 22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive.
- 23 But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming,
- 24 then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power. 25 For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet.
- 26 The last enemy that will be abolished is death.

	INITIAL CONDITION	EVENT	IMMEDIATE RESULT	SUBSEQUENT EVENT	FINAL STATE
ADAM	IMMORTALITY & SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD	TREE	SPIRITUAL SEPARATION & MORTALITY		
CHRIST		CROSS	DEATH	RESURRECTION	ETERNAL LIFE BOTH PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL
BELIEVERS	SPIRITUAL SEPARATION & MORTALITY	BELIEF	SPIRITUAL LIFE BUT STILL MORTAL	RESURRECTION	ETERNAL LIFE BOTH PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL
UN-BELIEVERS	SPIRITUAL SEPARATION & MORTALITY	UNBELIEF	NO CHANGE	RESURRECTION	ETERNAL PHYSICAL LIFE & SPIRITUAL SEPARATION

DEATH'S FUTURE

Isaiah 25

Death Will End

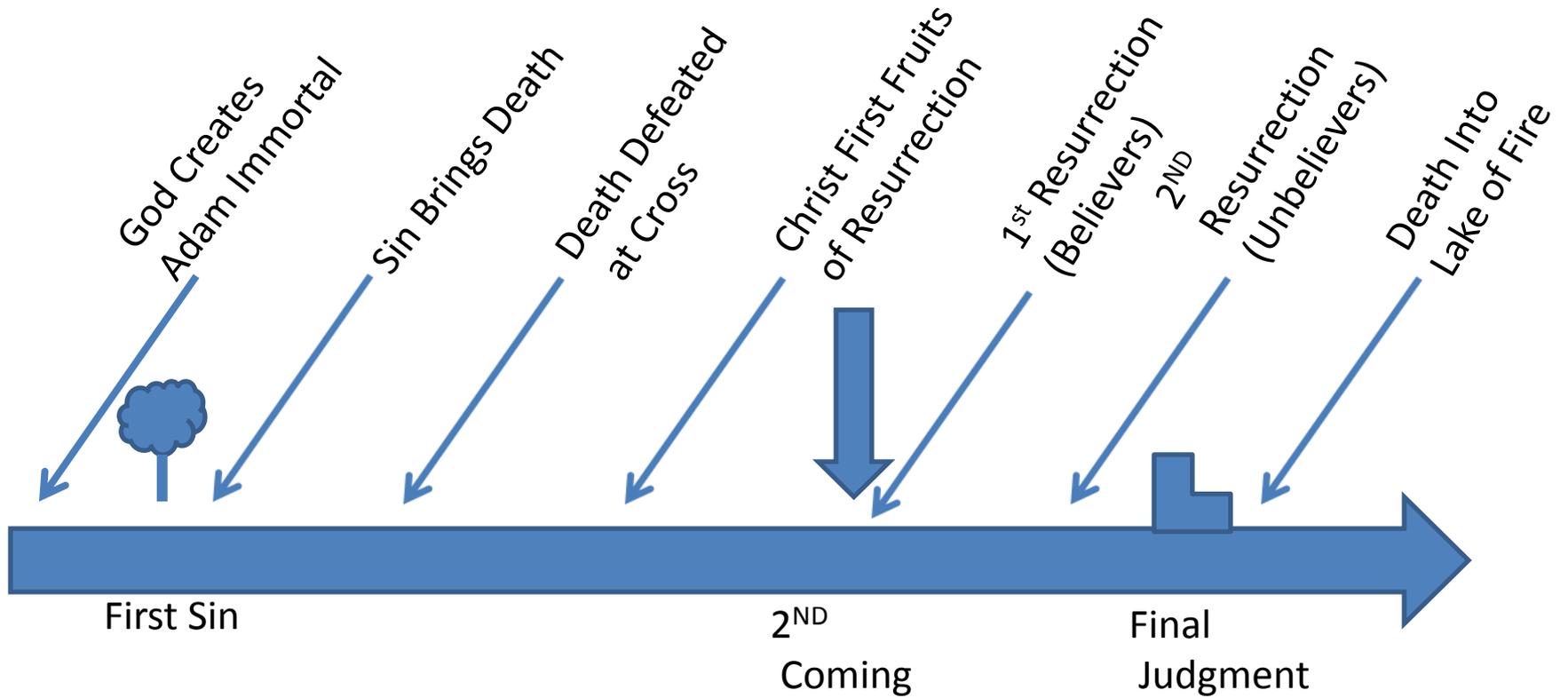
- **8 He will swallow up death for all time,**
- And the Lord GOD will wipe tears away from all faces,
- ...
- **9 And it will be said in that day,**
- “Behold, this is our God for whom we have waited that He might save us.
- This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
- Let us rejoice and be glad in His salvation.”

1 Cor. 15:51-54

Death is Defeated at Resurrection

- 51 Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed,
- 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.
- 53 For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality.
- 54 But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, “DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP in victory.
- 55 O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY? O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING?”
- **See Hosea 13:14b**

DEATH'S TIMELINE



OUR FUTURE

John 3:14-16

Eternal Life Begins Now

- 14 ... so must the Son of Man be lifted up; 15 so **that whoever believes in Him will have eternal life.** 16 “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that **whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.**

John 11:25-26

Eternal Life Begins Now

- Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life; **he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die.** Do you believe this?”

Romans 8:1-2

We Are Set Free From Death

- 1 Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.

Romans 8:10

Body Dies But Spirit Lives

- ...10 If Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness.

Romans 8:11

Our Bodies will be Resurrected

- But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Romans 8:38

Death Can't Separate Us From God

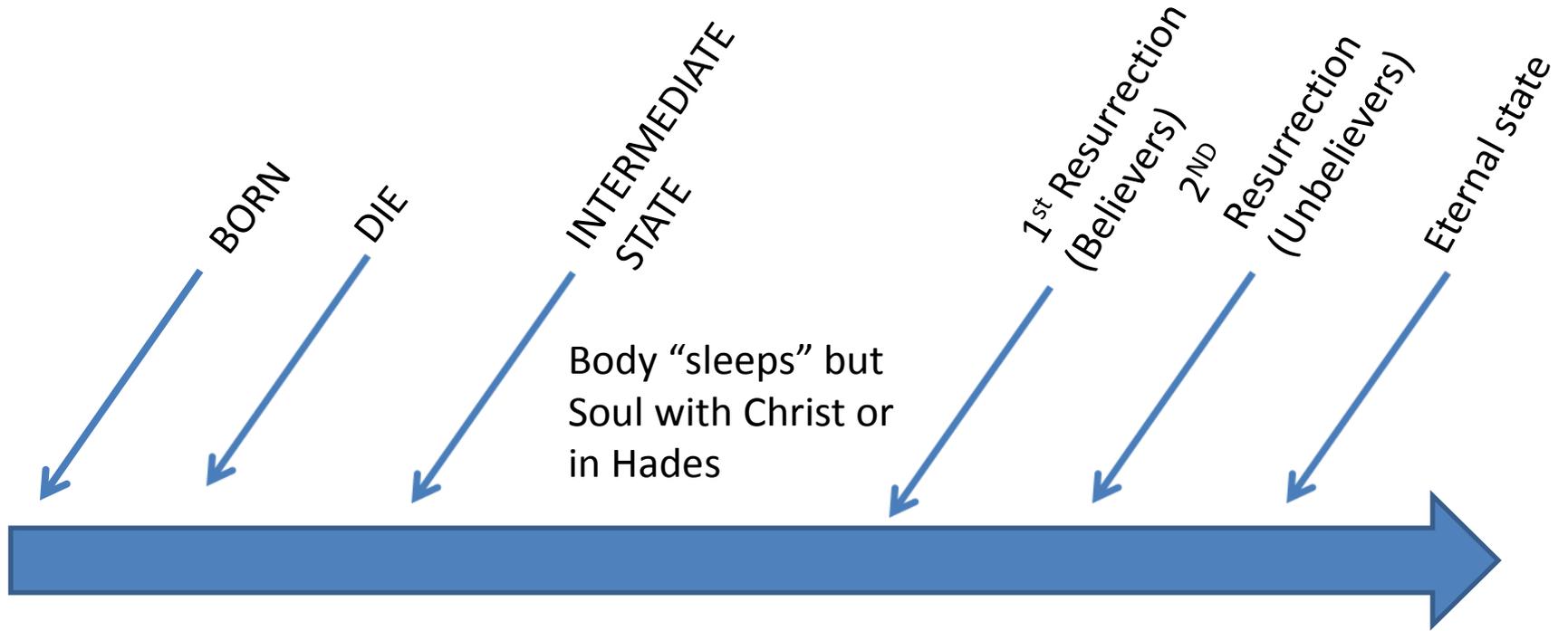
- 38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, ... will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 9:4-5, 8-9

Union With Christ Assures Us

- 4 ...Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection,
- 8 Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, 9 knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him.

OUR TIMELINE



Hebrews 2:14-15

He Frees Us From Fear of Death

- 14 Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and **might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.**

TABLE DISCUSSIONS

OVERCOMING FEAR OF DEATH

TABLE 1

- You have the opportunity to share God's love and forgiveness with an unbeliever on his or her death bed. What do you say?
- One of the relatives is there too and he interrupts to say that there is no need for concern, the unbeliever will be "going to a better place" regardless of what you say. How do you respond?

TABLE 2

- One of the members of your growth group confides that he is worried about what will happen to him when he dies. He says he believes, but that his faith is weak and filled with doubts. He requests assurance that if he died tonight, can he be sure he is with the Savior?
- Is your answer different if he tells you he “doesn’t feel saved” and doesn’t even remember the “hour he first believed”?

TABLE 3

- One of your growth group members has been doing a lot of reading of books about religion (rather than the Bible). He has concluded that even though as a youth he accepted Christ at a prayer meeting, he knows he has sinned many times since then and predicts he'll continue to sin many times in the future.
- He asks you how can God accept him when he rejects God by his actions almost every day?
- Can he lose his salvation and need to regain it?
- What happens if he dies during a sinful period?

TABLE 4

- Your father has two weeks more to live. He has been a faithful church goer as long as you can remember. He's been baptized, he tithes, and he served the church as an usher. He is a WWII veteran and according to everyone who knows him, he is very decent and honorable man, respected by all. But you've never ever seen him pray, read the Bible or have a desire to discuss God.
- What do you say to him?