

Hebrews 9:27-28 KJV — And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

Look at what it does and doesn't say. Doesn't say appointed when to die.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 KJV — To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;

Psalms 90:10 KJV — The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

The SEASON to die is common to all men, and all men die once.

There's five kinds of deaths in scripture. Which is referred to here?

1. Dead in sin

Ephesians 2:1 KJV — And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

2. Dead to sin

Romans 6:2 KJV — God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

3. Dead in fellowship

Luke 15:24 KJV — For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.

1 John 1:6-7 KJV — If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

4. Temporal Death

5. Final death

Revelation 20:14 KJV — And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

So which is it? God didn't appoint Adam to sin (Romans 5:12 KJV — Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:) Hebrews is talking about physical death. In the context, it talks about Jesus also dieing once for His people.

2 Timothy 4:1 KJV — I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;

Back to Hebrews, notice that vs 28 doesn't start with a personal imperative to do something because of the impending judgment. Instead the next verse starts with Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:10-11 KJV — For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.

Romans 14:10-11 KJV — But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.

That seems fearful. But...

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 KJV — 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: 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. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

... We should be comforted.

Hebrews 9:28 KJV — So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

For Christ's brethren, standing before the judgement seat won't be fearful because they no longer have sins to answer for.

Hebrews 8:8 KJV — For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:

(Israel was fully idolatrous after split, so covenant is one of grace)

Hebrews 8:11-12 KJV — And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.

Jesus died and the covenant went into effect. Our sins are remembered no more. We still will stand in the judgment, but it won't be a judgement of condemnation, but rather commendation

Matthew 25:31-40 KJV — When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

The judgement happens after all people are already separated.

2 Corinthians 5:10 KJV — For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

Good or bad, not a mix. The elect have no bad left, and the goats have no good because a dead tree can't bring forth fruit.

There are three things for someone to see heaven. The work of the Father, Son, and Spirit.

1 Peter 1:2 KJV — Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

The only one of those that comes with an outward manifestation is the sanctification of the Spirit because that causes us to start bearing fruit.

Titus 2:11-14 KJV — For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.