

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

SICKNESS & SOUL DAMAGE

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PART 9: THE FOUR STAGES OF LIFE

A born again believer in Christ should begin to think about eternity as soon as he is saved. On the other hand, unsaved people only live and think about life on earth, making no preparations for the future when they will lose their physical body and move into the spirit realm with only their soul body.

FOUR STAGES OF LIFE

There are four stages of life:

1. The first stage is from conception to adulthood, a period of twenty years.
2. The second stage for most people involves marriage and children. This time period will vary but it is an average of 20 to 50 years.
3. The third stage involves adjustment to not having any children at home and having the freedom to do what you have wanted to do all your life. This is the time when people will have the most money to spend on themselves. This 15 year time period usually ends at the age of 65 when people retire from work and passes quickly.
4. The fourth and final stage of life for many people is a time of regret because of all the time and money wasted on worldly activities. Health will be an issue for many and there is a foreboding fear of ending up in a nursing home and the abuse that is so common today in America. This time period will vary from just a few years to more than 40 years.
Ecclesiastes 3:1-9

REGRET VS. REJOICING

Blessed is the man who comes to Christ in their youth. **Ecclesiastes 12:1-2**

Esau and Jacob were twin brothers born to Rebecca and Isaac. They came from a wealthy family and were taught about the true God at a young age.

Esau made a decision as a young man to despise his family birthright. **Genesis 25:27-34**

He made another bad decision when he married two women from families which did not worship the true God. **Genesis 26:34-35**

Esau rebelled against God, and in anger, and took an additional wife from his uncle Ishmael. **Genesis 28:8-9**

Esau became wealthy and had many children, but when the days of his life on earth were ending, he realized that he had wasted his life and had nothing but hell to look forward to in eternity. **Hebrews 12:15-17**



Jacob wanted the family blessing so badly that he was willing to lie and cheat to obtain it. **Genesis 27:5-27**

He had to flee to save his life. **verses 42-46**

Jacob worked 20 years for his uncle Laban, who was even more of a liar and cheat than he was. **Genesis 29:18-28**

On his way to his uncle, Jacob encountered God and made a decision to trust Him in faith. **Genesis 28:16-22**

Jacob met Jesus during the night 20 years later in a wrestling match. He had a thirst and hunger for God and would not let go until he had been blessed. **Genesis 32:22-32**

Jacob had no regrets at the end of his life. He had finished his calling on earth with joy and was ready to meet the Lord. **Hebrews 11:21**

THE RESURRECTION

When Jesus returns to the earth a second time, all born again believers in Christ will receive a new physical body which will have the capacity to function in the physical world as well as cross over into the spiritual world. This is the same type of body that Jesus received at His resurrection. **1 Corinthians 15:49-53; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

Jesus had the ability to be visible and invisible; He could move through walls and was able to float in the air. He was also able to sit down with the disciples and have a meal with them.

This new body will have flesh and bone. **Luke 24:28-43**

When the physical body of a born again believer in Christ dies, the soul steps out of the physical body and is taken to heaven, which is located in the spirit realm. A person doesn't need a physical body to participate in the spiritual activities of heaven. **Revelation 7:9-17**

When Jesus comes back to earth to set up the thousand years kingdom, all born again believers in Christ will accompany and reign with Him on the earth in the physical dimension. **Revelation 20:1-6**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!