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Are You Prepared to Meet Christ? I Peter 1:13

The apostle Peter challenges every true Christian to get ready for their appointment to meet Jesus. The best preparation for that meeting is to become a true and genuine follower of Christ.

Once you have made the decision to follow Jesus Christ, the first step of obedience is to be baptized. Baptism is not a part of salvation and it does not wash away sins.

What is Baptism?

It is a step of _____ to Jesus Christ. Jesus commands His followers to be baptized, and we obey. It is a beautiful picture of our salvation. Every Christian who is baptized by immersion is showing others that in their heart they believe Jesus died and rose again. They are trusting in Christ alone to be saved.

In life, we need to decide what is going to be our goal and ultimate destination. We need to put into our spiritual GPS and decide where we want to go with our life.

Everyone is going to stand before God at one of two judgments:

The Great White Throne Judgment for Unbelievers, Rev. 20:11-15.

At this Judgment, Jesus will be your _____.

The Judgment Seat of Christ for all Christians, 2 Cor. 5:10.

At this Judgment, Jesus will be your _____.

You will stand before the Lord Jesus Christ to give an account of your life. If you reject Jesus as your Savior, you will receive the just punishment for your sins. If you receive Jesus as your Savior and follow Him, your sins are forgiven, and you will give an account of your works and your service to be rewarded on that day.

You are going to exit this world in either one of two ways:

- 1) Your _____ - When you die, your soul and spirit separates from your body to be transported to either heaven or hell, Luke 16.
- 2) The _____ - This is the second coming of Christ to earth. Jesus will literally take Christians to heaven. Those left behind will call it "The Great Disappearance" and face a 7 year tribulation.

How to Prepare to Meet Christ

1. _____ Jesus Christ as your Savior, v. 3-5

There are two ways people try to get to God and heaven:

Religion - Religion is like a mountain with God at the top and mankind at the bottom. Religion says, "Climb up to God. Get baptized. Be good. Help others. Be kind. Give money...." But the mountain is too big... none of us can make it on our own.

Relationship - God sent His Son, Jesus, down from the top of the mountain - heaven. He lived a perfect life, died on the cross, paid your penalty of sin, and rose again from the dead. He has the power to take you to the top of that mountain. By faith in Christ, you can have a relationship with God and become His forever child.

2. Realize that God owns you, v. 9

A. God owns you because He _____ you.

You exist because He gave you your life. Evolutionists can never answer the First Cause - "Who made those gasses to explode?"

"Nobody knows how a mixture of lifeless chemicals spontaneously organized themselves into the first living cell."

- **Evolutionist professor Paul Davies**

"We don't really know how life originated on this planet."

- **Harvard Professor Andrew Knoll**

*"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."
Genesis 1:1*

B. God owns you because He _____
you.

"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

3. Be _____ –

Everyday keep in mind that you will meet Christ.

v. 13 – "Gird up the loins of your mind" is a figure of speech that means... "Roll up your sleeves and get ready for action. Get your head in the game!"

In Bible times, they wore long robes or an outer robe called a tunic. If you were going to run, or do any kind of labor, or go into battle, you would have to pull up that long portion of the robe and tuck it in your belt and pull it tight.

3 Keys to keep our minds focused each day:

A. _____ – *Your vision is the goal you want accomplished.*

B. _____ – *Discipline means learning to say "no" to the trivial. Work hard. Don't waste time.*

C. _____ – *Be honest. Keep your word. Say "no" to sin in your life.*

4. Get _____ about your Faith, v. 13-15

v. 13b – "be Sober" certainly means don't get drunk, but it is more than that. It means to exercise self-control. It means to focus your thinking, your decisions, and keep your actions in line with God and His truth.

v. 13c – You are being "brought to the revelation of Jesus Christ."

What is this? The revelation is "the revealing, or the unveiling, or the return of Jesus Christ."

How to Get Serious about your Faith? Peter says...

A. _____ *God's Commands, v. 14-15*

Get serious about being in God's Word everyday and spend time praying to the Lord everyday. Know what God says and obey Him.

B. *Put on* _____

"... and be clothed with humility; for God resiseth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble."

1 Peter 5:5

C. _____

Peter once pointed out the faults of others, but he learned to extend love and grace when others fall and fail.

"(Charity) Love covers the multitude of sins"

I Peter 4:8

We are all closer to our appointment with Jesus than we have ever been in our life.

Set the Spiritual GPS of your life to Destination...

_____!

"The most important thought that ever occupied my mind is that of my individual responsibility to God."

- Daniel Webster