***Lesson Seventeen***

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-14**

**What is Death?**

**1.** In the opening phrase of v. 13 Paul states the purpose of this section of instruction . . . ***we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren . . .***  What does the word ***uninformed*** (*agnoeō*—#50) mean? What does Paul mean by his use of this statement?

**2.** The reason for his instruction in v.13 is in regard to ***those who are asleep***. What does the word ***asleep*** (*koimaō*—#2837) mean? What is the significance of this term? Who is Paul referring to by the word ***asleep***?

**3.** The English word **cemetery** is derived from the Greek word *koimētēria*, which was coined by Greek Christians, and literally means “a resting place” or “a sleeping place.” In light of Paul’s teaching, what is the significance of the Greek Christian view of what a **cemetery** is?

**4.** Read 2 Corinthians 5:8. What does this verse teach us about what happens to a believer’s soul upon his or her physical death?

**5.** Read Revelation 20:11-15 regarding what happens to an unbeliever when he/she dies. What does this passage teach us about the fate of unbelievers?

**6.** Read 1 Corinthians 15:42-44. What does this passage teach us about what our resurrection bodies will be like?

**7.** According to what we learn in 1 Thessalonians 4:13, 1 Corinthians 15:42-44 and Revelation 20:11-15, who experiences the “first death” and who experiences the “second death”?

**8.** Why should Paul’s statement in 1 Thessalonians 4:13 be such a comfort to believers?

**9.** One of the ways unbelievers attempt to mock Christians is by asking, “what if you’re wrong? What if there is no resurrection?” How does Paul answer that question in 1 Corinthians 15:50-57?

**10.** Who is Paul referring to when he refers in v. 13 to ***the rest who have no hope***? Why do ***the rest*** have ***no hope***?

**11.** According to v. 14, what is the requirement for inclusion among those whom ***God will bring with Him*** at the return of Christ?