\*THE CERTAINTY OF DEATH AND LIFE AFTER DEATH!\*

The story of Lazarus in the book of \*John Chapter 11\* is very significant.

Our Lord Jesus Christ was told Lazarus was sick but He delayed until when Lazarus was put into the tomb in order to establish His power of resurrection.

Jesus Christ said:

\*"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”\*

John 11:25&26.

Ordinarily, Jesus Christ could have raised Lazarus with spoken words when He heard he was sick, but He decided to delay the miracle for four days in order to make an appearance at the tomb of Lazarus.

In a similar manner, the bible described the second coming of Jesus Christ in which the \*dead in Christ\* will rise first and live again.

\*1 Thess 4:16\*

Without doubt, death is a certainty that will happen to everyone in life.

The bible says

 \*"It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment".\*

Hebrews 9:27

However; despite the certainty of death and more significantly, the unexpected nature of death most people often fail to prepare for death.

 \*The essence of this message is for us to come to the realisation of the fact that there is life after death for those who die in Christ.\*

Unfortunately, death sometimes leaves the wicked and takes the good ones, it takes the young and yet the old ones are still begging for death to come.

In all of these,

nobody can question God.

Job realised God is in charge of our life span as he said:

 \*"You have decided the length of our lives. You know how many months we will live, and we are not given a minute longer".\*

Job 14:5.

The death of a loved one is always hard to bear.

The good news however, is that the bible says:

 \*"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.” “Blessed indeed,” says the Spirit, “that they may rest from their labours..”\*

Rev 14:13.

In otherwords, your \*"life after death"\* is predicated upon how you lived your life before death.

\*Your personal relationship with Jesus prior to death is very crucial.\*

Mahatma Ghandi said:

 \*"Live as if you are to die tomorrow"\*

Lazarus was referred to as a friend of Jesus, he must have had a good relationship with Jesus before he died, that was why Jesus came to raise him.

In a similar manner, the bible says those that died in the Lord will be the first to rise at the appearance of Jesus Christ.

 \*1 Thess 4:16\*

Just like Jesus said: nobody knows the time of His second coming, the time of death is not known to anyone either.

 \*In most cases, death comes suddenly.\*

As we prepare for the second coming of Jesus we should also live our lives in preparation that death could take place at any time.

 \*For all those, whose loved ones died in the Lord; rejoice for you shall see them again if you believe in Jesus.\*

The bible says;

 \*"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life".\* John 3:16.

Consequently, if you are born again and at the appointed time of death or at the second coming of Jesus you are in right standing before God you shall live in eternity with Him.

\*Prayer\*: Father, do not let me die before my time and please help me to fulfil destiny and finish well in Jesus name.🙏🏼

\*JESUS IS LORD\*

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