

No one will miss this one

September 17, 2018

HEBREWS 9:27 NKJV – (27) And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,

How often we can miss or sometimes be late for an appointment. Today I want to talk to you about an appointment we won't be tardy for and we surely won't miss it. I'm talking about the first death.

Everybody dies this death, including believers. At first, a person may think this says that Satan has supreme rule, and every human loses. However, we cannot forget Christ's death on the cross. His death wiped out the curse of death hanging over us due to our sins similar to Adam's and Eve's, and He remains our faithful High Priest. Thus, more remains to be understood about this verse.

Christ, because He paid the penalty for our sins and simultaneously defeated Satan, now holds the power of life and death for the converted.

At this time, the unconverted face both the first and second deaths. They are still held eternally in Satan's slavery unless converted between now and the igniting of the Lake of Fire.

Why, then, does **Revelation 20:14** call the Lake of Fire "the second death"? The emphasis is on the fact that it is a **permanent** death. Once a person experiences the second death, no hope remains for another resurrection. The point is that all of us are appointed to die *at least* once! This appointment, no one will be late, nor will we any miss it!

SCRIPTURE READING

JOHN 11:25-26

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left and could say, "I used everything you gave me."