



Life Guide

applying God's Word to life

**We are Family...
Forever!**

November 17, 2019

Isaiah 65:17–25 ¹⁷ “Behold, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind. ¹⁸But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create, for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy. ¹⁹ I will rejoice over Jerusalem and take delight in my people; the sound of weeping and of crying will be heard in it no more. ²⁰ “Never again will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his years; he who dies at a hundred will be thought a mere youth; he who fails to reach a hundred will be considered accursed. ²¹ They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit. ²² No longer will they build houses and others live in them, or plant and others eat. For as the days of a tree, so will be the days of my people; my chosen ones will long enjoy the works of their hands. ²³ They will not toil in vain or bear children doomed to misfortune; for they will be a people blessed by the Lord, they and their descendants with them. ²⁴ Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear. ²⁵ The wolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox, but dust will be the serpent’s food. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain,” says the Lord.

1. When was the first time you experienced the death of a loved one or friend? What impact did that death have on your life?
2. What was God’s plan for Adam and Eve in Eden as it concerned: a) their family relationship; b) their work; c) their future? Explain how sin “undid” each of these aspects of God’s plan for Adam and Eve and for all people (see #2).

3. Define the following: a) spiritual death; b) physical death; c) eternal death; What has Christ done to death?
4. Our text is filled with picture language. What is God teaching us with the following:
 - a. “as the days of a tree, so will be the days of my people.”
 - b. “The wolf and the lamb will feed together.”
 - c. “but dust will be the serpent’s food.”
5. Agree or disagree and why? God’s plan to create new heavens and a new earth isn’t a “do over.” It’s a restoration of Eden. (Hint: See #2)
6. Why do we call those who are in heaven the “saints triumphant”?
7. Agree or disagree and why? We shouldn’t speak of a believer’s death as a “loss.”
8. Diving deeper into the text...compare Isaiah 65:17-21 to Revelation 21:1-10. What similarities do you note? What do you make of the fact that God repeats himself?
9. Diving deeper still...what does Scripture mean when it says God will “create new heavens and a new earth”? (cf. Isaiah 65:17; Daniel 12:2-3; Romans 8:19; 2 Peter 3:10; Hebrews 1:10-12)