

## Assurance Of Living Forever

A frequent response by people who think "aionios" should mean "eternal" is that the word "aionios" in the Bible describes both punishment and life. So they say, "If hell is not eternal, then heaven is not eternal either." This is only speculation and is not correct. Assurance that we will ever be with the Lord is not dependent on "aionios" meaning eternal.<sup>1</sup>

Yet the Bible does assure us that our salvation and life will last forever. Here are a few Scriptures assuring followers of Jesus Christ they will live forever with the Lord.

1 THESSALONIANS 4:17 KJV

17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

The word translated "ever" in 1 Thessalonians 4:17 is "pantote" which means "at all times" and "always."

JOHN 3:15-16 KJV

15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

16 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.

It is the words "should not perish" in John 3:16 that tell us the life we receive from Jesus will not be brought to an end. Remember that "eternal" or "everlasting" life in these verses refer to the quality or kind of life, not the length of time it will last, as they are the translation of "aionios."

1 PETER 1:3-4 KJV

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,

The word translated "incorruptible" in 1 Peter 1:4 is "aphthartos" which means literally "no corruption," or "im-perishable." It is the state of being incapable of corruption, of being incapable of perishing.

The word translated "that fadeth not away" in 1 Peter 1:4 is "amarantos" which means "not fading" or "un-fading."

1 CORINTHIANS 15:51-54 KJV

51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

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<sup>1</sup> For evidence that "aionios" cannot mean "eternal" see the chapter, We Have A Problem With The Translations Of Eternity.

52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

The word translated "incorruptible" in 1 Corinthians 15:52 is also "aphthartos" which means literally "no corruption," or "im-perishable."

The word translated "immortality" in 1 Corinthians 15:53 and 54 is "athanasia" which means literally "no death." It is the state of death-less-ness or being incapable of death.

This is what we have been promised!

Hallelujah!