

# DEATH: "According To The Word Of The Lord"

## INTRODUCTION

The word "according" (a-c-c-o-r-d-i-n-g) is usually followed by the word "to" (t-o), as "according to", and is found many times in the Bible. It is related to the word "accord", meaning "in harmony with" or in "agreement with," or "in consistent with." Some 20 times in the O.T., the word is used associated with events which have just occurred, **in harmony with God had foretold, or said would happen, or "according to the word of the Lord."**

With this study, we shall begin a series of lessons based on the term, "According to the word of the Lord." The term is found several times in scripture. In this lesson, we will find it's relation to the word 'DEATH'.

## DISCUSSION

### I. 1<sup>st</sup>, in relation to the DEATH OF THE WICKED AND RIGHTEOUS.

- A. God either knew with His foreknowledge, that certain one's were going to die and told Men so, **OR** He inflicted death as a **penalty** for their misconduct.
1. Adam and Eve were warned that if they "ate" of the forbidden fruit, they would die. Gen. 2:16-17.
    - a. They died spiritually (instantly), but only began to die (physically) when they were removed from the garden, for God knew that if they continued to eat of the tree of life, they would live forever, but God's warning to them was they **would** die.
    - b. Death was not the curse pronounced upon them, for that came separately from the consequence of death.
  2. Uzzah died in violation to the command not to touch the ark of the covenant, and he had been adequately warned. Num. 4:15; 2 Sam. 6:6-7
  3. Ahaziah, the son of Ahab, the wicked king of Israel, was told by Elijah that he would die.
    - a. Ahab wanted to live, but he asked Baal-Zebub to help him live.
    - b. Not asking God, God sent a message to him that he would die, and it did occur. 1 Kings 1:1-17 (Explain as desired)
- B. Then, there is the death of a righteous man, who was told he would die, but his life was extended—"according to the word of the Lord." (2 Kings 20:1-6, 21; Explain fully).

### II. 2<sup>nd</sup>, there is the DEATH OF JESUS ACCORDING TO THE WORD OF THE LORD.

- A. His death was foretold "according to the word of the Lord", in both the O.T. and N.T.
1. God alluded to it in Gen. 3:15, as one who would be bruised. Isa. 53:5, 10
  2. Christ Himself foretold His death, "according to the word of the Lord." Matt. 16:15-21; 21:43-45
- B. Jesus WAS put to death between 2 thieves, and was buried in a rich man's tomb, "according to the word of the Lord." Isa. 53:9; cf Matt. 27:34-38, 57-60

### III. 3<sup>rd</sup>, ALL MANKIND WILL DIE ACCORDING TO THE WORD OF THE LORD.

- A. Physical death began when Adam and Eve ate of the forbidden fruit.
1. It wasn't God's fault that they died, for He had adequately warned them of such.
  2. Their sin opened the door for ALL mankind.

- B. God decreed that all mankind face physical death, after an opportunity to prepare to live beyond this life. Heb. 9:27
1. Enoch and Elijah were exceptions to the rule of death.
    - a. Enoch walked with God and God took him. Gen. 5:22; Heb. 11:5
    - b. Elijah, a great prophet, was taken into heaven in a fiery chariot by a whirlwind. 2 Kings. 2:11
  2. All who are still alive when Jesus returns will not die, but will be changed when those who have died will be raised. 1 Cor. 15:50-52

**CONCLUSION**

- I. The reality of death, as we have studied, is "*according to the word of the Lord,*" and cannot be changed—it is God's decree.
- II. Are you ready to give account to the Lord for your opportunities to prepare for the next life? 2 Cor. 5:10-11

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