John 14:1-3 "1 Do not let your hears be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. 2 My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am." (NIV)

THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

1. It will be UNEXPECTED.

Matthew 24:36-42 "36 But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. 37 As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. 38 For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; 39 and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and take them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. 40 Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. 41 Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left. 42 Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come." (NIV)

2. It will be PERSONAL.

1 Thessalonians 4:16 "For the Lord Himself will come down from heaven …" (NIV)

3. It will be VISIBLE and TRIUMPHANT.

1 Thessalonians 4:16 "… with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God …" (NIV)

4. It will be PHYSICAL.

1 Thessalonians 4:14, 16-17 "14… God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in Him … 16… and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air." (NIV)

Summary #1: BE ready!

1 Thessalonians 5:6 "So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self controlled." (NIV)

THE RESURRECTION

John 11:25-26 "25 [Jesus said]… I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though he dies; 26 and whoever lives by believing in me will never die …" (NIV)

Acts 23:6 "[Paul said]… I stand on trial because of the hope in the resurrection of the dead." (NIV)

1. Those who have died in Christ will be raised FIRST.

1 Thessalonians 4:14-16 "14 For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep. 15 According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first." (NIV)

2. Both the GODLY and the UNGODLY will be raised.

John 5:28-29 "28 … a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear His voice 29 and come out—those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned." (NIV)

3. God will TRANSFORM our bodies for eternity.

1 Corinthians 15:35-44 "35 But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body will they come?" 36 How foolish! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. 37 When you sow, you do not plant the body that will be, but just a seed, perhaps of wheat or of something else. 38 But God gives it a body as He has determined, and to each kind of seed He gives its own body. 39 Not all flesh is the same: People have one kind of flesh, animals have another, birds another and fish another. 40 There are also heavenly bodies and there are earthly bodies; but the splendor of the heavenly bodies is one kind, and the splendor of the earthly bodies is another. 41 The sun has one kind of splendor, the moon another and the stars another; and star differs from star in splendor. 42 So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raise imperishable; 43 it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; 44 it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body …" (NIV)

4. There will be a time of JUDGEMENT.

Revelation 20:11-15 "11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who was seated on it. The earth and sky fled from His presence, and there was no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged accord to what they had done as recorded in the books. 13 The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done. 14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. 15 If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, He was thrown into the lake of fire." (NIV)

a. EVERY person will stand before the throne of God to give an account for what they have done in life.

2 Corinthians 5:10 "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad." (NIV)

b. The ungodly will be CONDEMNED.

Matthew 13:36-43 "36… His disciples came to Him and said, "Explain the parable of the weeds in the field." 37 He answered, "The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. 38 The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, 39 and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. 40 As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. 41 The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will weed out of His kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. 42 They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear." (NIV)

c. The godly will be ACQUITTED.

Romans 8:1-2 "1 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, 2 because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death." (NIV)

5. We will be with the Lord until He REMOVES all evil and RENEWS our eternal dwelling place.

1 Thessalonians 4:17 "After that, we who are still alive and are left will be **caught up** together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever." (NIV)

2 Peter 3:7, 10 "7 … the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly … 10… The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements

will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare." (NIV)

6. We will dwell with God in the new Heaven ON Earth.

Revelation 21:1-4 "1 Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. 2 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is with people, and He will dwell with them. They will be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God. 4 He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." (NIV)

Summary #2: GET ready!

1 Thessalonians 4:18 "Therefore encourage each other with these words." (NIV)