## The Beginning and the Ending!!! What are we talking about?

- 1. Beginning our life in the mother's womb and ending our life at a specific point in time. "Our days are numbered."
- 2. Beginning our life as husband and wife...ending it with one of our deaths...or, divorce.
- 3. Beginning an adulterous affair and ending it by walking away! No...you don't walk away. There are consequences.
- 4. Beginning a series on television or a book...ending with the last episode or chapter.
- 5. Beginning a baseball or football game at the start of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter...ending it at the end of the last quarter and sometime in extra innings or overtime...but, it will end.
- 6. Beginning our work for a company and ending in our retirement...or worse.
- 7. Beginning our parenthood with the birth or our child...and ending it with our death or theirs.
- 8. The beginning of the Bible story and the end of the Bible story.
- 9. The beginning of time...the end of time.
- 10. The beginning of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Uh...oh! Did they have a beginning?

We live in a time when there is great fascination about life after death. Why this fascination with the world beyond the grave? Is it not because death is so final? Whatever one thinks about the reports of "near-death" visions, death when it finally comes is irreversible. When you finally cross the line, there is no coming back from the other side. Death wins the battle every time. After the doctors have tried the latest wonder drug, after the best minds have pooled their wisdom, after the philosophers have done their best to explain that death is only a natural part of life, we come face to face with the ugly reality that someday we will all die. And that death—whether planned or accidental, whether comfortable or painful—will be the end of life as we have known it. I know, the Christian will always come back and think or say... "But if Christ comes back before we die, we won't have to die."

In answering questions about life after death, we are left with only two sources to consult. Either we turn to human experience or we turn to the Word of God. If we turn to human experience, we find many guesses, many ideas, and many theories—but no sure answers. That's because, in the nature of the case, no human has a sure answer. The only people who have the answers are dead! That leaves us with the Word of God. In God's Word we find ample, abundant answers. God who knows the future knows what happens when we die, and he hasn't left us to wonder about it. The Bible is filled with information on this subject.

If you want the answer in one sentence here it is: What happens after you die depends on what happens before you die.