

## Surprised by Hope

## Chapter 12 Study Questions

Prepared by Pastor Andy Smothers

Please read chapter 12, and answer these questions as you read.

## Chapter 12

- I. Wright claims that the celebration of Easter and the physical resurrection of Jesus from the dead has implications for this world not just for life after death OR life after life after death. Has this been your experience of the presentation of Easter? How? How not?

- II. Does Wright support that “hope for a better future in this world” is a distraction from the task of ‘mission’ and ‘evangelism’ in the present? Explain.

- III. Wright references 1 Corinthians 15:58, “Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain (*NRSV*).” He claims this points to our work contributing in some way to the world to come. Do you agree? What is this work?

- IV. What does Wright indicate is the “point of resurrection?” What are the consequences?

V. Wright indicates almost all western Christians assume 'salvation' means 'going to heaven when you die.' Does Wright agree? What is his perspective?

VI. What are we saved FOR according to Wright? Do you agree?

VII. Wright states that God's kingdom and the Kingdom of Heaven mean the same thing. What is this? What is our role?



This study guide is written to guide study and discussions of *Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church* by N. T. Wright. The full set of study guides is available at <https://livingintograce.com/2022/02/21/study-guide-questions-for-surprised-by-hope-rethinking-heaven-the-resurrection-and-the-mission-of-the-church-by-n-t-wright/>. While based on the book, this guide was not prepared in cooperation with the author, N. T. Wright, nor the publishers (SPCK and HarperOne).



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