

HOLY HELPS - SPECIAL DAYS – FUNERALS

THE CHRISTIAN'S PERSPECTIVE ON DEATH

I Corinthians 15:20-22

"But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive."

There are various views of what death is:

- Some believe that at death we are reincarnated and live on in some animal form;
- There are many who believe that death is the end of existence – it is annihilation;
- Yet, others believe that death is what they call “soul sleep” – that is, we are in a state of eternal sleep after this life.

However, the Bible teaches the true view of death. Unlike the above non-biblical views of death, the Christian perspective is derived from the Bible. Let us review the Bible teaching about death and be comforted and encouraged by the truth of God’s Word.

The Christian’s perspective on death is as follows:

I. THE CHRISTIAN'S DEATH IS AN APPOINTMENT FOR WHICH THE CHRISTIAN IS PREPARED.

Hebrews 9:27 says, “*it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment....*”

The Christian is “Safe in the arms of Jesus, safe on His tender breast.”

II. THE CHRISTIAN'S DEATH IS THE LONG AWAITED CESSATION OF LIFE'S LABORS.

Rev. 14:13 “*Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord they will rest from their labor...*”

III. THE CHRISTIAN'S DEATH IS THE GRADUATION DAY FROM MORTALITY TO IMMORTALITY.

“The perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." (I Cor. 15:54 niv)

*“Just think of stepping on shore & finding it Heaven!
Think of taking hold of a hand & finding it God's hand!
Think of breathing new air & finding it celestial air!
Think of feeling invigorated and finding it immortality!
Think of waking up and finding you are home!”*

IV. THE CHRISTIAN'S DEATH IS BOTH AN EXIT AND AN ENTRANCE.

"We are confident, yes, well pleased to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord." (I Cor.15:8)

V. THE CHRISTIAN'S DEATH IS THE ANSWER TO JESUS' PRAYER.

"Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory...."
(John 17:24)

CONCLUSION

We cannot die a Christian's death unless we are a Christian. Are you a Christian?

"For as many as receive Him to them He gave the authority to become children of God."
(John 1:12)

Life without Christ is a hopeless end; life with Christ is an endless hope.

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