



World Christian Fellowship

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Part 7 How to die?

We looked at six lessons what happens when you die, so based on that let us look how to die?

Many people think that we can get saved in the last minute, but we don't know when that time comes. Some even quote the thief on the cross (Luke 23:39-43)

Ecclesiastes 8:8, *No one has power over the spirit to retain the spirit, And no one has power in the day of death. There is no release from that war, And wickedness will not deliver those who are given to it.*

You don't know the time or the hour, wise men Solomon says in **Ecclesiastes 9:12**, *For man also does not know his time: Like fish taken in a cruel net, Like birds caught in a snare, So the sons of men are snared in an evil time, When it falls suddenly upon them.*

The Bible speaks of three kinds of death:

- **Spiritual,**
- **Physical and**
- **Eternal**

Spiritual Death:

Is the separation of the soul from God.

Genesis 2:16-17, *And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."*

Adam and Eve died spiritually at the time that they sinned and they became different beings than the ones God had originally created. They also began to die physically.

Genesis 3:8, *And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.*

This separation from God is exactly what we see in the above verse.

The fellowship had been broken.

They were spiritually dead.

A man without Christ is spiritually dead.

Ephesians 4:18, *having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the*

ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart;

Paul describes it as “being alienated from the life of God”

Adam, the natural man, who was hiding in the garden isolated from God. Likewise we the natural man are alienated from God.

Romans 7:9, *I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died.*

Also you see the son who went away from the father is described as dead.

Luke 15:32, *It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.”*

The reason we are all born spiritually dead has to do with sin. We receive our fallen nature from our parents. After Adam and Eve sinned, the death sentence was pronounced. All other humans have been born with their sinful nature (the exception to this was the Lord Jesus who was born without sin). Therefore each of us comes into the world spiritually separated from God.

Putting your faith in Lord Jesus Christ you will pass from spiritual death to life.

John 5:24, *“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.”*

When we are born again, the spiritual death is reversed. Before salvation, we are dead (spiritually), but Jesus gives us life.

Ephesians 2:1, *“And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins,”*

Colossians 2:13, *“When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins”*

Romans 6:23, *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

So you can be alive in spirit by having the Lord Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour.

Physical death

The day, on which Adam committed the first sin, he died spiritually. His physical death followed subsequently. This we know from the curse pronounced by God onto man.

Genesis 3:19, *In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread Till you return to the ground, For out of it you were taken; For dust you are, And to dust you shall return.*"

The physical death is when the spirit and soul are separated from the body. It is the termination of our physical life.

Our physical life is temporary.

Psalms 39:4, *“Lord, make me to know my end, And what is the measure of my days, That I may know how frail I am.*

Psalms 103:15-16, *As for man, his days are like grass; As a flower of the field, so he flourishes. ¹⁶For the wind passes over it, and it is gone, And its place remembers it no more.*

The Bible makes it amply clear that death is the giving up, or the departure of, the spirit from the body.

Luke 23:46, *And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, "Father, 'into Your hands I commit My spirit.' "Having said this, He breathed His last.*

Death is the departure of the spirit from the body, can be found in the raising of Jairus' daughter. This young girl had died and Jesus came to bring her back to life.

Luke 8:54-55, *But He put them all outside, took her by the hand and called, saying, "Little girl, arise."⁵⁵ Then her spirit returned, and she arose immediately. And He commanded that she be given something to eat.*

James 2:26, *For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.*

Physical death is the separation of the body from the spirit. The creation of the first human being shows that he was made with a body and a spirit. When the judgment of death was pronounced upon Adam, his body was said to return to dust. This process of dying, which begins at the moment we are born, is an enemy of humanity. It is an inescapable fact, something we all must face.

Eternal Death

The third kind is the eternal death which is also called the “second death” in the Bible.

Revelation 20:12-15, *And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. ¹³The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. ¹⁴Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. ¹⁵And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.*

Same verse is again repeated in Revelations 21:8 as well. This is eternal separation from God and eternal torment in hellfire.

Eternal death is the result of rejecting the Lord Jesus Christ, and failing to believe that He is the Saviour of the world.

John 3:17-18, *For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.¹⁸ “He who believes in Him is not*

condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

What do you have to do to be lost?

Nothing! Absolutely nothing!

But you do have to do something to be saved.

And the person, who is born once, if they do not do anything then they will die twice. There is a second death.

Anyone wants to escape the second death then they need a saviour to save them from this death. If there is no second death then there is no need for a saviour. So they need to be born again! This is Gospel.

John 8:24, *Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins."*

Only one person stands in between your second death and life!

That's none other than Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The bible makes it clear that salvation is only in the name of Jesus.

Acts 4:12, *Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."*

John 16: 8-10, *And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:⁹ of sin, because they do not believe in Me; ¹⁰ of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; ¹¹ of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.*

Bible clearly mentions not accepting the Lord Jesus Christ in sin.

1 John 5:11-12, *And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. ¹² He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.*

When a person repents of his sin and believes on the Lord Jesus Christ and obeys God's Word, he will escape second death.

John 3:14-16, *And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in Him should not perish*

but have eternal life. ¹⁶For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

John 8:51, *Most assuredly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he shall never see death."*

John 17:3, *And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.*

So when will you have this eternal life?

When is the good time?

NOW

Acts 17:30-31, *Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, ³¹because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead."*

One other reason why we must not postpone repentance is because life is short! There are very many Biblical pictures on the briefness of life

Job 7:6, *"My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle and are spent without hope"*

Moses prayed, **Psalms 90:5-6**, *You carry them away like a flood; They are like a sleep. In the morning they are like grass which grows up: ⁶In the morning it flourishes and grows up; In the evening it is cut down and withers.*

David prayed **Psalms 144:4**, *Man is like a breath; His days are like a passing shadow.*

James 4:14, *whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.*

Don't think that you will die only when you become old but in these days we all know it's not true. Young, old and even infants die and that is too common.

Death can be as result of an accident, (Luke 13:4-5)

Death can be result of natural calamities (Matthew 24:7)

Death can be because of deceases, these days its cancer

My brothers and sisters, repent today!

We have a Heaven to gain and a Hell to lose!

Tomorrow may be too late!

Say 'no' to the devil and 'yes' to God!

Do not postpone repentance any longer because our death can be anytime and our life is short. The Bible says tell us that we must repent NOW!

Who are the ones who came alive when Jesus death at Calvary?

Matthew 27:51-54, *Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split,⁵² and the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised;⁵³ and coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many.⁵⁴ So when the centurion and those with him, who were guarding Jesus, saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they feared greatly, saying, "Truly this was the Son of God!"*

"And the graves were opened." That obviously could have happened from the earthquake.

But it's impossible for the next part could have happened just from the earthquake. *"And many bodies of the saints that slept were raised and came out of the graves."*

There was a resurrection. "What came out of the graves?" '*Somata*', bodies, bodies, not spirits. These aren't ghosts. Bodies, this is a real resurrection.

Many bodies...not all of them, it was a very discriminating one.

Only select ones.

Who were they?

Saints.

What are saints?

They are holy ones from out of the Old Testament time. Who were waiting for their resurrection and been waiting for a long time.

They came out in resurrection bodies.

To affirm they that you may have thought you killed the Son of God but all you've done is crack open the graves because He will rise just like these. You may have thought that this is a victory for death but this is a victory for life.

The immediate effect of Jesus is a mini resurrection. Actual bodily resurrection of certain selected saints who received their eternal immortal and glorified form right

on the spot. Their spirits came from heaven, were joined with their bodies and they were alive. This is a pre-enactment of the final resurrection.

A real resurrection?"

Absolutely.

This is a resurrection, a real literal physical bodily glorified resurrection.

But what happened? They came out of the graves.

"After His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared unto many."

Just imagine for a minute what kind of testimony they have?

They had testified about resurrection.

But they didn't go into the city and do it until Christ had risen.

Why?

1 Corinthians 15:20 says *He's the first fruits of them that slept.*

So it wasn't until after He was raised from the dead that they along with Him began to speak. And I don't think they spoke to anybody except those who already

believed. There's no biblical evidence Christ ever appeared after His resurrection to anyone other than a believer. And they went in and I'm sure the believers were thrilled to meet them. And they would say Christ is alive and His being alive is the guarantee that you will live and we're living proof of that.