Let God Be True!

Faith View of Death

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But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep,
that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.
I Thessalonians 4:13

Therefore we are always confident, knowing that,
whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord:
(For we walk by faith, not by sight)
We are confident, I say, and willing rather
to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.
II Corinthians 5:6-8

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.
Hebrews 11:1

Theme: *Physical death is God's curse of our bodies for sin. The spirit leaves and returns to God who gave it; the body is buried and returns to dust as it was. Death is painful, ugly, and final, erasing the looks, personality, strength, and intelligence once had. The world does not know why it occurs, what happens to the person's spirit, the right response, or future events related to it. But Christians have faith to believe the Bible's detailed information about death and live victoriously, comforting each other in final triumph, for Jesus the Son of God gloriously defeated death and secured immortality for each one that believes.*

Suggested Links:
Death Declared, Defied, Destroyed *… (2003; two sermons) …* here.
Till Death Do Us Part *… (2011; Marie Crosby funeral) …* here.
The Death of the Righteous *… (1998; one sermon) …* here.
Eternal Life Is a Gift *… (2005; Romans 6:23).*
Catastrophe and Cure *… (2019; Eden).*
Cross at Judgment Day *… (2018; two sermons).*
Consequences of Sin *… (2006; one sermon).*
What Happens at 30? *… (2006; no audio).*
Whole Creation Groaneth *… (2007; Romans 8:17-25).*
Two Kings and Their Laws *… (2020; two sermons).*
Appointed to Death and Judgment *… (2005; one sermon).*
Death Swallowed Up in Victory *… (2013; no outline).*
The Great Gulf Spanned *… (2022; one sermon).*
The Two Adams *… (2005; imputation).*
The Power of Life *… (2024; two sermons).*
Resurrection Power *… (2022; PPT sermon).*
Resurrection Power *… (2017; two sermons).*

Resurrection of the Dead … *(2009; six sermons).*
Jesus the Resurrection and Life … *(2011).*
Ready to Die … *(2008; Jesus' Zeal).*
Book of Life … *(2001; two sermons).*
A Lake, A Book, A Lamb … *(2021; one sermon).*
Superlatives of Eternal Life … *(2018; no audio).*
Health, Sickness, and Death … *(2017; PPT sermon)* … here.
Funerals and Eulogies … *(2011; slides only).*

Introduction:

1. Without the knowledge of the Bible, you were hopelessly given life without approval and you face certain death.
2. But with the knowledge of the Bible, you can have glorious hope in victory over all aspects of death. *Hallelujah!*
    a. Only Bible believers know the true origin and purpose of death and its remedy and final and total abolition.
    b. One of the best measures and best tests for faith is confidence, knowledge, and peace about death.
    c. The worst the world has is death, and faith in Jesus the Son of God overcomes it (I John 5:4-5).
    d. Eternal life is an overused phrase, but it says so much when we stop to consider it (Romans 6:23).
    e. If you believe the creation account by faith or any part of scripture, believe all it says about death.
3. There are three deaths for sin: but we want to focus the most on the middle death, the death of our physical bodies.
    a. There is the state of spiritual death into which we are born – death toward God by a totally depraved heart.
    b. There is physical death, when the spirit leaves our body lifeless and returns up to its Creator for judgment.
    c. There is eternal death, when the reunited body and spirit are formally sentenced to eternal torment for sin.
    d. The Lord Jesus Christ the Son of God has delivered His elect from all three kinds of death. *Hallelujah! Amen!*
4. The universal fear of death is the meal ticket for religious hucksters and their heresies (Heb 2:15).
5. For the sake of this study, we will pass over the cause, source, and sentence of death. See links directly above.
6. To make death tolerable for the wicked, there are many heresies that attempt to take away its terrible sting.
7. Annihilation is a heresy that denies existence after death, so why practice any godly self-denial?
8. Reincarnation is a heresy that proposes recycling as something else, so you get to die repeatedly.
9. Universalism is a heresy that claims all men go to heaven and God would not have a literal hell.
10. These heresies exist today, but Sadducees denied the spirit and resurrection to Jesus (Acts 23:8).

11. And Paul warned against others who taught the resurrection was past (I Cor 15:12; II Tim 2:18).
12. The Great Whore is so destitute of hope they pray to Mary the mother of God for help at death.
13. A mark of true Christians is the great comfort and hope they have in the face of death (I Thess 4:13,18; 5:9-11).
    a. The gospel of Jesus Christ, and faith and our hope by it, rests on the certainty of resurrection and eternal life.
    b. It is our mutual duty, pastor and people, to know the full victory by Jesus Christ before you face it yourself.
    c. For the righteous, death is greater consciousness than ever before of a perfect place/persons never imagined.
    d. You have never felt anything even close to gracious acceptance, loving affection, peaceful unity like heaven.
14. It is only the ignorant sorrow of the world we reject, for death does bring sorrow to family and friends.
    a. Paul, the most confident of believers, thought sorrow upon sorrow about Epaphroditus (Phil 2:27).
    b. From Sarah's death to Jonathan's to Lazarus's to Dorcas's, there was much sorrow and mourning.
    c. For much more detail about this natural, right, and usual response, see this link also above.
    d. But for Christians, sorrow at death has much hope, like a song we sing, *How Sweet to Die …* here.
    e. For a good summary by Baptist John Gill, his commentary about the final enemy, yet friend … here.

DEATH … only one says, *I live forever*, LORD Jehovah, our Father (Deut 32:39-40).

39 See now that I, even I, am he*, and there is no god with me:* I kill, and I make alive*; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand.*
40 For I lift up my hand to heaven, and say, I live for ever*.*

DEATH … Jesus is Jehovah's Son and is alive forevermore, our Brother (Rev 1:18).

18 I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen*; and have the keys of hell and of death.*

DEATH … Jesus defeated death for sovereign rule over spirits and death (Rev 1:18).

18 I am he that liveth, and was dead*; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen;* and have the keys of hell and of death*.*

DEATH … we are more than conquerors over it, even by enemy sword (Rom 8:35-37).

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword*?*
36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.
37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors *through him that loved us.*

DEATH … cannot separate us from either the love of Christ or God (Rom 8:35,38-39).

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ*? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or* sword*?*
38 For I am persuaded, that neither death*, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,*
39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God*, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

DEATH … is how Jesus ended condemnation; now He lives for us (Rom 8:34; 5:10).

34 Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died*, yea rather,* that is risen again*, who is even at the right hand of God,* who also maketh intercession for us*.*
10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son*, much more, being reconciled,* we shall be saved by his life*.*

DEATH … by martyrs was a choice to not love their lives to defeat Satan (Rev 12:11).

11 And they overcame him *by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and* they loved not their lives unto the death*.*

DEATH … is how martyrs being faithful to death would get a crown of life (Rev 2:10).

10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life*.*

DEATH … in the Lord is a blessing even if dying by Christian papal beast (Rev 14:13).

13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord *from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit,* that they may rest from their labours*; and their works do follow them.*

DEATH … is better than the day of birth when seen rightly and spiritually (Eccl 7:1).

1 A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one s birth*.*

DEATH … and its funerals are better than parties to reflect for heart benefit (Ec 7:2).

2 It is better to go to the house of mourning*, than to go to the house of feasting: for that is the end of all men; and* the living will lay it to his heart*.*

DEATH .. was a small price to hear His words and die beside Him (Luke 23:42-43).

42 And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.
43 And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise*.*

DEATH ... is also decease; Moses and Elijah encouraged Jesus for it (Luke 9:30-31).

30 And, behold, there talked with him two men, which were Moses and Elias:
31 Who appeared in glory, and spake of his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem*.*

DEATH ... is so weak Jesus' resurrection caused many to come forth (Matt 27:51-53).

51 And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;
52 And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose*,*
53 And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many*.*

DEATH ... is a family reunion, by gathered to your people (Gen 25:8; Nu 27:13; etc.).

8 Then Abraham gave up the ghost, and died in a good old age, an old man, and full of years; and was gathered to his people*.*
12 And the LORD said unto Moses, Get thee up into this mount Abarim, and see the land which I have given unto the children of Israel.
13 And when thou hast seen it, thou also shalt be gathered unto thy people, as Aaron thy brother was gathered*.*

DEATH ... is a blessing of peace and rest that only wise men rightly grasp (Is 57:1-2).

1 The righteous perisheth, and no man layeth it to heart: and merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come.
2 He shall enter into peace: they shall rest in their beds, each one walking in his uprightness*.*

DEATH ... is often called sleep, for the body rests to rise (John 11:11; Acts 7:60; etc.).

11 These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep*.*
60 And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep*.*

DEATH ... is far better than staying here according to inspired Paul (Phil 1:23-24).

23 For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better*:*

24 Nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful for you.

DEATH .. is gain based on Paul and his earnest expectation and hope (Phil 1:20-21).

20 According to my earnest expectation and my hope*, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life,* or by death*.*
21 For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain*.*

DEATH ... redirects our religion from this life to eternal life in heaven (I Cor 15:19).

If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable*.*

DEATH ... is a planting and the only way to get a new glorified body (I Cor 15:35-38).

35 But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come?
36 Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die*:*
37 And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain:
38 But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body*.*

DEATH ... has been denied when God chose to do so (Hebrews 11:5; II Kings 2:1,11).

5 By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death*; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.*
1 And it came to pass, when the LORD would take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind*, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal.*
11 And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder*; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.*

DEATH ... has been reversed when God chose to do so (I Kgs 17:17-23; Jn 11:43-44).

17 And it came to pass after these things, that the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, fell sick; and his sickness was so sore, that there was no breath left in him*.*
18 And she said unto Elijah, What have I to do with thee, O thou man of God? art thou come unto me to call my sin to remembrance, and to slay my son***?***
19 And he said unto her, Give me thy son. And he took him out of her bosom, and carried him up into a loft, where he abode, and laid him upon his own bed.
20 And he cried unto the LORD, and said, O LORD my God, hast thou also brought evil upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son?
21 And he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried unto the LORD, and said, O LORD my God, I pray thee, let this child s soul come into him again*.*
22 And the LORD heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came into him again, and he revived*.*

23 And Elijah took the child, and brought him down out of the chamber into the house, and delivered him unto his mother: and Elijah said, See, thy son liveth*.*
43 And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth*.*
44 And he that was dead came forth*, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go.*

DEATH .. is decease; Moses and Elijah helped Jesus to it (II Pet 1:15; Luke 9:30-31).

15 Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease *to have these things always in remembrance.*
30 And, behold, there talked with him two men, which were Moses and Elias*:*
31 Who appeared in glory, and spake of his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem*.*

DEATH ... can be deliverance from terrible evil coming (II Chron 34:28; Isaiah 57:1).

28 Behold, I will gather thee to thy fathers*, and thou shalt be gathered to thy grave in peace,* neither shall thine eyes see all the evil that I will bring upon this place*, and upon the inhabitants of the same. So they brought the king word again.*
1 The righteous perisheth, and no man layeth it to heart: and merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come*.*
2 He shall enter into peace: they shall rest in their beds, each one walking in his uprightness.

DEATH .. can be His kindness for good men to have peace (II Chr 34:28; Is 57:1-2).

28 Behold, I will gather thee to thy fathers, and thou shalt be gathered to thy grave in peace*, neither shall thine eyes see all the evil that I will bring upon this place, and upon the inhabitants of the same. So they brought the king word again.*
1 The righteous perisheth, and no man layeth it to heart: and merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come.
2 He shall enter into peace: they shall rest in their beds, each one walking in his uprightness*.*

DEATH .. is a departure with full consciousness to God (II Tim 4:6-7; Luke 2:28-30).

6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand*.*
7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:
28 Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said,
29 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace*, according to thy word:*
30 For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,

DEATH ... is putting off this temporary house for the spirit to depart (II Pet 1:13-14).

13 Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle*, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance;*

14 Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle*, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me.*

DEATH … is dissolving this temporary house for an eternal building (II Cor 5:1-5).

1 For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens*.*
2 For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven*:*
3 If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked.
4 For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened*: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon,* that mortality might be swallowed up of life*.*
5 Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit.

DEATH … is your spirit absent from the body to be present with Jesus (II Cor 5:6-8).

6 Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord*:*
7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)
8 We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord*.*

DEATH … initiates the incredible change for you to enter heaven (I Cor 15:50-53).

50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God*; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.*
51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed*,*
52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed*.*
53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality*.*

DEATH … and incredible change fulfills victorious mocking in Jesus (I Cor 15:54-56).

54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory*.*
55 O death, where is thy sting*?* O grave, where is thy victory*?*
56 The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.
57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ*.*

DEATH … conquered by resurrection will fulfil Isaiah and Hosea (Is 25:8; Hos 13:14).

8 He will swallow up death in victory*; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken it.*
14 I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death, I will be thy

plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction*: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes.*

DEATH … involves angels more directly than is usual (Luke 16:22; II Kings 2:11-12).

22 And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham' s bosom*: the rich man also died, and was buried;*
11 And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire*, and parted them both asunder; and* Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven*.*
12 And Elisha saw it, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof*. And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces.*

DEATH .. does not end life for Abraham stayed very alive (Ex 3:6 cf. Matt 22:31-33).

6 Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham*, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.*
31 But as touching the resurrection of the dead, have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by God, saying,
32 I am the God of Abraham*, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob?* God is not the God of the dead, but of the living*.*
33 And when the multitude heard this, they were astonished at his doctrine.

DEATH .. is a blessing for the righteous and an end to be desired (Numbers 23:10).

10 Who can count the dust of Jacob, and the number of the fourth part of Israel? Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his*!*

DEATH … is a special transaction and precious in the sight of God (Psalm 116:15).

15 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints*.*

DEATH … for Stephen had Jesus standing and why not all (Acts 7:55-56; Ps 116:15).

55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God*,*
56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God*.*
15 Precious in the sight of the LORD *is the death of his saints.*

DEATH … causes visitation with family or friends that went before (II Samuel 12:13).

22 And he said, While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept: for I said, Who can tell whether GOD will be gracious to me, that the child may live?
23 But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not

return to me.

DEATH .. results in the spirit being perfected and in God's presence (Heb 12:22-24).

22 But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem*, and to an innumerable company of angels,*
23 To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect*,*
24 And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

DEATH ... takes the spirit to Paradise, the third heaven (Luke 23:43; II Cor 12:2-4).

43 And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise*.*
2 I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven*.*
3 And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;)
4 How that he was caught up into paradise*, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.*

DEATH ... can be done consciously giving your spirit to God (Luke 23:46; Acts 7:59).

46 And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost*.*
59 And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit*.*

DEATH ... leads toward resurrection of body and reunion of the spirit (Job 19:25-27).

25 For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth:
26 And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God*:*
27 Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me.

DEATH ... is deliverance from the power of death for only the righteous (Psalm 49:15).

15 But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave: for he shall receive me*. Selah.*

DEATH .. the wicked have only hell in their future, but we have hope (Prov 14:32).

32 The wicked is driven away in his wickedness: but the righteous hath hope in his death*.*

DEATH .. leads toward receiving rewards for life (Luke 14:12-14; Matt 25:34,40).

12 Then said he also to him that bade him, When thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen, nor thy rich neighbours; lest they also bid thee again, and a recompence be made thee*.*
13 But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind:
14 And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just*.*
34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world*:*
40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me*.*

DEATH .. is the enemy of Jesus, and He will destroy that enemy last (I Cor 15:24-26).

24 Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power*.*
25 For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.
26 The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death*.*

DEATH .. is the wages of sin, and we chose it, but God gives eternal life (Rom 6:23).

23 For the wages of sin is death*; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

DEATH … was designed/applied by God our Father, who gives eternal life (Rom 6:23).

23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life *through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

DEATH … by the first Adam is much more defeated by the last Adam (Rom 5:15-21).

15 But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace*, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.*
16 And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification.
17 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one*, Jesus Christ.)*
18 Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.
19 For as by one man s disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.
20 Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound*:*
21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

DEATH ... is mortality, but our Lord won immortality (I Cor 15:53-54; II Tim 1:10).

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality*.*
54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality*, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.*
9 Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,
10 But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel*:*

DEATH .. is corruptible, but our Lord won incorruption (I Cor 15:50-54).

50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption*.*
51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,
52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible*, and we shall be changed.*
53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption*, and this mortal must put on immortality.*
54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption*, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.*

DEATH .. has been abolished as penal judgment (II Tim 1:9-10; Heb 2:14; I Jn 3:8).

9 Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,
10 But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death*, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:*
14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death*, that is, the devil;*
8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil*.*

DEATH .. is the wages for sins but God forgets our sins by grace (Heb 8:12; 10:17).

12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more*.*
17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.

DEATH .. is totally under the rule of God, Who is our Father (Heb 8:12; 10:17).

20 He that is our God is the God of salvation; and unto GOD the Lord belong the issues from death*.*

DEATH .. is with God's curse on creation, but glorious liberty comes (Rom 8:18-23).

18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.
19 For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.
20 For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope,
21 Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God*.*
22 For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.
23 And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body*.*

DEATH … and judgment are assigned, but defeated in Jesus (Ec 8:6-8; Heb 9:27-28).

6 Because to every purpose there is time and judgment, therefore the misery of man is great upon him.
7 For he knoweth not that which shall be: for who can tell him when it shall be?
8 There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death*: and there is no discharge in that war; neither shall wickedness deliver those that are given to it.*
27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die*, but after this the judgment:*
28 So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation*.*

DEATH … was mocked by Jesus to Jews that soon after killed Him (John 2:18-22).

18 Then answered the Jews and said unto him, What sign shewest thou unto us, seeing that thou doest these things?
19 Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up*.*
20 Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days?
21 But he spake of the temple of his body*.*
22 When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them*; and they believed the scripture, and the word which Jesus had said.*

DEATH … and Jesus' resurrection power was explained to Martha (John 11:21-27).

21 Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died*.*
22 But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee.
23 Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again*.*
24 Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.
25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live*:*
26 And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die*. Believest thou this?*

27 She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.

DEATH … and Jesus victory over it was message of apostles (Acts 1:22; 4:33; 17:31).

22 Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection*.*
33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus*: and great grace was upon them all.*
31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead*.*

DEATH … is defied by Baptist baptism (Rom 6:3-5; I Cor 15:29; Col 2:12; I Pet 3:21).

3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?
4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead *by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*
5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection*:*
29 Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all***?*** *why are they then baptized for the dead?*
12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him *through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.*
21 The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ*:*

DEATH … was faced and defeated by Jesus to bring many sons to glory (Heb 2:9-10).

9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man*.*
10 For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory*, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.*

DEATH … has no more dominion over Jesus for our holy living like His (Rom 6:8-11).

8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:
9 Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him*.*
10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God*.*
11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin*, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

DEATH … by the law of sin and death is gone for the law of life in Christ (Rom 8:2).

2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus *hath made me free from the law of sin and death.*

DEATH … will not exist nor any pain in the new heaven and new earth (Rev 21:4-5).

4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death*, neither sorrow, nor crying,* neither shall there be any more pain*: for the former things are passed away.*
5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new*. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.*

DEATH … can be chosen over life and even mocked by diligent elect (II Peter 1:5-11).

5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;
6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;
7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.
8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.
9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.
10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall*:*
11 For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ*.*

Conclusion:

1. Without the knowledge of the Bible, you were hopelessly given life without approval and you face certain death.
2. But with the knowledge of the Bible, you can have glorious hope in victory over all aspects of death. *Hallelujah!*
3. Remember! Only Bible believers know the origin and purpose of death and its remedy and final and total abolition.
4. The universal fear of death is the meal ticket for religious hucksters and their heresies (Heb 2:15).
5. A mark of true Christians is the great comfort and hope they have in the face of death (I Thess 4:13,18; 5:9-11).
    a. The gospel of Jesus Christ, and faith and our hope by it, rests on the certainty of resurrection and eternal life.
    b. It is our mutual duty, pastor and people, to know the full victory by Jesus Christ before you face it yourself.
6. It is only the ignorant sorrow of the world we reject, for death does bring sorrow to family and friends.
    a. Paul, the most confident of believers, thought sorrow upon sorrow about Epaphroditus (Phil 2:27).
    b. From Sarah's death to Jonathan's to Lazarus's to Dorcas's, there was much sorrow and mourning.

c. For much more detail about this natural, right, and usual response, see this link also above.
d. But for Christians, sorrow at death has much hope, like a song we sing, *How Sweet to Die …* here.
e. For a good summary by Baptist John Gill, his commentary about the final enemy, yet friend … here.

7. Our goals are simple and based only on God's revelation to us about death and our response to it.
   a. We should grow in grace and the knowledge of Jesus Christ to be confident and mature in faith.
   b. We should have Paul's confident persuasion and priority to leave his earthly life to be with Christ.
   c. We should have Paul's confident knowledge to be able to comfort others with all kinds of reasons.
   d. We should live such lives that guarantee eternal life to ourselves and to any observing our conduct.