

# What Happens When We Die?

When our faith is in Jesus' death and resurrection, we have no fear of death because our future is secure!

**01.22.23** Date of Sermon (to be preached)

#3 Week in Series

Series Title: Questions For God

Template Author: Jordan Biel



Core Scripture: Romans 6:5 "If we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His."

## Summary of Main Points

- Death is only physical; the real you continues on to heaven or hell
- Death is just a doorway, not meant to be feared for the believer
- Death itself was defeated by Jesus!

## // Introduction Ideas

### // #1 Death is only physical; the real you continues on to heaven or hell

- What do they need to know? Is this progressive in the roadmap of the message?
- Does this tie in with the Bottom Line?
-  **Romans 6:5 "If we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His."**
- So why is there hell? Questions For God... "Why is there hell?" If God is good, why did He create hell? Hell was not made for humans. The Bible is clear that hell was made for Satan and those who rebelled with him. Hell is defined as eternal separation from the perfect and loving Father God. God wants EVERYONE to trust in Jesus and go to Heaven and wants NO ONE to reject His son. Unfortunately some still do. ...
- Practical Illustration/Example (if applicable)
-  **Ecclesiastes 3:11 "God has set eternity in the heart of everyone."**

Talk to anyone on their deathbed and they know that there is an afterlife. Our spirit (the real core of us) knows that we belong in eternity - in peace.

Great spot for a story - when I prayed with ... as they were in Hospice ...

■ **Mt 24** - Jesus teaching on what happens when the body dies: The Separation of Sheep & Goats / Wheat & Tares Those who have sincerely trusted in Jesus and lived to please Him.

- Transition to next point
- When our faith is in Jesus' death and resurrection, we have no fear of death because our future is secure!

## ■ // #2 Death is just a doorway, not meant to be feared.


- When we have repented of our sin and received Jesus, God's Son, as the only one perfect enough and willing to die in our place, we have the assurance of Heaven, a life spent with Jesus!
- 
- ■ **Romans 8:38-39**
- Practical Illustration/Example (if applicable)
- ■ **2 Timothy 4**; **"The Lord will give it to me, (this crown) but not only to me. He will give it to all who love His appearing."** this was Paul's final statement. This is the last letter that he wrote in the Bible, and it is to Timothy his son in the faith. He was in Rome, and then he was executed. This is it—2 Timothy 4—is the last chapter of anything Paul wrote. He is writing here and says, "Well, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness." Earlier he wrote that he was aiming for the prize, but he did not know for sure he had it. Now he has the assurance. He is unafraid of death! You too can be unafraid of death! This is beautiful. He said, **"The Lord will give it to me, (this crown of righteousness) but not only to me. He will give it to all who love His appearance."**
- **Human element** - story of someone trusting in Jesus. In Kinsman I'm going to use Brittany's story - a new young lady in our life group. Maybe at Warren, use someone's story there (get their permission first =)
- ■ **John 1:9-12**  
**The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,**
-

- **■ Mark 5:35-43 Jesus raises Jairus' daughter.** Interesting that Jesus never seems to say someone is “dead” and almost always says they are actually “sleeping” Let that sink in. We are eternal beings Jesus is saying. Our earthly bodies die but we remain.
- <sup>35</sup>While he was still speaking, there came from the ruler's house some who said, “Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?” <sup>36</sup>But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the ruler of the synagogue, “Do not fear, only believe.” <sup>37</sup>And he allowed no one to follow him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. <sup>38</sup>They came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and Jesus saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. <sup>39</sup>And when he had entered, he said to them, “Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but sleeping.” <sup>40</sup>And they laughed at him. But he put them all outside and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him and went in where the child was. <sup>41</sup>Taking her by the hand he said to her, “Talitha cumi,” which means, “Little girl, I say to you, arise.” <sup>42</sup>And immediately the girl got up and began walking (for she was twelve years of age), and they were immediately overcome with amazement. <sup>43</sup>And he strictly charged them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.
- Jesus made it possible for us to not fear death but instead, embrace eternity!
- So not only is death just a physical death and a doorway into eternity, it's important that we know that ...


When our faith is in Jesus' death and resurrection, we have no fear of death because our future is secure!

## ■ // #3 Death itself was defeated by Jesus!

- *What do they need to know?* They need to know WHY they don't have to fear death.
- If you are reading along with us in our Bible reading plan, you may have noticed last week that when Adam and Eve sinned, it introduced Death into the world. In fact, Genesis indicates that if they hadn't eaten from the “tree of good and evil” they would have lived forever in that perfect paradise. In fact, in their fallen state, God did not want them to live forever in a sinful, broken state so He said this ... “<sup>22</sup>Then the Lord God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—” <sup>23</sup>therefore the Lord God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. <sup>24</sup>He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.
- Interesting that God had to guard the way / block their ability to eat from the tree of life because He knew they'd live forever in a fallen state if so. He had a plan to send His own Son, Jesus, to pay the penalty of that sin / our sin so that we could be restored into perfect unity with God and come back into an “Eden” like state where there is no pain, sickness, revenge, bitterness, anger, and so forth.
- **■ Jesus has POWER over death.** He raised Lazarus up from the dead in John 11!
- Elisha raised a woman's son back from death in 2 Kings 4.
- Peter (not Jesus but a follower of Jesus like me and you!) raised “Dorcas” unfortunate name lol back from the dead in Acts chapter 20!

-  John 5:23-29 Jesus teaches about His power to execute judgment and grant eternal life. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent him. <sup>24</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.
- <sup>25</sup> “Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. <sup>26</sup> For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself. <sup>27</sup> And he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man. <sup>28</sup> Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice <sup>29</sup> and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment
- When our faith is in Jesus’ death and resurrection, we have no fear of death because our future is secure!

## // Conclusion

-  **Death is NOT something to be feared for those who have put their trust in Jesus AND are truly aiming to live their lives to please Him.** In the words of Jesus “who have done good” No, our good deeds don’t secure our salvation. God’s grace does (Eph 2:9-10) but good deeds and a life aimed at doing the right thing are the natural byproducts of someone who has received God’s grace.
- In-Service Response
  - Salvation Opportunity ... have YOU repented of your sin and asked Jesus to be your Lord and Savior?...

## // Group Discussion Questions

1. Question 1 Do you feel like I do at funerals - a renewed sense of how short this life is?
2. Question 2 What is it about grieving someone's loss that helps us in our own faith journey?
3. Question 3 Did you know the Bible says we'll be given a body like "His" meaning Jesus! What do you think that means? Let's imagine for a minute =)
4. Question 4 Who do you know that may need to hear this Good News that Jesus removes the fear of death and the penalty of sin?
5. Question 5 How can we engage them in a conversation about that?