

FBC POWELL, 4-27-08 AM NOTES
"BEYOND DEATH'S DOOR"
VARIOUS SCRIPTURES
(#11 in Series, "The Journey")

Hebrews 9:27 (NKJV) "And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment."

2 Corinthians 11:14 (NKJV) "And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light."

2 Peter 1:19a (ESV) "And we have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place..."

1 Corinthians 15:19 (NASB) "If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied."

James 4:14b (NKJV) "For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away."

I. Why Do Christians Die?

Romans 8:1a (NKJV) "There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus..."

1 Corinthians 15:24-26 (NKJV) "Then *comes* the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. The **last enemy that will be destroyed is death.**"

Revelation 2:10b (NKJV) "Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life."

II. What Do We Leave Behind at Death?

2 Corinthians 5:17 (AMP) "Therefore if any person is [ingrafted] in Christ (the Messiah) he is a new creation (a new creature altogether); the old [previous moral and spiritual condition] has passed away. Behold, the fresh *and* new has come!"

Romans 6:17-18 (NKJV) "But God be thanked that *though* you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness."

Romans 7:23 (NASB) "But I see a different law **in the members of my body**, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of **the law of sin which is in my members.**"

Galatians 5:16-17 (NKJV) "I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish."

"Heaven is the earthly life of the believer glorified and perfected."

—Erwin Lutzer

Philippians 1:23 (NKJV) “For I am hard pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, *which is far better.*”

III. Is There a Period of Unconsciousness After Death?

John 11:11b (NKJV) “Our friend Lazarus sleeps, but I go that I may wake him up.”

2 Corinthians 5:8 (NKJV) “We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.”

IV. Will We Have a Body After We Die and Before the Resurrection?

V. Will We Still Have Our Personalities?

VI. Is Death Our Enemy or Our Friend?

1 Corinthians 15:26 (NKJV) “The last **enemy** *that* will be destroyed *is* death.”

Psalms 16:11b (NKJV) “In Your presence *is* fullness of joy; at Your right hand *are* pleasures forevermore.”

VII. How Can We View Death From a Proper Perspective?

Hebrews 11:13-14 (NKJV) “These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced *them* and confessed that they were **strangers and pilgrims** on the earth. For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland.”

“A traveler...is not enticed by fine appearances to put off the thought of proceeding. No, but his journey’s end is in his mind. If he meets with comfortable accommodations at an inn, he entertains no thoughts of settling there. He considers these things are not his own, that he is but a stranger, and when he has refreshed himself, or tarried for a night, he is for going forward...So should we desire heaven more than the comforts and enjoyments of this life...Our hearts ought to be loose to these things, as that of a man on a journey, that we may cheerfully part with them whenever God calls...To spend our lives so as to be only a journeying towards heaven, is the way to be free from bondage and to have the prospect and forethought of death comfortable. Does the traveler think of his journey’s end with fear and terror?”

—Jonathan Edwards (1733)

“The resurrection demonstrates once and for all who won and who lost.”

—A. W. Tozier