

The End of Suffering

Revelation 21:1-4

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. 4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

Revelation 21:1-4

Why We Must Think Deeply About Death

Why We Must Think Deeply About Death

The End of Suffering

1. The Possibility is Eternal Joy or Eternal Misery
2. The Question of Authentic Faith
3. The Centrality of God
4. The Call To Christian Courage

What Happens When I Die?

1. Christians will be taken into
the presence of Christ

“For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. 22 If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. 23 I am hard pressed between the two. **My desire is to depart and be with Christ,** for that is far better. 24 But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account.”

Philippians 1:21-24

“Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord.”

2 Corinthians 5:8

**“And he said to him, “Truly, I say to you,
today you will be with me in paradise.””**

Luke 23:43

**2. Those who did not trust Christ
will enter into hell**

“The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, 23 and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side.”

Luke 16:22-24

3. Our earthly lives will not compare
with the resplendent glory of heaven

“For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. 22 If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. 23 I am hard pressed between the two. **My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better.** 24 But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account.”

Philippians 1:21-24

4. In Heaven we will continue to look forward to the resurrection of our bodies

“And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.”

Romans 8:23

“But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. 15 For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.”

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

“For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.”

1 Corinthians 15:53

“ But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 **who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body**, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.”

Philippians 3:21

4. In Heaven we will continue to look forward to the resurrection of our bodies

5. In Heaven we will be free from the presence of sin and we will be in the unhindered presence of God.

Gospel Hope In Death

“54 When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.” 55 “O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?” 56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58 Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:54-58

The Glorious End of Suffering

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. 4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

Revelation 21:1-4

Unfathomable Joy & Pleasure In Death

“Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.”

1 John 3:2

Hope Causes Worship No Matter
The Circumstance