

Doctrine of Dying

With Special Attention to the Metrification of the Flesh

1. It is possible to die a premature death. One way is to show disrespect to parents.
 - *Matthew 15:4 For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death.*
 - *Mark 7:10 For Moses said, Honour thy father and thy mother; and, Whoso curseth father or mother, let him die the death:*
 - *Eph 6:1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. 2 Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) 3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.*

2. The early Christians were willing to literally die for Jesus. Many did give their lives for Christ and died a martyr's death.
 - *Matthew 26:35 Peter said unto him, Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee. Likewise also said all the disciples.*
 - *Mark 14:31 But he [Peter] spake the more vehemently, If I should die with thee, I will not deny thee in any wise. Likewise also said they all.*
 - *John 11:16 Then said Thomas, which is called Didymus, unto his fellow disciples, Let us also go, that we may die with him.*
 - *Acts 21:13 Then Paul answered, What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? For I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.*

3. There is life after life for the believer and no death after death.
 - *Luke 20:36 Neither can they [the righteous] die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection.*

4. As there is physical death so there is spiritual death whereby the soul has no relationship with the living God. The life is said to be dead in trespasses and sin and worthy of death after death called "*The Second Death.*"
 - *Revelation 2:11 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.*

- *Revelation 20:6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.*
 - *Revelation 20:14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.*
 - *Revelation 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.*
5. The way to avoid the second death is to “eat” or appropriate by faith the “Bread” of Life which “cometh down from heaven.
- *John 6:50 This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die.*

“Lord, let me eat of this Bread of Heaven that I may not die.”

- *John 11:26 And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?*

Special Note.

If you have never called upon the name of the Lord for salvation, why not pray this prayer right now.

“Lord, I believe your word. I believe that if I believe in you I shall never die. Never. Thank you Jesus for this great and glorious promise. May the Holy Spirit remind me of it in the hour of my death. It is a precious and comforting promise. I believe.”

6. Some people shall die in their sins because they only seek the Lord to hurt Him. But He goes away to a place where the wicked cannot follow.
- *John 8:21 Then said Jesus again unto them, I go my way, and ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sins: whither I go, ye cannot come.*
7. The main reason individuals die in their sins is because they will not believe that Jesus is the Christ the Son of the living God.
- *John 8:24 I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.*

Troubled heart, pray this prayer.

“Lord, let the recording angel write that I do believe with all my heart Thou art the Christ the Son of the living God.”

8. The death of Jesus was considered a death of expediency by Caiaphas and other secular rulers of Jerusalem. During turbulent days when Rome threatened to move against Israel for the disruptive behavior, it was better for Jesus to die to settle down the restless mobs than for many to perish.
 - *John 11:50 Nor consider that it is expedient for us, that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not. 51 And this spake he not of himself: but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus should die for that nation;*
 - *John 18:14 Now Caiaphas was he, which gave counsel to the Jews, that it was expedient that one man should die for the people.*

9. Because the death of Jesus was going to be considered expedient and not legal charges could be leveled against Him in such a way as to prejudice the outcome. The truth would be told, Jesus did declare He was the Son of God. However, since He was not believed then the truth was presented as a lie and thus the “lie” could be punished with a sense of self-righteousness.
 - *John 19:7 The Jews answered him, We have a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God.*

10. Jesus always knew His death would be violent and bloody and by way of crucifixion.
 - *John 12:31 Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. 32 And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. 33 This he said, signifying what death he should die.*

11. The death of Christ surpasses any other death in the world for His death was rooted in the death of a Righteous Man for sinners.
 - *Romans 5:7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. 8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*

12. As there is a physical death freeing the soul to go to heaven or hell, so there is a spiritual death in time that must be experienced if there is going to be spiritual life. The example Jesus used is a grain of corn.
 - *John 12:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.*

13. It is possible for those closest to Christ to misunderstand what He meant when He spoke until time passes and better understanding comes. There was a common belief that the apostle John would not die until Jesus returned.
 - *John 21:23 Then went this saying abroad among the brethren, that that disciple should not die: yet Jesus said not unto him, He shall not die; but, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee?*

14. As there is a physical death to endure apart from the Second Advent of Christ so there is a spiritual death to self the believer is commanded to perform. The Biblical terminology for this dying to self is called “mortification.”

- *Romans 8:13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.*

15. Following salvation, the fear of death is designed to be removed.

- *Romans 14:8 For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.*

16. It is better to die than to live without spiritual honor and glory.

- *1 Corinthians 9:15 But I have used none of these things: neither have I written these things, that it should be so done unto me: for it were better for me to die, than that any man should make my glorying void.*

17. The certainty of eternal life in Christ is grounded, by way of analogy, in the fact that physical death is found in Adam.

- *1 Corinthians 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.*

18. When Paul spoke of dying “daily” he was referring to the fact that he had learned to mortify or put to death the sinful impulses of his heart.

- *1 Corinthians 15:31 I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily.*

Special Note.

Mortification of the flesh is a daily exercise of standing in judgment upon the dark thoughts and temptations that face the soul.

19. The resurrection of Christ gives meaning, purpose and definition to the Christian’s life and efforts to mortify the flesh and the lusts [intense negative desires] thereof.

- *1 Corinthians 15:32 If after the manner of men I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantageth it me, if the dead rise not? Let us eat and drink; for to morrow we die.*

20. It is foolish to think that a new body cannot be had except it die, and it is equally foolish to believe that a new spiritual life can be found except the “Old Man” die in acts of self-mortification.

- *1 Corinthians 15:36 Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die:*

21. A good pastor, indeed a mature Christian, will want to give their life that others may live instead of always finding fault. The Corinthian people were not good people and they were not kind towards Paul and still he says he is willing to die for them.

- *2 Corinthians 7:3 I speak not this to condemn you: for I have said before, that ye are in our hearts to die and live with you.*

22. In the hour of death the heart of the Christian can be comforted with the promise that to die is gain.

- *Philippians 1:21 For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.*

23. All other religions in the world teach a merit based salvation. Only Christianity teaches a salvation of grace through faith.

- *Hebrews 7:8 And here men that die receive tithes; but there he receiveth them, of whom it is witnessed that he liveth.*

Sinners Jesus will receive;
Sound this word of grace to all
Who the heavenly pathway leave,
All who linger, all who fall.

Come, and He will give you rest;
Trust Him, for His word is plain;
He will take the sinfulest;
Christ receiveth sinful men.

Now my heart condemns me not,
Pure before the law I stand;
He who cleansed me from all spot,
Satisfied its last demand.

Christ receiveth sinful men,
Even me with all my sin;
Purged from every spot and stain,
Heaven with Him I enter in.

Sing it o'er and o'er again;
Christ receiveth sinful men;
Make the message clear and plain:
Christ receiveth sinful men.

Lyrics: Erdmann Neumeister

24. Apart from the Second Advent every person shall die and then face the judgment of God.

- *Hebrews 9:27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:*

25. Every Christian should live a careful, watchful life and especially those who know their lives are not perfect or mature in spiritual matters.

- *Revelation 3:2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God.*

Special Note.

Grace always precedes judgment. God will give careless individuals a chance to repent and be fundamentally and forever different.

26. There are certain times when sinners actually seek death but cannot find it.

- *Revelation 9:6 And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them.*

27. Back and forth the Scriptures go warning the godless and careless about dying and death while comforting and giving hope to those who are “Blessed” because they have believed in Christ as personal Savior and “die in the Lord.”

- *Revelation 14:13 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.*