

DOES EVERYBODY THAT DIES GO TO A BETTER PLACE

Gen. 3:4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

I. Death may be simply defined as the termination of life. It is represented under a variety of aspects in Scripture:

1. "The dust shall return to the earth as it was" Ecc 12:7
2. "Thou takest away their breath, they die" Ps 104:29
3. It is the dissolution of "our earthly house of this tabernacle" 2 Cor 5:1 the "putting off this tabernacle" 2 Pet 1:13, 14
4. Being "unclothed" 2 Cor 5:3,4
5. "Falling on sleep" Ps 76:5; Jer 51:39; Acts 13:36; 2 Pet 3:9
6. "I go whence I shall not return" Job 10:21
7. "Make me to know mine end" Ps 39:4
8. "to depart" Php 1:23
9. The grave is represented as "the gates of death" Job 38:17; Ps 9:13; 107:18
10. The gloomy silence of the grave is spoken of under the figure of the "shadow of death" Jer 2:6
11. Death is the effect of sin Rom 5:12 and not a "debt of nature."
12. It is but once Heb 9:27
13. universal Gen 3:19; Rom 5:12
14. Jesus has by his own death taken away its sting for all his followers 1 Cor 15:55-57
15. There is a spiritual death in trespasses and sins, i.e., the death of the soul under the power of sin Rom 8:6; Eph 2:1,3; Col 2:13
16. The "second death" Rev 2:11 is the everlasting perdition of the wicked Rev 21:8 and "second" in respect to natural or temporal death.

THE DEATH OF CHRIST is the procuring cause incidentally of all the blessings men enjoy on earth. But specially it is the procuring cause of the actual salvation of all his people, together with all the means that lead thereto. It does not make their salvation merely possible, but certain Mt 18:11; Rom 5:10; 2 Cor 5:21 Gal. 1:4; 3:13; Eph 1:7; 2:16; Rom 8:32-35

UNNATURAL DEATH (there is nothing natural about death)

<p>1) By Adam # Gen 3:19; 1 Cor 15:21,22</p> <p>2) Consequence of sin # Gen 2:17; Rom 5:12</p> <p>3) Lot of all # Ecc 8:8; Heb 9:27</p> <p>4) Ordered by God # De 32:39; Job 14:5</p> <p>5) Puts an end to earthly projects # Ecc 9:10</p> <p>6) Strips of earthly possessions # Job 1:21; 1 Tim 6:7</p> <p>7) Levels all ranks # Job 3:17-19</p> <p>8) Conquered by Christ # Rom 6:9; Re 1:18</p> <p>9) Abolished by Christ # 2 Tim 1:10</p> <p>10) Shall finally be destroyed by Christ # Hos 13:14 1 Cor 15:26</p>	<p>11) Christ delivers from the fear of # Heb 2:15</p> <p>12) Regard, as at hand # Job 14:1,2; Ps 39:4,5; 90:9; 1 Pet 1:24</p> <p>13) Prepare for # 2 Kin 20:1</p> <p>14) Pray to be prepared for # Ps 39:4,13; 90:12</p> <p>15) Consideration of, a motive to diligence # Ecc 9:10; John 9:4</p> <p>16) When averted for a season, is a motive to increased devotedness # Ps 56:12,13; 118:17; Isa 38:18,20</p> <p>17) Enoch and Elijah were exempted from # Gen 5:24; Heb 11:5; 2 Kin 2:11</p> <p>18) All shall be raised from # Acts 24:15</p> <p>19) None subject to in heaven # Lu 20:36; Re 21:4</p> <p>20) Illustrates the change produced in conversion # Rom 6:2; Col 2:20</p>
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DEATH IS DESCRIBED AS

<p>21a) A sleep # Deut 31:16 John 11:11</p> <p>21b) The earthly house of this tabernacle being dissolved # 2 Cor 5:1</p> <p>21c) Putting off this tabernacle # 2 Pet 1:14</p> <p>21d) God requiring the soul # Lu 12:20</p> <p>21e) Going the way whence there is no return # Job 16:22</p> <p>21f) Gathering to our people # Gen 49:33</p>	<p>21g) Going down into silence # Ps 115:17</p> <p>21h) Yielding up the spirit # Acts 5:10</p> <p>21i) Returning to dust # Gen 3:19; Ps 104:29</p> <p>21j) Being cut down # Job 14:2</p> <p>21k) Fleeing as a shadow # Job 14:2</p> <p>21l) Departing # Php 1:23</p>
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THE DEATH OF THE RIGHTEOUS

<p>Greatly Desired # Num 23:10</p> <p>Fearless # Ps 23:4</p> <p>Precious # Ps 116:15</p> <p>Hopeful # Pro 14:32</p> <p>Triumphant # Luke 16:22</p>	<p>Divine Element in # Rom 14:8</p> <p>Great Gain # Php 1:21</p> <p>Faith Illuminates # Heb 11:13</p> <p>Blessing Pronounced upon # Rev 14:13</p>
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ETERNAL DEATH FOR THE WICKED

<p>1) The necessary consequence of sin # Rom 6:16,21; 8:13; Jas 1:15</p> <p>2) The wages of sin # Rom 6:23</p> <p>3) The portion of the wicked # Mt 25:41,46; Ro 1:32</p> <p>4) The way to, described # Ps 9:17; Mt 7:13</p> <p>5) Self-righteousness leads to # Pr 14:12</p> <p>6) God alone can inflict # Mt 10:28; Jas 4:12</p> <p>7) IS DESCRIBED AS</p> <p>7a) Banishment from God # 2 Thess. 1:9</p> <p>7b) Society with the devil &c # Mt 25:41</p> <p>8) IS CALLED</p> <p>8a) Destruction # Rom 9:22; 2 Thess. 1:9</p> <p>8b) Perishing # 2 Pet 2:12</p> <p>8c) The wrath to come # 1 Thess 1:10</p>	<p>8d) The second death # Re 2:11</p> <p>8e) A resurrection to damnation # John 5:29</p> <p>8f) A resurrection to shame &c # Dan 12:2</p> <p>8g) Damnation of hell # Mt 23:33</p> <p>8h) Everlasting punishment # Mt 25:46</p> <p>9) Shall be inflicted by Christ # Mt 25:31,41; 2 Th 1:7,8</p> <p>10) Christ, the only way of escape from # Joh n 3:16; 8:51; Acts 4:12</p> <p>11) Saints shall escape # Rev 2:11 20:6</p> <p>12) Strive to preserve others from # Jas 5:20</p> <p>13) Illustrated # Luke 16:23-26</p>
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II. Some do indeed go to a better place.

SOME EXAMPLES OF THE RIGHTEOUS DEAD

<p>1) Abraham Gen 25:8 Abraham breathed his last and died in a good old age, an old man and full of years, and was gathered to his people.</p> <p>2) Isaac Gen 35:29 And Isaac breathed his last; and he died and was gathered to his people, old and full of days; and his sons Esau and Jacob buried him.</p> <p>3) Jacob Gen 49:33 When Jacob finished charging his sons, he drew up his feet into the bed, and breathed his last, and was gathered to his people.</p> <p>4) Aaron Nu 20:28 And Moses stripped Aaron of his garments, and put them upon Eleazar his son; and Aaron died there on the top of the mountain. Then Moses and Eleazar came down from the mountain.</p> <p>5) Moses Deut 34:5 ¶ So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD,</p>	<p>6) Joshua Jos 24:29 ¶ After these things Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, being a hundred and ten years old.</p> <p>7) Elisha 2 Kin 13:14 Now when Elisha had fallen sick with the illness of which he was to die, Joash king of Israel went down to him, and wept before him, crying, "My father, my father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" 2 Kin 13:20 ¶ So Elisha died, and they buried him. Now bands of Moabites used to invade the land in the spring of the year.</p> <p>8) One thief Luke 23:43 And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.</p> <p>9) Dorcas Acts 9:37 In those days she fell sick and died; and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room.</p>
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THE DEATH OF THE SAINTS

<p>1) A sleep in Christ 1 Cor 15:18; 1 Thess 4:14</p> <p>2) Is blessed Re v14:13</p> <p>3) Is gain Php 1:21</p> <p>4) IS FULL OF</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">4a) Faith Heb 11:13</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">4b) Peace Isa 57:2</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">4c) Hope Pr 14:32</p> <p>5) Sometimes desired Lu 2:29</p> <p>6) Waited for Job 14:14</p> <p>7) Met with resignation Gen 50:24; Jos 23:14; 1 Kin 2:2</p> <p>8) Met without fear 1 Cor 15:55</p> <p>9) Precious in God's sight Ps 116:15</p> <p>10) God preserves them to Ps 48:14</p> <p>11) God is with them in Ps 23:4</p> <p>12) Removes from coming evil 2 Kin 22:2; Isa 57:1</p> <p>13) LEADS TO</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">13a) Rest Job 3:17; 2 Thess 1:7</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">13b) Comfort Luke 16:25</p>	<p>13c) Christ's presence 2 Cor 5:8; Php 1:23</p> <p>13d) A crown of life 2 Tim 4:; Rev 2:10</p> <p>13e) A joyful resurrection Isa 26:19 Dan 12:2</p> <p>14) Disregarded by the wicked Isa 57:1</p> <p>15) Survivors consoled for 1 Thess 4:13-18</p> <p>16) The wicked wish theirs to resemble Num 23:10</p> <p>17) Illustrated Luke 16:22</p> <p>18) Exemplified</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">18a) Abraham Gen 25:8</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">18b) Isaac Gen 35:29</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">18c) Jacob Gen 49:33</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">18d) Aaron Num 20:28</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">18e) Moses Deut 34:5</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">18f) Joshua Jos 24:29</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">18g) Elisha 2 Kin 13:14,20</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">18h) One thief Luke 23:43</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">18i) Dorcas Acts 9:37</p>
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SOME EXAMPLES OF THE WICKED DEAD

<p>11a) Korah, &co Nu 16:32</p> <p>11b) Absalom 2 Sam 18:9,10</p> <p>11c) Ahab 1 Kin 22:34</p> <p>11d) Jezebel 2 Kin 9:33</p> <p>11e) Athaliah 2 Chr 23:15</p>	<p>11f) Haman Est 7:10</p> <p>11g) Belshazzar Dan 5:30</p> <p>11h) Judas Mt 27:5; Acts 1:18</p> <p>11i) Ananias, & co Acts 5:5, 9, 10</p> <p>11j) Herod Acts 12:23</p>
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III. But, the vast majority are always wrong and do not go to a better place

1. In the days of Noah.

Gen 6:5 Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

1 Pet. 3:18-20 For Christ also died for sins once for all, *the* just for *the* unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit; (19) in which also He went and made proclamation to the spirits *now* in prison, (20) who once were disobedient, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through *the* water.

2. The Molten Calf.

Exo 32:3-4 Then all the people tore off the gold rings which were in their ears and brought *them* to Aaron. (4) He took *this* from their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool and made it into a molten calf; and they said, "This is your god, O Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt."

3. Joshua and Caleb

Num 14:5-10 Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces in the presence of all the assembly of the congregation of the sons of Israel. (6) Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, of those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes; (7) and they spoke to all the congregation of the sons of Israel, saying, "The land which we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land. (8) "If the LORD is pleased with us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us--a land which flows with milk and honey. (9) "Only do not rebel against the LORD; and do not fear the people of the land, for they will be our prey. Their protection has been removed from them, and the LORD is with us; do not fear them." (10) But all the congregation said to stone them with stones. Then the glory of the LORD appeared in the tent of meeting to all the sons of Israel.

4. Gideon verses the Midianites.

Jdg 6:1-8 Then the sons of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the LORD; and the LORD gave them into the hands of Midian seven years. (2) The power of Midian prevailed against Israel. Because of Midian the sons of Israel made for themselves the dens which were in the mountains and the caves and the strongholds. (3) For it was when Israel had sown, that the Midianites would come up with the Amalekites and the sons of the east and go against them. (4) So they would camp against them and destroy the produce of the earth as far as Gaza, and leave no sustenance in Israel as well as no sheep, ox, or donkey. (5) For they would come up with their livestock and their tents, they would come in like locusts for number, both they and their camels were innumerable; and they came into the land to devastate it. (6) So Israel was brought very low because of Midian, and the sons of Israel cried to the LORD. (7) Now it came about when the sons of Israel cried to the LORD on account of Midian, (8) that the LORD sent a prophet to the sons of Israel, and he said to them, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'It was I who brought you up from Egypt and brought you out from the house of slavery.'

5. Jonathan. 1 Sam. 14:6

6. David and Goliath. 1 Sam. 17

7. Elisha. 2 Kings 6:17

8. The Day of Pentecost 33 AD. Only 3000 of possibly 3 million were saved. Acts 2:41