What Happens When We Die?

David Banning · Matthew 10:28 · Series: **Christian Living (Questions)**

INTRODUCTION

- If a living person is telling you about death, one of the things you know for sure is he don't know.
- It disturbs me that most people's ideas about death are shaped more by Hollywood fiction than by Bible fact.
- Primarily the message of the gospel is designed to help us prepare for when we die and for what comes after we die.

1 Death Is Not the End

Matthew 10:28; Luke 23:43; Philippians 1:21–23

- And do not fear those who can kill the body but are unable to kill the soul, but rather fear him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.
- Jesus would describe man as having a dual nature. There are two parts to us.
- But Jesus said, Today you will be with me in paradise. There was more to that thief on the cross than just his physical body, wasn't there?
- Paul could say death is gain. Because death wasn't the end. Death was departure.
- The word of God reveals that there is more to a man than the physical body, and that each of us, good or bad, possess a soul that lives beyond death.

2 The Dead Are Conscious and Aware

Luke 16:19–28

- Death is not extended sleep or a dream state. But in death we are lucid, aware.
- Abraham says Lazarus was being comforted. The rich man, too, was experiencing his surroundings. He felt agony. He was tormented. He pleaded for relief.
- He remembered his brothers. He was concerned about their welfare.
- These were men who were lucid, conscious of their existence, who experience their surroundings.

3 The Righteous and the Wicked Are Separated in Death

Luke 16:22–26; Luke 23:43

- The righteous after death experience a place of peace and comfort and tranquility and safety.
- Between us and you, there is a great chasm fixed. You can't come over here, and we can't go over there.
- The fate of the wicked after death is a frightening one. It is a place of misery and pain and agony.
- What they want more than anything else is for you to make a different choice. That you would not be where they are.

4 After This Comes Judgment

Hebrews 9:27; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Matthew 25:31–46

- It is appointed for men to die once, but that's not the end of the story. He says, and after this comes judgment.
- There is a day, an appointed time, when Jesus is going to come back.
- There's going to be one grand resurrection of all the dead.
- For we all must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body according to what he's done, whether good or bad.
- A verdict will be rendered in the case of every man, and that verdict will be absolutely right.
- As with death, the righteous and the wicked will find themselves separated at judgment.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Let me ask you tonight. What's worth going to hell for?**

MY NOTES