

## DEATH, AN INTERRUPTION, IN LIFE

(Gen. 49:28-33)

### INTRODUCTION

(Ecc. 9:5) "The living know that they shall die ... "  
"Death" - separation

The body is separated from the spirit - (Ecc. 12:7; Luke 23:46, 52-53)  
The departed loved-one is separated from family and friends - (2 Sam. 12:23)

### 1. EARTHLY LIVING IS SHORT

(Job 14:1-2) "few days" "like a flower" "as a shadow"  
(Psalm 144:4) "a puff of wind" "a passing shadow"  
(Psalm 103:14-16) "as grass" "as the flower" "it is gone"  
(James 1:10) "as the flower of the grass" (1 Peter 1:24) "all flesh is as grass"  
(James 4:14) "For what is your life? it is even a vapor that appears for a little time"  
(Job 7:6) "My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle"

### 2. BIBLE SPEAKS OF 3 KINDS OF DEATH

1) **Physical death** - (Heb. 9:27; Ecc. 9:7; Joshua 23:14; James 2:26)

2) **Alive physically, but spiritually dead**

(Eph. 2:1-2) "And you has he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins ... "  
(v5) "Even when ye were dead in sins, has quickened us together with Christ ... "  
"quickened" - to be made alive in Christ (Col. 2:12-13).

Warning - the spiritually alive may lose their "aliveness"

(1 Tim. 5:6) "She that lives in pleasure is dead while she lives"  
(James 2:26) "For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also"  
(2 Peter 2:20) "... they have escaped ... are again entangled therein, and overcome ... "

These "dead" may always come to God, God's way, to experience His amazing grace.

3) **Eternal death** - (Rev. 20:10, 14-15; Matt. 10:28; 2 Thess. 1:7-10)

### 3. DEATH, AN INTERRUPTION, IN LIFE

Jesus explains this at the funeral of Lazarus - (John 11:23-27) "though he dies, yet shall he live"

Apostle Paul gives explanation - (2 Cor. 5:1) we leave this earthly house for an eternal one.  
(2 Tim. 4:6) "the time of my departure is at hand," meaning, we're embarking or being transported to another place, we're breaking camp.  
(Phil. 1:23) "... having the desire to depart and be with Christ"

God's view - (Psalm 116:15) "Precious ... is the death of his saints"

The psalmist expressed hope - (Psa. 23:4) "I walk **through** the valley of the shadow of death"

Tennyson described death as "Crossing the Bar"

Henry Van Dyke describes death from the viewpoint of people on opposite shores.

CLOSE - (1 Cor. 15:55-57) "death, where is thy sting? Grave, where is thy victory? ... "