

BCC Course on Biblical Eschatology
Week 6 = Death: From an Eschatological Perspective

Read: Gen. 2:16-17; Gen. 3; Heb. 9:27; Heb. 2:14-15; Rom. 8:38-39;
1 Thes. 4:13-15; 1 Cor. 15:44-46; Isa. 25:7-8

- 1.) Death:
 - Separation
 - End of Life
 - Cessation of all life activities
- 2.) Adam, Sin & Death:
 - Genesis 2:16-17: "The Lord God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; ¹⁷ but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die."
 - Genesis 3:19:
"By the sweat of your face
You will eat bread,
Till you return to the ground,
Because from it you were taken;
For you are dust,
And to dust you shall return."
- 3.) Rom. 5:12 "Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned—"
 - Gen. 5 "And he died..." x8
- 4.) Types of Death:
 - Physical Death
 - Spiritual Death
 - Eternal Death
- 5.) 3 Types of Death Explained:
 - Physical Death = Cessation of Bodily Life
 - Spiritual Death = Separated from God
 - Eternal Death = Conscious Life apart from God Eternally
eternal death is punishment and banishment from God for eternity.
This happens to those who physically die while spiritually dead.
 - Unbelievers will experience eternal death separated from God's presence (2 Thes 1:9). The lake of fire is their destiny (Rev. 21:8).
 - Death ushers a person into direct accountability with God (Heb. 9:27).
 - Jesus warned that people should fear God "who can destroy both soul and body in hell" (Matt. 10:28).
 - Physical Death While sentencing to the lake of fire awaits final judgment, **the destiny of the unsaved is sealed at the point of death.**
 - Proverbs 11:7a sums up what death means for the wicked:
"When the wicked dies, his hope will perish."
- 6.) Facing Death for Christians:
 - Believers in Christ are not spared physical death. They are a new creation (2 Cor. 5:17), but decay of their physical bodies still occurs.
 - As Paul stated, "Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day" (2 Cor. 4:16).
 - While heading to physical death, the Christian does not have to fear death. Christ has conquered it (Rev. 1:18).
 - Jesus, through His sacrificial death is able to "deliver all those who

- through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery” (Heb. 2:14–15).
 - Paul said, “For I am sure that neither death nor life . . . will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Rom. 8:38–39).
 - Paul viewed the choice between remaining on earth and departing to be with Christ as a difficult choice:
 - “If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account” (Phil. 1:22–24).
 - Paul told the Corinthians, “Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord” (2 Cor. 5:8).
 - Paul viewed departure from the body (physical death) as preferable since he would be with Jesus.
- 7.) Death seemed like sleep to for believers in Jesus. - I Thes. 4:13
- But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are **asleep**, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope. **14** For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have **fallen asleep** in Jesus. **15** For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have **fallen asleep**.
- 8.) The Defeat of Death - I Cor. 15:26 “the last enemy will be abolished is death.”
 Rev. 20:13-14 - “And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of *them* according to their deeds. **14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire.** This is the second death, the lake of fire. ”
Isaiah 25:7-8: “And on this mountain He will swallow up the covering which is over all peoples, Even the veil which is stretched over all nations. ⁸ He will swallow up death for all time, And the Lord God will wipe tears away from all faces, And He will remove the reproach of His people from all the earth; For the Lord has spoken.”
Rev. 21:4 “and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be *any* death; there will no longer be *any* mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.””
- Death is Defeated because of Jesus
 - Because He rose from the dead, YOU will rise from the dead.

Death: An Eschatological Perspective Discussion Questions

1. Explain the three types of death.
2. How does Jesus’ resurrection impact how you view death?
3. Should there be a difference between how a Christian views upcoming physical death and how a non-Christian views death? Explain.
4. Hypothetical scenario: A non-Christian, who is weeks away from dying, watched a hospice nurse on YouTube say that she has seen hundreds of people die and death should not be feared. This person, who is dying, want to know what you think about this issue. What would you say?

