

Sunday Morning | May 29, 2016

WHEN
CHRISTIANS
DIE

1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18

"Today is about comforting those of us who have lost loved ones to death, but preparing those listening who, the Bible would say, are unprepared to die."

I. DEATH IS AN ENEMY (1 Corinthians 15:26).

PARADOX: Death takes us from family, while ushering us into the presence of God.

How death is an enemy:

1. It is a product of the "fall of Adam and Eve."
2. It sweeps lost men into hell.
3. It is the payment for sin against God.
4. It is the enemy Jesus had to defeat.

TRUTH: Death for the Christian is the pathway to heaven and sinless perfection.

II. THE DEAD IN CHRIST GO DIRECTLY TO HEAVEN.

TRUTH: Since Christ's death all saints die and go straight to heaven.

III. WHY THERE IS A RAPTURE THOUGH THE SAINTS ARE WITH GOD ALREADY IN HEAVEN

1. Saints must have bodies for heaven.
2. The lost must have bodies for hell.
3. Two Resurrections:
 - a) Resurrection of life
 - b) Resurrection of death

IV. THERE IS NO SECOND CHANCE AFTER DEATH TO BE SAVED (Hebrews 9:27; John 8:21; Revelation 22:11; Proverbs 11:7).

V. YOUR SOUL AT DEATH (Philippians 1:21; 2 Corinthians 5:6; Luke 16:19-31)

*Two specific insights about the death of the saved and lost:

1. The saved are carried by angels to heaven.
2. The lost immediately wake up separated from God, conscious and in Hades' flame.

VI. WHAT THE DECEASED KNOW, Hebrews 12:1

TRUTH: In heaven our eyes will be on the Glory of Heaven: Jesus.