

DON'T TALK ABOUT DYING-DEATH

John 14:19

(Not entirely original with me)

Introduction: How many would want to know that they have a fatal illness? Who would want their doctor to tell them that they only have so many hours, days, weeks, months to live? Who wants to think about dying? Even most Christians don't want to talk about dying or death. Money can't buy it off. Education/human wisdom can't prevent it and science cannot stop it. A pastor once chastised some of his congregation (Christians) because they feared death. It seemed that they were not looking forward to being with the Lord Jesus in the place He had prepared for them in Heaven. Think about it Christian! Why do you dread dying? Jesus had a lot to say about dying-death.

I. DEATH DOES NOT END ONE'S EXISTENCE

1. The body will indeed die and be laid aside, but the "person," the soul, the mind will live forever.
 - There is the world of man and there is the world of God.
 - There is the world of time and there is the world of eternity.
 - *"..For what is a man profited if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?..."*
Matthew 16:26
2. Life in this world is one of preparation.
 - Beyond one's life there is a higher service to be given.
 - *"...Well done, thou good and faithful servant;....."* *Matthew 25:21*
 - On the other side rewards will be given.
 - *"...Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven..."* *Matthew 6:20*
 - On the other side there will be a closer fellowship with the Lord Jesus.
 - *"...until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's House..."* *Matthew 26:29*
3. Death is not the end of one's existence.
 - *Matthew 22:25-32*

II. PHYSICAL DEATH IS NOT THE WORST THING THAT CAN HAPPEN TO A PERSON

1. To be separated from the life of God, existing on through eternity being apart from God is worse than just dying physically.
 - *"...Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul..."* *Matthew 10:28*
2. Jesus came to seek and to save those who are lost, not just for their earthly years, but for all eternity.
3. Jesus defeated death.
 - He conquered sin and evil and has overcome death and the grave.
 - What Jesus did, He shares with those who believe in Him.
4. Jesus told Lazarus's sister *"...thy brother shall rise again....I am the resurrection and the life..."*
 - *John 11:23-26*

5. To know Jesus, to put one's faith in Him, to be in relationship with Him is to share His kind of life which never died and where death is but an incident, a doorway.
6. Death for the believer is just the beginning, the dawning of a new day of God.
 - It is a commencement, a coronation.
 - It was in the mind of God from the very beginning.
7. Jesus said, "***...I am the resurrection and the life...***" and He arose from the dead on the third day and proved His authority over death.

III. JESUS DEMONSTRATES HIS VICTORY OVER DEATH IN LIFE TODAY

1. Jesus still meets men and women, sharing His life with them.
 - Who can do today in people's lives what Jesus still does?
 - Who can change a drunk or druggie into a sober, child of God?
 - Who can take a selfish, sinful, wicked person and change him/her into a clean, useful person?
 - Who can take a weak, impassionate person and turn him/her into a courageous soul winner?
 - Who can take empty, broken lives, aimless and wandering and give them meaning and significance, sending them out into the world on eternal missions?
 - Whose coming to the lonely and sorrowing with comfort and companionship, giving people the most precious thing a person can desire, His very presence, but the Lord Jesus?
2. Doubting Thomas said that he had to have visible, touchable proof that Jesus had risen from the dead and Jesus appeared to him and told him "***...Reach hither thy finger and behold my hands...***" **John 20:27**
 - Jesus does the same today to anyone who is willing to walk His way of life and to acknowledge Him to be the true Lord.

CONCLUSION:

1. Christian! Never be fearful or even worried about dying or death. You have the promise and proof of the Lord Jesus Christ, in whom you have entrusted your entire existence, that immediately upon your last heart beat on earth you will be with Him in heaven.
2. Talk is one thing Christian, but actions speak louder and Jesus put actions to His words. He said He was "***...the resurrection and life...***" and then proved it. YOU do the same, prove what you say you believe.
3. For those who are not Christians, you have every reason to be afraid of dying and death but that can be changed IF you will believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, who will indwell you, secure you, and take you to a place He's prepared for you when you draw your last breath.