

DEATH OF A SAINT IS PRECIOUS TO THE LORD

Psalm 116:15

Introduction: Nobody likes to lose a loved one to death but it happens to everyone sooner or later. We mourn, we weep, we are saddened, our lives are different after that loved one is gone. Even though as Christians we know we shall see that loved one again if he/she was a Christian, it is still hard to let them go. However, from the Lord's viewpoint, it is a time of rejoicing for Him for another one of His children, a brother or sister has come home. A sad time for us, but a happy time for our Lord. We should try to see the death of our Christian loved ones as the Lord sees it and rejoice with Him that they are now free from this world and now with our Lord, and it won't be that long before we, too join them.

I. WHO REALLY IS A SAINT?

1. A Saint is someone who heard the call of the Holy Spirit.
2. A Saint is someone who believes what God's Word says.
3. A Saint is someone who trusts God with his/her soul.
4. A Saint is a member of God's Family.

II. WHAT DO SAINTS LEAVE BEHIND WHEN THEY DIE?

1. They leave behind an imperfect, unsure world.
2. They leave behind a temporary stopping place.
3. They leave behind a physical body afflicted and imperfect.
4. They leave behind a life of constant battle between temptation and God's will/way.

III. WHAT DO SAINTS GAIN BY DYING?

1. Then end of their life's journey has ended when Saints die.
2. They are at HOME with the heavenly Father and God's Family when Saints die.
3. Saints are free from suffering, tears, indecision when they die.
4. Saints go to a place that has been prepared for them when they die.
5. Saints will receive a new body when they die.
6. Saints will be rewarded for their good deeds on earth when they die.

CONCLUSION:

1. It is natural to be saddened at death, however our faith in and knowledge of God can bring a wave of strength and confidence, knowing that this is what every Christian ought to be looking forward to.
2. Laying aside, leaving all this temporary and unsure world and this old body that is aching, hurting, so painful, wearing out, and going to the place and life God has had waiting for us.
3. The departed Saint will be missed, but it is not permanent, it is not forever, not for the Christian, for in but a short time all of us shall follow this departed Saint and he/she will be waiting for us with our Lord Jesus.
4. Let us rejoice that our loved one, our friend is now free from all that we must continue to endure and is with the Lord.