Scriptural Death & Dying

Scriptural Perspectives

Our goal is to answer 3 Questions:

- #1) How many kinds of death are there?
- #2) What is the Scriptural Perspective on Death & Dying?
- #3) Can we die in a way that we can escape the suffering?

"Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death."

Hebrews 2:14-15 (NIV)

"Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, And the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand."

Isaiah 53:10 (NKJV)

"I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death."

Revelation 1:18 (NKJV)

"For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit..."

1 Peter 3:18 (NKJV)

Acts 2:23-32 (NKJV)

"Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it. For David says concerning Him: I foresaw the LORD always before my face, For He is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken. Therefore my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad; Moreover my flesh also will rest in hope...

"...For You will not leave my soul in Hades, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; You will make me full of joy in Your presence.' Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. "This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses."

"But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone."

Hebrews 2:9 (NKJV)

"... he might experience death for every individual person.

Hebrews 2:9 (AMP)

"For he hath made him to be sin <u>for us</u>, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

2 Corinthians 5:21 (KJV)

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

Mark 10:45 (NKJV)

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep."

Sheep."

John 10:11 (NKJV)

"For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly."

Romans 5:6 (NKJV)

"For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again."

2 Corinthians 5:14-15 (NKJV)

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the
<a href="mailto:Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

Galatians 2:20 (NKJV)

"Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"), [14] that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith."

Galatians 3:13-14 (NKJV)

"who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him."

1 Thessalonians 5:10 (NKJV)

"who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time..."

1 Timothy 2:6 (NKJV)

"who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works."

Titus 2:14 (NKJV)

"For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit..."

1 Peter 3:18 (NKJV)

"By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us.

And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren."

1 John 3:16 (NKJV)

"whom God set forth as a <u>propitiation</u> by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, <u>because in His</u>

forbearance God had passed over the sins that were

previously committed..."

Romans 3:25 (NKJV)

"and above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail."

Hebrews 9:5 (NKJV)

(G2435 - Propitiation / Mercy Seat)

neuter of a derivative of <u>2433</u>; an expiatory (place or thing), i.e. (concretely) an atoning victim, or (specially) the lid of the Ark (in the Temple):-- mercyseat, propitiation.

Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon

ίλαστήριος, -α, -ον, (ἱλάσκομαι, q. v.), relating to appeasing or expiating, having placating or expiating force, expiatory: μνῆμα ίλαστήριον, a monument built to propitiate God, Joseph. antt. 16, 7, 1; ίλαστήριος θάνατος, 4 Macc. 17:22; χεῖρας ἱκετηρίους, εἰ βούλει δὲ ἱλαστηρίους, ἐκτείνας θεῷ, Niccph. in act. SS. ed. Mai, vol. v. p. 335, 17. Neut. τὸ ίλαστήριον, as subst., a means of appeasing or expiating, a propitiation,

Webster: "Expiate"

1a: to make amends for

b: to extinguish the guilt incurred by

"But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance. For where there is a testament, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator."

"Therefore it was necessary that the copies of the things in the heavens should be purified with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us; not that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood of another—He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation."

Hebrews 9:23-28 (NKJV)

Jesus absolutely died for us, so we could be given life.

- 2. He substituted for our sin and death, so we could be declared righteous and be given eternal life as a gift.
- 3. It had to be sufficient to pay for all 3 facets of death.
 - The physical facet.
 - The 2 spiritual facets.

So if death has been conquered, why do people still die?

"but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who has abolished (to render entirely idle or useless) death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel..."

2 Timothy 1:10 (NKJV)

(G2673 - "Abolished")

from 2596 and 691; to be (render) entirely idle (useless), literally or figuratively:--abolish, cease, cumber, deliver, destroy, do away, become (make) of no (none, without) effect, fail, loose, bring (come) to nought, put away (down), vanish away, make void.

- Notice: the range / process that's covered in the def.

There are 2 reasons people still die:

#1) There is a process that began with Jesus death and resurrection, which culminates at the White Throne Judgment.

- A large reason for the process is: #2.

#2) Our bodies must be made new before we can go to heaven and be in God's presence / inherit the kingdom.

Dealing with the 1st Reason (the process):

-Death is defeated, but the finalization of that victory has not happened yet.

- a. For now it is rendered useless; made of no effect
- b. After the last judgment: It will be fully destroyed and done away with.

"The last enemy that will be <u>destroyed</u> is death." 1 Corinthians 15:26 (NKJV)

"Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. [15] And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire."

Revelation 20:14-15 (NKJV)

"And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

Revelation 21:4 (NKJV)

"[It is that purpose and grace] which He now has made known and has fully disclosed and made real [to us] through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, Who annulled death and made it of no effect and brought life and immortality (immunity from eternal death) to light through the Gospel."

2 Timothy 1:10 (AMP)

For the scriptural perspective, the thing that has to be keyed in on to grasp this is:

- 1. Rendered entirely idle or useless (NKJV)
- 2. Annulled death and made it of no effect (AMP)
- 3. It's been rendered powerless, and useless, of no effect, and one day it will be removed totally.

"For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be destroyed is death."

1 Corinthians 15:25-26 (NKJV)

#2) Our bodies must be made new before we can go to heaven and be in God's presence / inherit the kingdom.

-That's a predominate reason why physical death / going back to dust is still happening on this earth.

2 Corinthians 5:1-11 (NKJV)

"For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked. For we who are in this tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life. Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord.

"For we walk by faith, not by sight. We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord. Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences."

There is a difference between:

- Suffering Death
- Being Appointed to Die

"But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the <u>suffering of death</u> crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.

Hebrews 2:9 (NKJV)

"And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment..."

Hebrews 9:27 (NKJV)

A. It is possible to leave this body without 'Suffering'.

- 1. Enoch (Genesis 5:24)
- 2. Abraham (Genesis 25:8)
- 3. Isaac (Genesis 35:29)
- 4. Jacob (Genesis 49:33)
- 5. Joseph (Genesis 50:24-26)
- 6. Aaron (Numbers 20:22-28)
- 7. Moses (Deuteronomy 32:48-50; 34:1-8)
- 8. Elijah (2 Kings 2)

"I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain."

"... I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far;"

Philippians 1:20-21, 23 (NIV)