

How the Saved See Death

Ready to Die, Willing to Live

Philippians 1:21 - For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

1. Saved people die - Praise God!

- a. What do you feel when a Christian dies? - Ps116:15
- b. If the Bible is true, then ...
 - i. A saved person's death day is the best day of his life
 - ii. Saying, "I love you, please drop dead," to a saint is a wonderful encouragement to remember the hope of glory and mark we press toward.
 - iii. Rejoicing each day to be "24 hours closer to Heaven than yesterday" is a great way to set a proper perspective.
- c. To those without hope, confused, ignorant this is crazy or belittling death
- d. When saved people die God's word comforts our sorrow, brings hope of eternal life, and removes fear - Rom 8:35-39, 1 Thess 4:13-18, 2 Tim 3:16-17

2. Saved people are ready to die, but why?

- a. Def. ready = prepared, able, willing, fitted/furnished/suited to the task
 - i. How - by believing the truth of, and why - explained by: the scriptures
- b. Ready to die for the reward of righteousness (not by our works of righteousness, Titus 3:5, but righteousness by faith, Rom 4:5) - 2 Tim 4:6-8
- c. Ready to die to be present with Christ - Phil 1:23-24, 2 Cor 5:8
- d. Ready to die because of the gain of glory, Christ magnified - Phil 1:20-21, Rom 8:18
- e. Ready to die because it is necessary for victory - 1 Cor 15:19, 54-55, 57
- f. Until death, though, we live. And it's not all rainbows, unicorns, bubblegum, sunshine and roses.
 - i. Sin is in the world and it affects us all. But to live is Christ!

3. Saved people are willing to live, but why?

- a. Willing to live to know the power of Christ, see Christ magnified, and glory in His cross - Phil 1:20-21, 2 Cor 12:9-10 & 4:16-5:2, Rom 5:1-6, Gal 6:14
- b. Willing to live because all men need saved - Ephesians 5:14-17, 1 Timothy 2:3-4
 - i. God is not pleased with the death of the wicked - Eze 33:11
 - ii. We have a ministry to do - 2 Tim 4:1-5
 - iii. And having done so, like Paul, we will be ready to die - 2 Tim 4:6-8