

The Death of Christians and the Intermediate State

Homework Assignment

1. Read **I Corinthians 15:1-58**
2. Read **Luke 16:19-31**

Lesson Outline

I. Death

- i. No exemption from natural death
 1. Because we have sinned
 - a. “death passed upon all men” – **Romans 5:12**
 - b. “wages of sin is death” – **Romans 6:23**
 - c. “the sting of death is sin” – **I Corinthians 15:56**
 2. Exceptions – Enoch and Elijah
- ii. Glorify God in Death
 1. Scriptural substantiation – **John 21:19**
 2. By preparation for the dying hour
 - a. God given salvation gives final victory – **I Corinthians 15:56-57**
 3. By testifying to the power of God to sustain in the dying hour
 - a. “My grace is sufficient for thee” – **II Corinthians 12:9**
 - b. testify verbally/actions – “God is with me, I am not afraid”
 4. Faith – otherwise it is sin
 - a. “Precious in the sight of the Lord.....” – **Psalms 116:15**
 - b. “to die is gain” – **Philippians 1:21**
 - c. “Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord” – **Revelation 14:13**

II. The Intermediate State - Saved

- i. Three View of the Soul Between Death and Bodily Resurrection
 1. The soul is unconscious – “sleeping”
 - a. Stephen fell asleep – **Acts 7:60**
 - b. Those fallen asleep in Christ – **I Corinthians 15:18**
 2. The soul goes to “Paradise” to await the body’s resurrection, (not heaven)
 - a. Thief on cross with Jesus in paradise – **Luke 23:43**
 - b. Paul caught up into paradise – **II Corinthians 12:4**
 3. The soul is at once taken into the presence of Christ in Heaven
 - a. Jesus is in Heaven now – **I Peter 3:22**
 - b. absent from body present with Lord – **II Corinthians 5:6-8**

- c. Paul's desire to depart and be with Christ – **Philippians 1:23**

III. The Intermediate State - Unsaved

- i. Hell – a place of torments – **Luke 16:19-31**
- ii. **Revelation 20:11-15**
 - 1. Differentiate between hell and lake of fire