

The Advantages of Living and Dying as a Christian

Philippians 1:21-26

Introduction

Philippians 1:20b Christ shall even now, as always, be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. 21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. 22 But if I am to live on in the flesh, this will mean fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which to choose. 23 But I am hard-pressed from both directions, having the desire to depart and be with Christ, for that is very much better; 24 yet to remain on in the flesh is more necessary for your sake. 25 Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy in the faith, 26 so that your proud confidence in me may abound in Christ Jesus through my coming to you again.

#1 Two great _____ : Living or Dying 21-22a

Colossians 3:4 Christ, who is our life

Our purpose is a PERSON

#2 The struggle to decide which is _____ : Living or Dying 22b-23a

Hebrews 9:27 ...it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment

#3 The _____ of both: Living and Dying 23b-24

1st The advantage of _____ as a Christian

1 Death is _____ : having the desire

2 Death is a _____ : to depart

* Unleashing an animal from a cart

* Loosening the bonds of a prisoner

* The striking of a tent

* A ship leaving a harbor

1 Corinthians 15:44 it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body.
If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.

#3 The ADVANTAGES of both: Living and Dying 23b-24

1st The advantage of DYING as a Christian

1 Death is DESIRABLE: *having the desire*

2 Death is a PROMOTION: *to depart*

3 Death is the _____ to be with Christ: *and be with Christ*

Acts 7:59 "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!" 60 And falling on his knees, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them!" And having said this, he fell asleep.

2 Corinthians 5:8 to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord.

4 Death is _____ to living: *for that is very much better*

2 Corinthians 12:2 I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago--whether in the body I do not know, or out of the body I do not know, God knows--such a man was caught up to the third heaven

2nd The advantage of _____ as a Christian 24b

#4 Deciding to give up personal _____ and live for others 25-26

1st To live for the _____ of others 25a

2nd To live so others experience _____ in Christ 25b

3rd To live for others to _____ about Christ 26

A The believer's longing for _____ is to be balanced with faithful ministry now

B Dying for the Christian is great _____

1-At the moment of death, your spirit will be made _____

2-At the moment of death, your _____ is over

Revelation 21:1 I saw a new heaven and a new earth 4 and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain...

3-At the moment of death, you're given profound _____ in your soul

4-At the moment of death, you'll experience a deep 'at _____'

2 Corinthians 5:8 to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord.

5-At the moment of death, you'll be with _____

C A Non-Christian life is _____ and their death horrid

QUESTIONS TO PROMOTE GROWTH IN CHRISTLIKENESS - BECOME A DOER OF THE WORD...

- 1-What are the advantages of LIVING and DYING for the genuine Christian and the believing Church?
- 2-While living, what must a Christian be committed to in order to experience the advantages of living?
- 3-What awaits the Christian immediately after their death? How does a Christian's eternity get better?
- 4-What awaits the non-Christian immediately after their death? How does their eternity get worse?
- 5-How should Christians embrace living and dying, according to this passage?

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