

## Introduction

When a loved one dies, some people might question WHY?

God is always good in all circumstances.

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Question: If God is so good why does He allow evil things to happen to His Children? (Example, death)

### 1. To die is G\_\_\_\_\_

- a. Life on earth is seasonal - *Ecclesiastes 3:1-2*
  - b. Life on earth is a vapour - *James 4:14*
  - c. Life on earth ends with the same appointment - *Hebrews 9:27*
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Turn to: *Philippians 1:21-23*

### 2. To die is G\_\_\_\_\_

- *Philippians 1:21-23* “For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”

Question: Why is it a profit when the Christian dies?

- *Philippians 1:23* ‘For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better.’

Answer: They will be with the Lord. (Which is far better)

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Question: How does God view the death of one of His own?

- *Psalms 116:15* “Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.”

Answer: P\_\_\_\_\_

Precious = valuable, prized, weighty, rare, splendid

*Ecclesiastes 3:1-2* “To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: vs.2 A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;”

*James 4:14* “Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.”

*2 Corinthians 5:8* “We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.”

*Luke 23:43* “And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.”

*Luke 16:25* “But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.”

*John 14:1-3* “Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. vs.2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. vs. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”

Question: Knowing that to die is gain, and that it is a precious time for both the Christian and for God, why then is it a time for family and friends to sorrow?

○ **Acts 20:36-38**

Answer: They will be missed

Question: Why don't Christians sorrow like the world sorrows?

○ **1 Thessalonians 4:13-14**

Answer: They have true hope of their future

- Sin forgiven; relationship with God has been restored
- Security and full assurance - *John 11:25-26*

*Note:* The reason the world sorrows in a different way is because they have no hope for their future.

- They do not have peace with God through Jesus Christ
- They do not have the blessed hope of the resurrection of eternal life

### 3. To die is G\_\_\_\_\_

a. To bring glory to God - *John 9:2-3*

b. To be in eternal glory with God - *1 Peter 5:10*

- **1 Peter 5:10** "But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you."
  - God prepares His children for eternal glory; forever with Christ Jesus.
  - "...The sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared..."
- **2 Timothy 2:10-11** "Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. vs.11 It is a faithful saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him:"

## Conclusion

**Question: How are you living your life on earth?**

**Colossians 3:1-3** "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. vs.2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. vs.3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God."

- Jesus lived up to 33 years of age; He could have extended His life span, but He didn't. He lived his life communicating to all of humanity to look toward the life to come. The life to come is the life that is eternal. *2 Corinthians 4:16-18; John 11:25-26* ~ GOD is GOOD ~

*Act 20:36-38* "And when he had thus spoken, he kneeled down, and prayed with them all. Vs.37 And they all wept sore, and fell on Paul's neck, and kissed him. vs.38 Sorrowing most of all for the words which he spake, that they should see his face no more. And they accompanied him unto the ship."

*1 Thessalonians 4:13-14* "But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. Vs 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him."

*Proverbs 11:10* "When it goeth well with the righteous, the city rejoiceth: and when the wicked perish, there is shouting."

*John 9:2-3* "And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? Vs 3 Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him."

*Romans 8:17-18* "And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. v.18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."