

“HOPE BEYOND THE GRAVE”

(2 Corinthians 5:1-10)

Expository Sermon of II Corinthians - Sermon 9

Speaker: Rev. Bobby Lam

Date: August 20, 2017

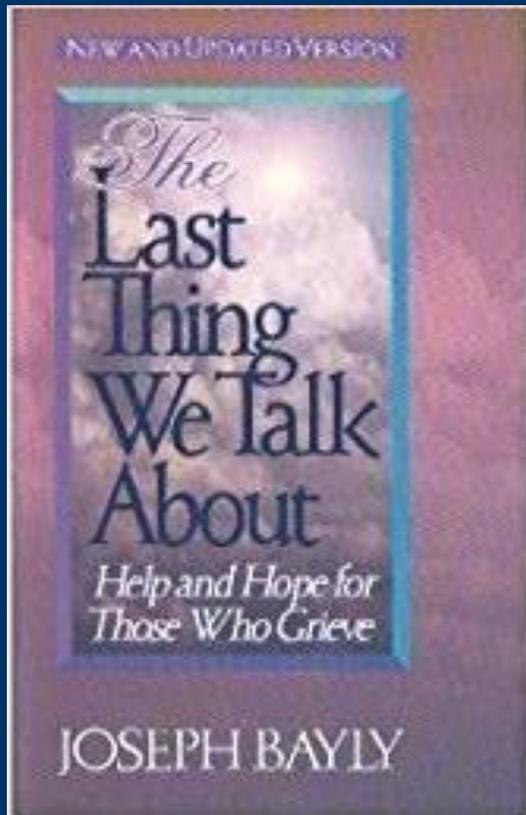
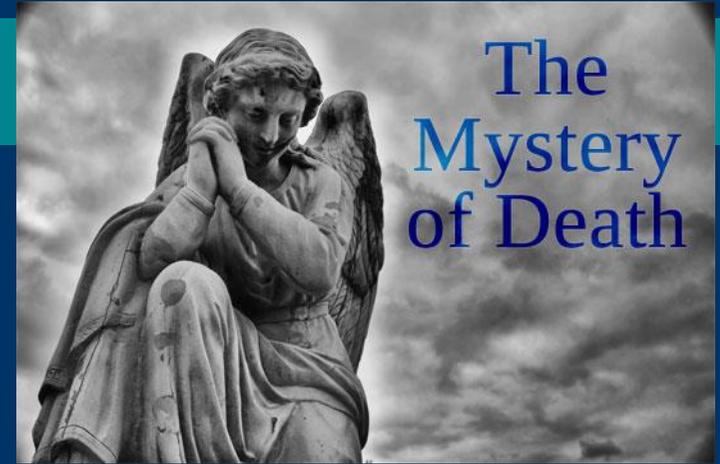
Place: Hope Community Baptist Church



INTRODUCTION:



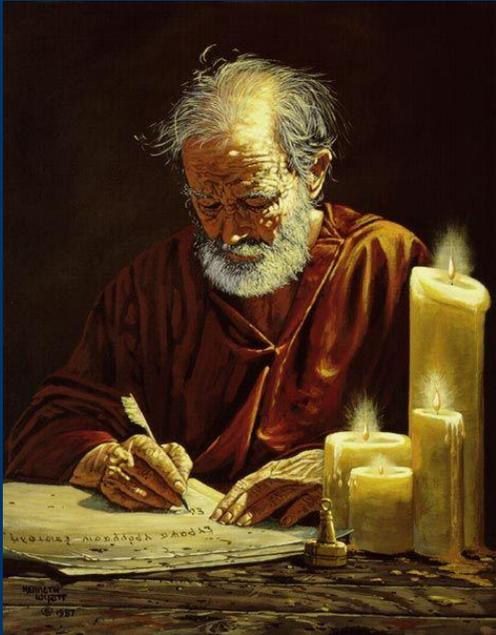
INTRODUCTION:



This frustrates us, especially in a time of scientific breakthrough and exploding knowledge, that we should be able to break out of earth's environment and yet be stopped cold by death's unyielding mystery. Everything changes; death is changeless. We may postpone it, we may tame its violence, but death is still there waiting for us. Death always waits. The door of the hearse is never closed.

INTRODUCTION:

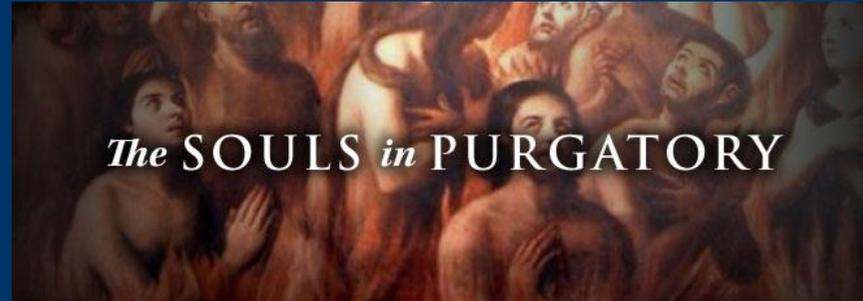
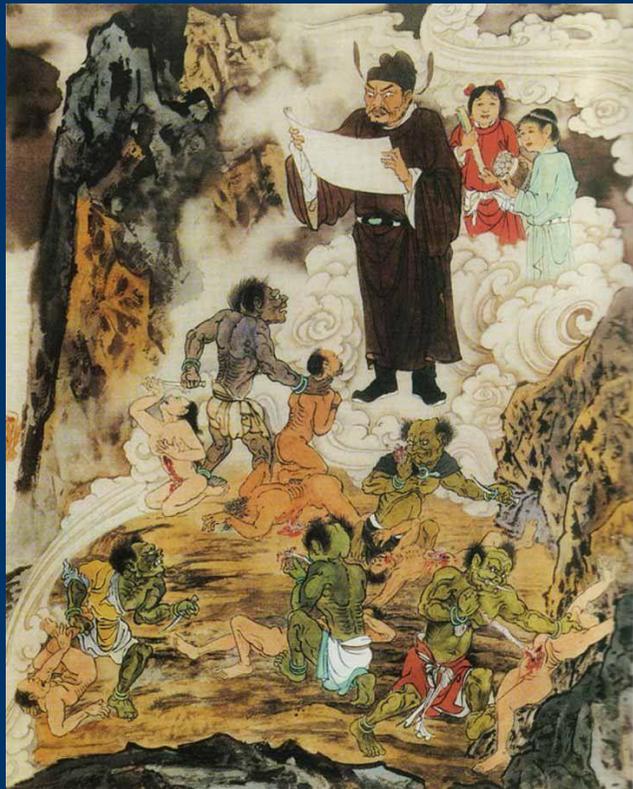
From his blinding start on the Damascus road to his binding shackles in a Roman dungeon, Paul was faithful to the end.



2 Tim 4:7 *I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.*

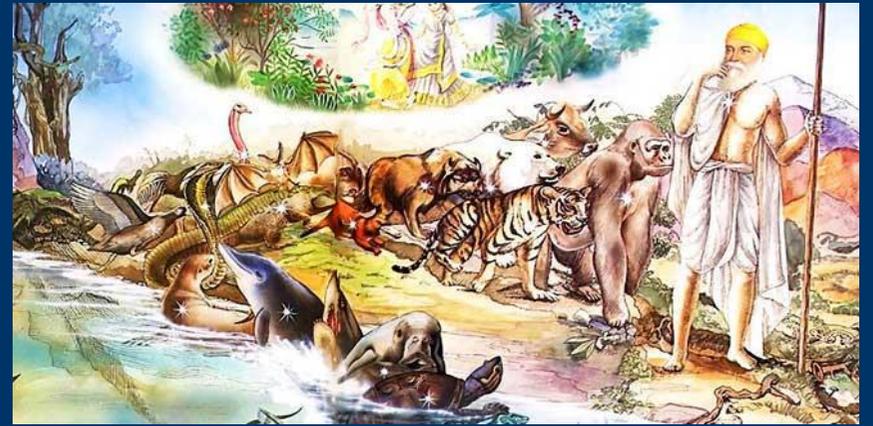
I. POPULAR MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT DEATH

A) *Temporary Transition*



I. POPULAR MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT DEATH

B) Repeated Reincarnations



Heb 9:27 *"It is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment."*

I. POPULAR MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT DEATH

C) Ultimate Conclusion



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Death is the grand finale to life,
there is no afterlife, and this is
all there is.

I. POPULAR MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT DEATH

The Biblical Concept about Death

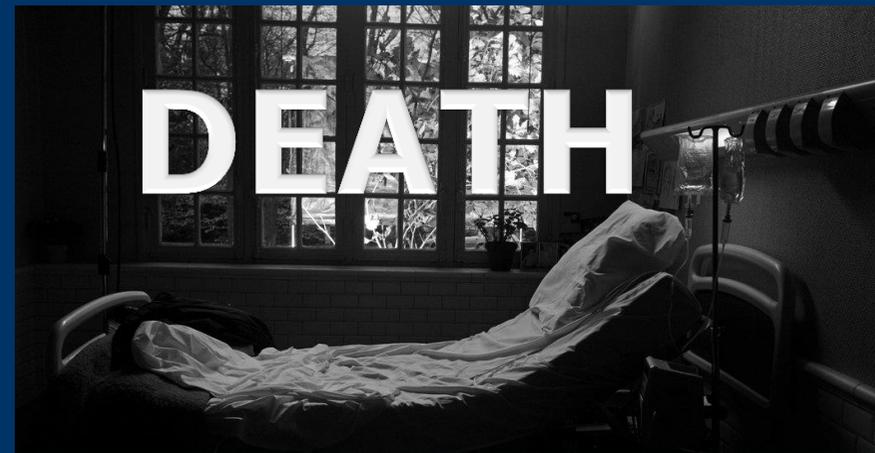


- 1. The Scriptures clearly teach that death occurs to all (Eccles. 7:2);*
- 2. It is the ultimate result of sin (compare Gen. 2:17 and 3:19 with Rom. 3:23);*
- 3. We all will die only once and after death we will be judged by God (Heb. 9:27);*
- 4. When we die, if there is a chasm between us and God, it will become unbridgeable (Luke 16:19-31, esp. v. 26).*

II. SCRIPTURAL INSIGHTS REGARDING DEATH

A) *An Earthly Tent ... An Eternal House*

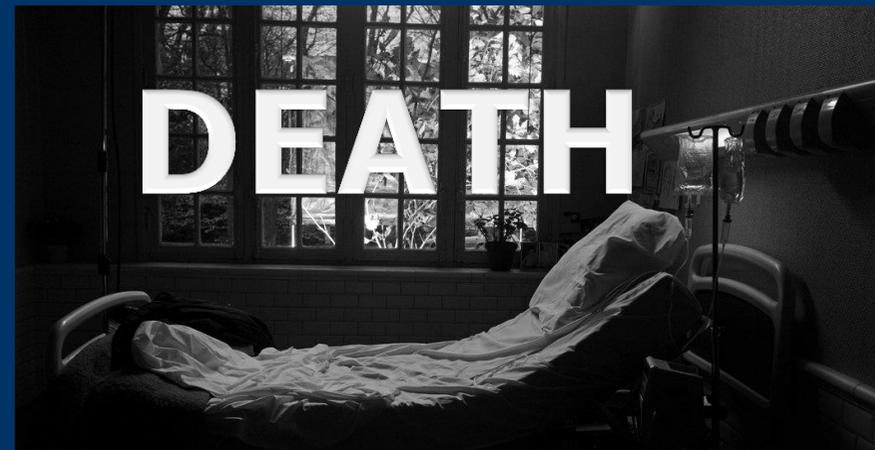
2 Cor 5:1 For **we know** that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. **2** Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, **3** because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked.



II. SCRIPTURAL INSIGHTS REGARDING DEATH

A) *An Earthly Tent ... An Eternal House*

2 Cor 5:4 *For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵ Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.*



II. SCRIPTURAL INSIGHTS REGARDING DEATH

B) Absent from the Body... At Home with the Lord

2 Cor 5:6 Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. ⁷ For we live by faith, not by sight. ⁸ We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord.

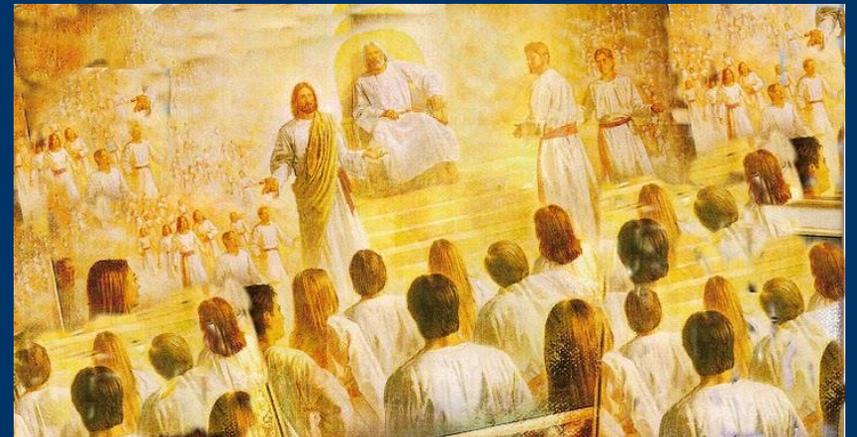


II. SCRIPTURAL INSIGHTS REGARDING DEATH

C) Our Present Ambition... Our Future Reward

2 Cor 5:9 So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it.

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

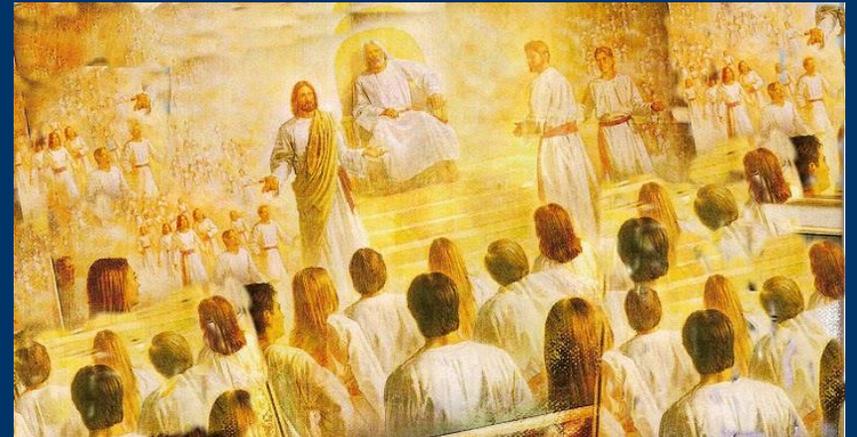


II. SCRIPTURAL INSIGHTS REGARDING DEATH

C) Our Present Ambition... Our Future Reward

***1 Cor. 4:4** My conscience is clear, but that does not make me innocent. It is the Lord who judges me.*

***5** Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait until the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of the heart. At that time each will receive their praise from God.*



III. ESSENTIAL CONSIDERATIONS BEFORE DEATH

*Fact # 1:
Birth initiates life.*

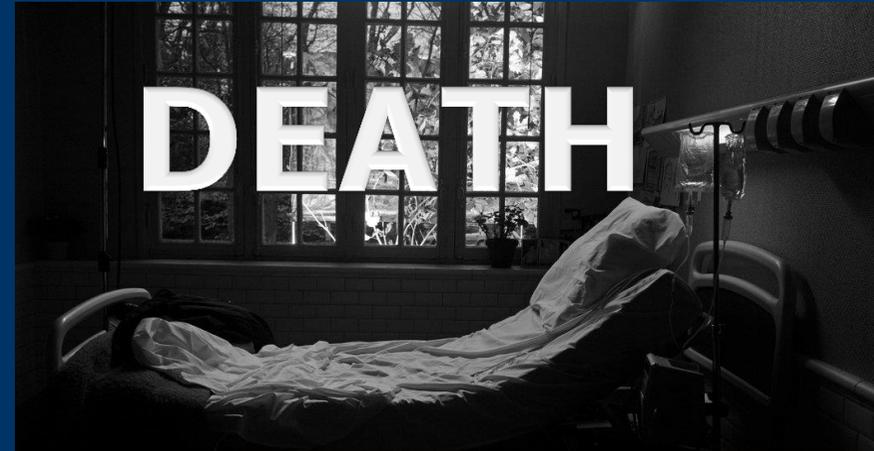


*Consideration # 1:
Be certain you are born
again.*



III. ESSENTIAL CONSIDERATIONS BEFORE DEATH

*Fact # 2:
Death terminates life.*



*Consideration # 2:
Be certain you're
ready to die.*



III. ESSENTIAL CONSIDERATIONS BEFORE DEATH

*Fact # 3:
Opportunity is limited to
life.*



*Consideration # 3:
Be certain you realize
you have no options
after you die.*



CONCLUSION:



If my life ended today, will I be certain that I will be with God in paradise? If your answer is "No," what must you do to be absolutely sure that you made it to paradise?



- A) Transfer your trust Christ.***
- B) Receive the resurrected and living Christ.***
- C) Receive Christ as your Saviour.***
- D) Receive Christ as your Lord.***
- E) Repent from your sin.***



CG DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. If you would recall in the past, what was your concept of death like? Was it comfortable to talk about death? Why?*
- 2. What was your concept of death before you came to know Christ?*
- 3. Where did you learn about death? What is reincarnation?*
- 4. What does the Scripture say about death? What is the difference between a saint's death and a sinner's death?*
- 5. If eternity is based on your earthly decision, what are some decisions in your life that need to be attended to?*
- 6. What must you do to be absolutely sure that you made it to paradise?*



Scripture References:

2 Corinthians 5:1-10