

**Epitaph:**

an inscription, as for a tomb, in memory of a dead person. *Webster*

Gen 2:7 And the LORD God formed man *of* the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

Gen 3:19 ...for dust thou *art*, and unto dust shalt thou return.

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Job 14:1 Man *that is* **born of a woman** *is* of **few days**, and **full of trouble**. (*Emp. added*)

1Jn 5:4 For whatsoever is **born of God** **overcometh the world**: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, *even* our faith. (*Emp. added*)

Being born physically we don't live very long and during our stay here we struggle in many ways. But, when we are born of God we can better deal with the struggles of this life through our faith.

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Job 14:14 If a man die, **shall he live *again*?** all the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come. (*Emp. added*)

The answer to Job's question is yes. It doesn't matter if a person believes there's nothing after life. Just because you don't believe something doesn't make it fantasy or if you do believe something that is a lie it doesn't make it so.

1Co 15:51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

Isa 25:8 He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of His people shall He take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken *it*.

1Co 15:57 But thanks *be* to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Joh 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me.

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The writings of Solomon the Preacher

Ecc 1:9 The thing that hath been, it *is that* which shall be; and that which is done *is* that which shall be done: and *there is* no new *thing* under the sun. 10 Is there *anything* whereof it may be said, See, this *is* new? it hath been already of old time, which was before us.

History repeats itself. The survey is in: one out of every one dies until time will be no more.

Joh 6:40 And this is the will of Him that sent Me, that everyone which seeth the Son, and believeth on Him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

2Pe 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. 11 *Seeing then that* all these things shall be dissolved, what manner *of persons* ought ye to be in *all* holy conversation and godliness, 12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

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Ecc 3:1 To *everything there is* a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: 2 A time to be born, and a time to die;...

Joh 3:3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born **again**, he cannot see the kingdom of God. (*Emp. added*)

Rom 6:7 For he that is dead is freed from sin. 8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him:

When can a person be born and die at the same moment? When he is spiritually born he dies to the old self (*through baptism*) and is born into the family of God.

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Ecc 3:13 And also that every man should eat and drink, and enjoy the good of all his labour, it is the gift of God.

Pro 30:7 Two *things* have I required of Thee; deny me *them* not before I die: 8 Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me: 9 Lest I be full, and deny *Thee*, and say, Who is the LORD? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my God *in vain*.

1Th 4:11 And that ye study (*Gk.5389-labour*) to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you;

2Th 3:10 For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.

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Ecc 3:17 I said in mine heart, God shall **judge** the **righteous** and the **wicked**: for *there is a time* there for every purpose and for every work. (*Emp. added*)

Joh 5:28 Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, 29 And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.

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 Funerals are not for the deceased. They are for those who remain awaiting their turn.

Ecc 3:18 I said in mine heart concerning the estate of the sons of men, that God might manifest them, and that they might see that they themselves are beasts. 19 For that which befalleth the sons of men befalleth beasts; even one thing befalleth them: **as the one dieth, so dieth the other**; yea, they have all one breath (*in the context, we are both mortal*); so that a man hath no preeminence (*gain*) above a beast: for all is vanity. 20 All go unto **one place**; all are of the **dust**, and **all turn to dust** again. 21 Who knoweth (*Heb.3045-recognizes*) the spirit (*Heb.7307-life*) of man that goeth upward, and the spirit (*life*) of the beast that goeth downward to the earth? (*Emp. added*)

Gen 2:7 And the LORD God formed man *of* the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the **breath of life**; and man became a **living soul**. (*Emp. added*)

Gen 1:27 So God created man in His *own* image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them. 28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

The difference between man and beast is man has a spirit within him and thus has been set over the rest of the creation.

Heb 2:7 Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; Thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of Thy hands:

Luk 12:6 Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? 7 But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are **of more value** than many sparrows. (*Emp. added*)

1Pe 5:6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time: 7 Casting all your care upon Him; for **He careth for you**. (*Emp. added*)

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 Ecc 3:22 Wherefore I perceive that *there is* nothing better, than that a man should rejoice in his own works; for that *is* his portion: for who shall bring him **to see what shall be after him**? (*Emp. added*)

Mat 6:34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day *is* the evil thereof.

Jas 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.

Luk 12:15 And He said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

Mat 6:19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

You don't worry what will happen to your "stuff" when your mind is set on things above. Someone else will playing with your "toys" after you are gone and you won't have control over them so stay focused on the heavenly "stuff" /treasure.

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What about you?

Joh 11:25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: 26 And whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die. Believeest thou this?

Act 9:36 Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was **full of good works and almsdeeds** which she did. 37 And it came to pass in those days, that she was sick, and died: whom when they had washed, they laid *her* in an upper chamber. 38 And forasmuch as Lydda was nigh to Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent unto him two men, desiring *him* that he would not delay to come to them. 39 Then Peter arose and went with them. When he was come, they brought him into the upper chamber: and all the widows stood by him **weeping**, and **shewing the coats and garments which Dorcas made**, while she was with them. 40 But Peter put them all forth, and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning *him* to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up. 41 And he gave her *his* hand, and lifted her up, and when he had called the saints and widows, presented her alive. 42 And it was known throughout all Joppa; and many believed in the Lord. (*Emp. added*)

Is your life one that, when you die, would bring others to the Lord? Are you so full of good works that others will remember you for them and not just **say** something good about you because that's just what people do at times like that? What would you want people to say at your memorial service?

Rev 20:6 Blessed and holy *is* he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

Have you taken part in the first resurrection?

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The most famous epitaph ever written!

Mat 27:37 And set up over His head his accusation written, THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

Mar 15:26 And the superscription of His accusation was written over, THE KING OF THE JEWS.

Luk 23:38 And a superscription also was written over Him in letters of Greek, and Latin, and Hebrew, THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

Joh 19:19 And Pilate wrote a title, and put *it* on the cross. And the writing was, JESUS OF NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS. 20 This title then read many of the Jews: for the place where Jesus was crucified was nigh to the city: and it was written in Hebrew, *and* Greek, *and* Latin. 21 Then said the chief priests of the Jews to Pilate, Write not, The King of the Jews; but that He said, I am King of the Jews. 22 Pilate answered, What I have written I have written.

Jesus didn't just claim to be Who He said He was/is. His epitaph is as true today as it ever was. He is the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords over spiritual Israel, the church.

Gal 6:16 And **as many as** walk according to this rule, peace *be* on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. (*Emp. added*)

Rom 11:26 And so **all** (*Gk.3956-as many as*) Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: 27 For this *is* My covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins. (*Emp. added*)

1Pe 1:2 Elect (*Gk.1588-select, favorite, chosen*) according to the foreknowledge (*Gk.4268-forethought*) of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

Rom 8:33 Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? *It is* God that justifieth.

In eternity God had already decided beforehand those who would be His. His are those in Christ, whether under the Old Testament or New, those obedient to His will. That's what I would want on my epitaph. **His!** What would you like on yours?

Joh 16:22 And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.

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