

WHY DEATH ? HOW CAN ONE ESCAPE FROM IT ?

“It is better to go to the house of mourning than to go to the house of feasting; for this is the end of all men, and the living will lay it to heart”

(Ecclesiastes 7:2).

“And saying the time is fulfilled and the kingdom of GOD is at hand, repent ye and believe the gospel” (Mark 1:15)

IT IS THE HOUR OF TRUTH

Many, really won't like to talk about it, for the simple fact that to pronounce “**the name**”, brings many thoughts, upset emotions and the bell rings right deep into the heart of the most unconcerned (carefree) Man: **DEATH**, for it is what we are talking about, it is not a laughing matter; meanwhile it is part of us, and most often than not it visit us without our invitation being send to it. It respects nobody. It takes away the ignorant like the learned (skilful), the rich like the poor, in short it is not the natural accompaniment of a category of persons. History tells us that even great heroes were not able to fight **Death**, and they slept their last sleep.

“No man has power to retain the spirit, or authority over that day of DEATH”
(Ecclesiastes 8:8).

Many are living in terror consciously or unconsciously, they do not want and wish the didn't face **DEATH**, meanwhile right deep inside them , they know they shall one day face the reality of it whether they like it or not.

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die” (Ecclesiastes 3:1-2).

When the question is asked on **this subject**, everything seems vague.

One truth about **Death** is that, when a person comes face to face **with it, immediately all his priorities changes**, and everything(plans, ambitions, dreams, passions...) seem not to border him anymore and one understands that it is with proper judgement that the Wise king Solomon said:

“ It is better to go to the house of mourning than to go to the house of feasting; for this is the end of all men, and the living will lay it to heart”(Ecclesiastes 7:2).

Considering the concept, ideologies and doctrine that surrounds the idea of men today concerning **DEATH**, **GOD** has place it as a burden in my heart to clarify this matter in the lamplight of the Holy Scriptures: **THE BIBLE**.

One thing is for sure, that the interpretation of **DEATH**, varies from one people to the other, according their customs and traditions and especially according to their belief and religions. In all these Satan is the one who have the maximum gain because he exploits **the ignorance and naivety** (ingenuousness) of Men.

Satan uses all sorts of tricks to blind people on the issue of **DEATH**, especially the sects and religions that are under him.

For example:

- 1) Certain sects and satanic religions preaches and teaches on “**REINCARNATION**”, which is a philosophical and religious doctrine by which the soul crosses or goes through many existence; that is; it goes from one body to the other, **human to non-human**. The adept of this doctrine teaches that when a person dies, his soul part away from his body to incarnate in a different body. It is this way that the soul of a Man can find itself in the body of another man or an animal...and this cycle continues until it reaches perfection. **What a cruel and criminal lie of Satan!**

Amongst these sects and religions we have: “*Rose Croix, Buddhism, Brahmanism, Hinduism...and all “the Mystics”*”.

This is what GOD says:

“And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgement” (Hebrews 9:27).

- 2) Other religion like catholic religion teaches on “**Purgatory**” whereby catholic theology considers as a condition of the soul which after death has a certain punishment (penalty) to undergo before being admitted into heaven. And that is why those who believe this doctrine after the death of a person, they pray for him or organised “**requiem mass**” to pray in favour of the person or in favour of all those who are already death in order that GOD should have mercy on them, and accept them. **What falsehood and deceit of the ENEMY!..** GOD tells us in **THE BIBLE** that ***each man shall face His court of Judgement in order to be judge according to what he has done with his body when he was on earth*** (2Corinthians 5:10).
- 3) And certain sects such as “**JEHOVAH WITNESSES**” who extol and teaches “**annihilation**”. Their doctrine says when a person dies, he fines himself in an “unconscious state” that is he “ceases to exist”. **It is a big lie of Satan. THE BIBLE** has so many passages that shows that after **DEATH**, the soul simple leaves the body and continues to live, either in heaven besides GOD if the person had repented from his sins and had accepted GOD in his heart, either in a place of torment, if the person died without repenting from his sins.

We can even see that the story the **LORD JESUS CHRIST** tells us in **Luke 16:19-31** shows that after our physical death, one is really **CONSCIOUS; one sees, hears, talk, and one can be happy or can cry for help because of his suffering and pain.**

“...But now he is comforted, and thou art tormented” (Luke 16:25).

The fact that men have developed so many concepts around **Death**, or that Satan and his agents have gum a wrong **label** on **Death**, does not change anything from what GOD has said concerning **Death**.

In **THE BIBLE**, the term (**Death**) is link with the idea of separation.

Death, manifested itself the first time on earth in the garden of Eden because of **disobedience. And this is how it all came about.**

“And the LORD GOD commanded the man, saying “you may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die” (Genesis 2:16-17).

But what is most striking when one reads **the third chapter of Genesis**, is that after the disobedience of Adam and Eve because they ate the fruit from the forbidden tree, **they didn’t die on the spot.** i.e immediately and that is what will help us understand the different stages of **death**.

In Romans 6:23, it is written: ***"The wages of sin is Death"***

1) **SPIRITUAL DEATH.**

It is the consequence of the advent of sin into the world (**Romans 5:12**). It describes the situation of Man separated from GOD. When Adam and Eve sinned against GOD in the Garden of Eden, physically they didn't die on the spot, but **Spiritually, they were already dead they could no longer be in communion with GOD.**

In **1 Timothy 5:6**, GOD make us to understand that

"But she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth".

As such there are many on earth, who are living under the reign or rule of sin, under the power of the flesh and that of Satan (**John 8:34 and 44, Ephesians 2:1-2, 1John 5:19**), and even if they walk, work, play, in short do everything that a normal person can do, **"they are dead"** to GOD, though alive in the sight of Men, simple because **their sinful state** stops them from **being in communion with GOD** (**Isaiah 59:2**).

2) **PHYSICAL DEATH.**

It is the type that everyone is acquainted to, since people die **physically** around us everyday. It brings an end to the earthly existence and the return of the **body** to dust, when the **soul** leaves it.

"...you are dust and to dust you shall return" (**Genesis 3:19**).

"... and the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the spirit returns to GOD who gave it" (**Ecclesiastes 12:7-9**).

But **JESUS** said:

"And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell" (**Mathew 10:28, Luke 12:4-5**).

The **LORD JESUS CHRIST** therefore recommend Men not to be afraid of physical death but instead to be afraid of the **"SECOND DEATH"** that will be on the **Judgement Day**.

3) **THE SECOND DEATH.**

It is the worst of all **DEATH**, for it is the consequence of the **LAST JUDGEMENT**. It is a stage of **eternal separation** from GOD into the **furnace of fire** (**Revelation 20:15; 21:8**). After the **Judgement day**, all those who didn't repent from their sins while they were alive and who didn't accept the **LORD JESUS-CHRIST** as their **LORD and PERSONAL SAVIOUR** in their heart, will be thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, **and they shall be tormented day and night for eternity, it is the SECOND DEATH.**

N.B: Praying for someone who is already dead (**physical death**) in order that God should accept him by His side is but **falsehood and deceit of Satan**. When you pray for someone who is dead, it will make no difference from the way he chose when he was alive for ***"And as it is appointed unto men once to die but after this the Judgement"*** (**Hebrews 9:27**).

"Be not deceived; GOD is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the spirit shall of the spirit reap life everlasting" (**Galatians 6:7**).

"For we must all appear before the Judgement seat of CHRIST; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad" (**2Corinthians 5:10**).

Now the question is: **IS IT POSSIBLE TO ESCAPE FROM DEATH AND HOW? YES IT IS POSSIBLE.**

REGENERATION:

Regeneration is the “New Birth” of an individual through the Word and Spirit of GOD when he place His faith in CHRIST JESUS (John 3:3-8, James 1:18, 1Peter 1:23).

The person who is regenerated:

- Becomes a child of GOD (John 1:12, 1John 3:1).
- Receives the spirit of GOD (John 7:38-39, 1Corinthians 3:16, Romans8:9)
- GOD came and dwells with him (John 14:20and 23, 2Corinthians 6:16).
- Is participant of divine nature (2Peter 1:4).
- Go through spiritual death to life (John 5:24, Philippians 2:5, Colossians 2:13).
- Is seal with the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:13).
- Receive Eternal life (John 3:16, John6:47, 1John2:17,1John 5:11-13).
- An inheritance is assured for him by GOD (Galatians 4:7, 1Peter 1:3-5).

The LORD JESUS CHRIST declares himself that:

“I am the resurrection, and THE LIFE: he that believeth in me, though he was dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in ME shall never die” (John 11:25-26).

Nobody has ever and no one is able to make such a promise; but JESUS- CHRIST who can never lie gives this assurance of Eternal Life to who so ever place his confidence HIM because HE, Himself faced death.

N.B: JESUS-CHRIST died for our sins (Romans 3:23-26, 1Corinthians 15:3) for He is the Lamb of GOD who takes away the sins of the world (John 1:29). But three days later he rose from the dead, that is “return to life” and he went up to heaven were he reign over the universe (John 2:19-22, Romans8:34, Mathew 28:16-20), and it is the ultimate prove that HE has power over death and that HE can perfectly save anyone who places his faith in HIM and thus have the assurance that he will live besides GOD even after dead.

Death is but “a transition” reason why THE BIBLE does not stop reminding us that we are mere strangers on earth (Hebrews 11:13, 1Peter 2:11) and knowing where our end is to be is here on earth that we ought to chose; and there are only two way out:

1) **Either in Heaven**, a place of rest, joy, and eternal happiness in the presence of GOD (Luke 23:43, Rev.2:7, 2Cor.12:2-4, 1Cor.2:9), that is reserve for all who love and fear GOD.

2) **Or in HELL**, a place of torments and eternal sufferings, furnace of fire and brimstone, were Satan shall be thrown into with his demons, his servants, the wicked and **all those who did not repent from their sins** by accepting through faith the LORD JESUS as their LORD and personal Saviour (Rev.20:10, 15; 21:8, Matthew 25:41).

In conclusion, the person who places his faith in JESUS-CHRIST by accepting Him as his LORD and personal Saviour is no longer afraid to face death. He does not only have the assurance of ETERNAL LIFE but also experience “THAT LIFE” here on earth already in his day to day life, for GOD lives in his heart already (1Corinthians 3:16, John 14:23) and not being afraid of death any more, he can say like the Apostle Paul

“I am torn between the two, I desire to depart (died, leave this world), and to be with CHRIST; which is far better” (Philippians 1:23).

“For to me to live is CHRIST, and to die is gain” (Philippians 1:21).

“...Blessed are the dead which die in THE LORD” (Revelation 14:13).

GOD has promise a NEW WORLD to all who would have repented from their sins and this is the vision that HE showed to the Apostle John:

“And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea...And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, behold the tabernacle of GOD is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and GOD himself shall be with them and be their GOD. And GOD shall wipe away all tears from their eyes and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are TRUE and FAITHFUL” (Revelation 21:1-5).

You that have the privilege to read and hear this message, it is left on you to decide now, while you are still alive, where you shall pass your eternity.

If you want to escape from the SECOND DEATH, and have the assurance of ETERNAL LIFE:

- 1) **Confess** in a specific and sincere manner to GOD all the sins you have committed be it in thoughts, words or actions (Proverbs 28:13, 1John1:9).
- 2) **Ask HIM** to forgive you in the name of JESUS-CHRIST who died on the cross at your place, where you ought to have died for your sins (1Peter 2:22-24).
- 3) **Decide immediately** to abandon those sins and the old way of life you were living till now and engage yourself to walk in the newness of life with GOD (2Corinthians 5:17, Colossians 3:1-10) because GOD has nothing to do with hypocrites and you can not play around with HIM. HE knows you and eventually the state of your heart.
- 4) **Invite THE LORD JESUS-CHRIST** to come and dwell in your heart and ask of HIM to break down all links of curses in your life, that HE should fill you with the Holy Spirit and that HE should guide you all through and always.
- 5) **Have a baptism by submersion** (dipping) i.e. inside the water; which is the **Biblical baptism** (Matthew 3:6 and 16, John 3:23) as soon as possible because JESUS said **“He that believeth and is baptised shall be saved...”** (Mark 16:16, Acts 2:37-38).
- 6) **Provide for yourself a HOLY BIBLE** and start reading and meditating and putting it in practice everyday (Joshua 1:8, Psalm 1:1-3, Matthew 7:24-27). Engage yourself in **RESTITUTION** (restoration) i.e. make amend with all those **if possible** to whom you have offended or wronged.
- 7) **Pray, Pray, Pray**, asking GOD to guide you towards a Christian group that are real children of GOD who reads and put in practice all THE BIBLE, and try your possible best to be submissive and very obedient to THE LORD in everything (1Samuel 15:22-23).

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May the Grace and Peace of our LORD JESUS be with You. AMEN !

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