

Oh grave, where is thy victory?

John 11:25-27 (NKJV)

"Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?" She said to Him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.""

For many it's not a daily custom to think about the inescapable reality of our temporariness. Rightly so. We are not called to continuously mull over the weakening of our bodies and the inevitability of death (Ecclesiastes 12:1-7, 2 Corinthians 5:4-5), since looking at these things would merely serve to glorify the consequences of (our) sin. But in addition to the truth about our vulnerability, we are to have hope in this precious promise of our Lord.

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die."

Paul reminds us of this in his first letter to the church of Corinth.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 (NKJV)

"For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures."

20-26

"But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming. Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be destroyed is death."

42-44a

"So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body."

53-57 (KJV)

"For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 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.

O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.

But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Now reader, it might be that you have lost someone or that you are about to. Even more: you yourself might be facing death. Hold fast to the promises of the Word of God and to these words of our Saviour.

Revelation 1:18 (NKJV)

"I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death."

In the afterlife

Even though you're gone.
Jesus helps us through.
This is just a "see you".
Because you live on.

After the last breath.
There's no more death.
When we arrive.
In the afterlife.