

Chapter 6 Death is annulled.



Now that's the best news I
have EVER heard!

The issue that brought me to my search for the truth was death. I needed to know exactly what would happen after I died. I did indeed have a fear of death, a fear of the unknown.

People have many different ways of covering up that fear. I hear all kinds of lies that people depend on for their life after death. It hurts me to think that they are so deceived. Many of their theories sound good, but only the Word of God can be relied upon. If you are trusting in something other than the Word of God, you better get busy with your search for the truth because you are not promised one more day on this earth!

Another issue that grieves me is that many Christians are afraid of death. That should be the first fear that leaves if you really have an experience with Jesus. It may be that you have never experienced the new birth, or perhaps you have never been instructed in the Word of God.

The Word of God makes a rather surprising statement about death. It says that death has been annulled. To annul means “to make null and void; to destroy the validity of.” It is as though God put death into a place of insignificance.

“It is that purpose and grace which He now has made known and has fully disclosed and made real to us through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, Who **annulled death** and made it of no effect and brought life and immortality, immunity from eternal death to light through the Gospel” (2 Timothy 1:10, Amplified Bible).

I was on a trip with my family several years ago and my wife's cousin was in the car with us. He was not a believer. I had just been reading 2 Timothy 1:10, and I was impressed with the Amplified version which said that Jesus annulled death. I had no idea that my cousin was thinking about the same subject until he started sharing with me. I simply told him what I had read that morning and how Jesus had released me

from the fear of death. Months later I found out that he gave his heart to the Lord that day. My cousin is going to Heaven because death has been annulled!

The definition of the word used for death in the New Testament is “to separate.” Death is not the ceasing of life, it is the separation of the earthly body (our earth suit) from the real us, our spirit and soul. We will live somewhere forever. Spiritual death is the separation of our spirit from God. Spiritual death starts here in our earthly life and continues forever if we are not born again.

I believe that death for a human is a very terrifying experience. I have heard enough testimony from doctors and ministers who bear witness to this. I have also heard stories of after death experiences. However, I believe that when a believer dies, he does not experience that terror and pain. I believe that just before death happens for a Christian, that his spirit rises up to meet Jesus in the air, kind of like a “rapture.” Hebrews 2:9 says that Jesus tasted death for everyone. Taste is a strong word. We do not taste death because Jesus did that for us.

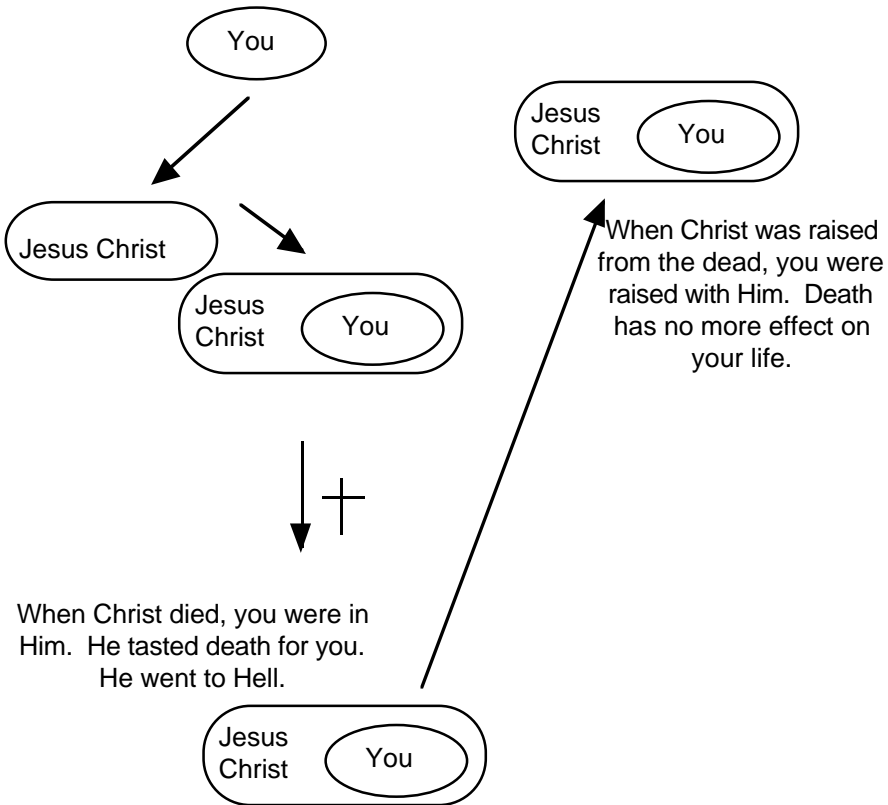
“But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might **taste** death for everyone” (Hebrews 2:9).

I believe that when we are separated from our body through death, we are immediately present with the Lord. “We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord” (2 Corinthians 5:8).

I believe this is supported in another way. If we are born again, then we must have died already. “If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection” (Romans 6:5).

“I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me” (Galatians 2:20).

When you were born again you were put in Christ



Here are some great Scriptures to meditate on relating to our freedom from death.

“The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, turning a man from the snares of death” (Proverbs 14:27).

“Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?’” (John 11:25,26).

“Who alone has immortality in the sense of **exemption** from every kind of death and lives in unapproachable light” (1 Timothy 6:16a, Amplified Bible).

Chapter 6

“Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?”
(1 Corinthians 15:55).

“Since, therefore these His children share in flesh and blood, that is, in the physical nature of human beings, He himself in a similar manner partook of the same nature, that by going through death he might bring to a naught and make of no effect him who had the power of death, that is the Devil; and also that he might deliver and completely set free all those who through the haunting fear of death for held in bondage throughout the whole course of their lives” (Hebrews 2:14-15 Amplified version).