



Pastor's Comments

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After Death—What?

“If a man die, shall he live again?” Job’s question voices the inquiry of men’s minds from the beginning of time. The question has been authoritatively answered by Christ—and in the affirmative—for Christ both died and arose again from the dead.

Well over a thousand years ago, Christian missionaries landed on the shores of heathen England to bring the Good News to the idol-worshiping inhabitants. The king called a council to determine whether the missionaries should be heard. As the nobles sat in the dimly lighted hall discussing the matter, a lone bird flew in through an open window. Traversing the length of the room, it vanished through a doorway into the dark. “King,” remarked a noble, “you saw the bird just now? It came in we know not whence, and after a brief passage through the room, **it went we cannot tell whither. It is so with us.** We come for a short time into the world, we know not from where. **Neither do we know where we are going.** If the strangers know, let us hear them.”

The Bible says, “All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God” (Rom. 3:23). The Good News is this—Jesus Christ died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. Whoever believes in Jesus and accepts Him as Savior and Lord will “...not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16). **For the believer, death is but “...to depart, and be with Christ”** (Phil. 1:23). But **what is after death for the non-believer?** The Bible says, “It is appointed unto men once to die, but **after this the judgment**” (Heb. 9:27).

Now is the time of God’s grace and mercy. “...**Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation**” (II Cor. 6:2). By accepting Jesus Christ you accept God’s mercy. Those who reject Him pay the penalty for their own sins, **after death, in hell.** “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him” (John 3:36).

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