



Pastor's Comments

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Dying Differently

Sir Francis Newport, the head of an English infidel club, said to those gathered around his bed when he was dying, “You need not tell me there is no God for I **know there is one**, and that I am in His angry presence! You need not tell me there is no hell, for I **already feel my soul slipping into its fires!** I know I am lost forever!”

The hopelessness and dismay of that scene **differs so vastly** from what occurred at the death of Evangelist D.L. Moody, who caught a glimpse of the glory awaiting him. Awakening from a sleep, he said, “Earth recedes, **heaven opens before me.** If this is death, it is sweet! There is no valley here. God is calling me, and I must go.” His son who was standing by his bedside said, “No, no father, you are dreaming.” “No,” said Mr. Moody, “**I am not dreaming—I have been within the gates—I have seen the children’s faces.**” A short time elapsed and then, following what seemed to the family to be the death struggle, he spoke again: “**This is my triumph; this is my coronation day! It is glorious!**”

What made **the difference** in these two death scenes? D.L. Moody would have been the first to tell us that it wasn’t mere religion, doing good works, or membership in a church! It was the fact that **Moody had received Jesus Christ as his Savior.** Jesus makes the difference! The **glory** he experienced and the **hope** he possessed came from his relationship with Jesus, “**Christ in you, the hope of glory**” (Col. 1:27). Jesus is **the only hope** for eternal life! “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is **none other name** under heaven given among men, **whereby we must be saved**” (Acts 4:12). Are you saved?

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