

ARE YOU READY TO DIE?



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

THE REALITY OF DEATH

Death. It's often called the taboo topic because the very mention of it strikes fear and dread into the heart of most. Death could happen at any moment! You may feel that death is a long way off or that somehow it will never happen to you, but death is just about the only thing that is 100% certain in this life! Your appointment with death **will** come and it is not an appointment you can plan for or schedule. Your appointment with death could be only minutes away.

According to the world death clock, on average, there are 56 million deaths per year, over 4.6 million deaths per month, 153,424 deaths per day, 6,392 deaths per hour, 106 deaths per minute and 1.8 deaths per second. That means that if it takes you just 2 minutes to read this pamphlet, by the time you finish, more than **200 people** will have died and gone into eternity. This pamphlet will tell you how you can prepare for this unavoidable reality of death.

The Bible gives us some pointed and timely warnings about life and death:

LIFE IS SHORT - "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? **It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away**" (James 4:14). Have you ever noticed the little puff of steam that comes out the top of your kettle? It hangs in the air for a brief moment and then disappears. That is just what our lives are like. Even if you are one of the privileged few to live to 100 years, that is still just a tiny drop in the ocean of eternity. **Where will you spend eternity? Where will you be forever? Heaven or hell?**

TOMORROW IS NOT GUARANTEED - "**Boast not thyself of tomorrow;** for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth" (Proverbs 27:1). You may feel that you have all of life ahead of you but none of us are guaranteed we will live to see tomorrow. Death can strike suddenly and unexpectedly. In fact, we are not even guaranteed our next breath. Our very breath is in the hands of God - "he (God) giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;" (Acts 17:25). That's why right now "**It is time to seek the LORD**" (Hos. 10:12).

DEATH IS CERTAIN - "And as it is **appointed unto men once to die**, but after this the judgment" (Heb. 9:27). **Are you ready for your appointment with death?** The reality of death raises the questions, "Why do we die? Is death normal? Where do we go when we die?" The Bible has the answers.

THE REASON FOR DEATH

The Bible explains the reason why we die. Death and suffering came into the world as a result of **SIN**. Romans 5:12 reads, **“Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.”** Sin entered into the world when our first parents, Adam and Eve disobeyed God and ate the forbidden fruit in the Garden of Eden. From that point onwards, the sin nature has been passed down to all of us. The Bible reveals we are all sinners by nature and practice.

WE ARE SINNERS BY NATURE: The Bible declares, “As it is written, **There is none righteous**, no, not one: They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; **there is none that doeth good, no, not one.**” (Romans 3:10, 12) Contrary to popular opinion, humankind is not made up of good people who sometimes make mistakes and sin. On the contrary, we all sin because we are depraved sinners by nature. Ephesians 2:3 says we are “by nature the children of wrath”. This is why we need God to do a miracle to save us from sin and the punishment we deserve in hell! We need to be “born again” by Gods power (John 3:7).

WE ARE SINNERS BY PRACTICE: The Bible states, **“For all have sinned**, and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). We sin when we break God’s law, the 10 commandments. 1 John 3:4 reads, **“sin is the transgression (breaking) of the law.”** Even a brief look at the 10 commandments proves that we are all sinners. We have all broken God’s law by lying, lusting, stealing, blaspheming, coveting, putting other things before God etc... and are therefore guilty in God’s sight. Because we have all sinned, we deserve the penalty for sin which is eternity in hell. Romans 6:23 warns, **“For the wages of sin is death;** but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Revelation 20:14 calls this the second death, **“And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.”** This is the bad news. And religion and good works can’t help! **“Not of works, lest any man should boast.”** (Eph. 2:9)

But there is good news! Jesus Christ, Who is **“God manifest in the flesh”** (1 Tim. 3:16) died in our place on the cross, taking the punishment we deserve so that we could be rescued from hell and have eternal life in heaven. Rising from the dead the third day, Jesus Christ proved His claim to be the Son of God. Romans 5:8 **“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”**

THE RESCUE FROM DEATH

The fact that everyone is going to die should make you **STOP AND THINK! WHERE WILL YOU SPEND ETERNITY?!** Amos 4:12 reads, “prepare to meet thy God.” How can you prepare? God has made a way for you to be rescued from eternal death in hell. You must:

1. **REALIZE that you are a sinner** – “For **all have sinned**, and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). We have all broken God’s laws and are great sinners in His sight. We all deserve hell!
2. **REPENT of your sin** – “**Repent** ye therefore, and **be converted**, that your sins may be blotted out...” (Acts 3:19). Repentance is a change of mind and attitude toward God and sin. It means being genuinely sorry for your sins committed against a Holy God and requires a willingness to turn to God from sin that He might forgive and change you.
3. **BELIEVE on the Lord Jesus Christ** – put your faith and trust in the Gospel (good news) “that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures...that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.” (1 Cor. 15:3-4)
4. **RECEIVE Jesus Christ into your life** as your personal Saviour from sin and to be the Lord of your life – “**For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved**” (Romans 10:13). Ask Christ to save and forgive you from your sin and to come into your life to be your **Lord and Saviour**. “For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, **that He might be Lord** both of the dead and living.” (Romans 14:9)

To learn more about how you can prepare to meet God, watch “The Sinners Day in Court”. Scan the QR code or visit

www.sermonaudio.com/sermon/91120441587661



**NORTHSIDE
BAPTIST
CHURCH**
PREACHING THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST

Pastor Simeon Western

P: 0413 076 622

E: pastor@nbcadelaide.org.au