

“THE WAYS OF DEATH”

INTRODUCTION

- I. The word “way (w-a-y) is found many times in the Bible.
 - A. The word is consists of 3 things: BEGINNING, a JOURNEY, and a DESTINATION.
 1. This could apply to a “way” of doing something, such as a way to prepare something (such as a meal, or a road to travel, or a way to fix something that has been broken.
 2. Or, it could be used in the the sense of GOING to a destination, such as a city or country in some distant location, such as Hawaii.
 - B. The word involves a *decision* to BEGIN such a journey, and the MEANS of getting there, and the RESULTS in reaching that destination.
- II. The re are many ways discussed in the Bible that offer us a choice. Deut. 30:19-20; Isa. 55:8-9; Prov. 14:12

DISCUSSION

I. 1st, let’s consider the WAYS OF DEATH.

- A. These ways could involve physical death, spiritual death, or eternal death.
 1. In this life, there are many ways to die **physically**.
 - a. Dangerous paths often lead to physical death, such as a journey on the high seas, or on an airplane that crashes, a car accident, or a sickness.
 2. In this life, there are many ways to **spiritual** death. Isa. 59:1-2
 - a. Believing the wrong thing. 2 Thess. 2:11-12; John 8:32
 - b. Obeying the wrong thing. Matt. 15:9
 - c. Practicing the wrong thing. Matt. 15:9
- B. Also, there many ways to **eternal** death.
 1. If we never begin the journey to heaven, we will not get there. John 8:24; Mark 16:16
 2. if we do enter, but fail to abide in the faith, we will not get there. Acts 27:31; John 15:4-7
 3. Or, if we go to the dock, and someone says, “one ship is as good as another, so get on the ship of your choice,” and we enter the wrong ship, we will not get to heaven.
 - a. There are many religious ships at the various docks of the world, and those with interesting names are not all headed to the same place.
 - b. We must enter the true ship of Jesus Christ.

II. 2nd, let’s consider the WAY OF LIFE.

- A. The ONE “way” of life is contrasted with the many ways of death. Prov. 14:12; cf Matt. 3:3; John 14:6; Psa. 119:104
- B. There are many **factors** involved in the “way of life.”
 1. 1st, there is the **PRICE** paid for this journey, the blood of Jesus. Matt. 26:28; Heb. 10:19-20
 - a. Jesus paid the price for us.
 - b. If we are not willing to accept this free offer, we cannot make the journey to heaven.
 2. 2nd, there is the **SAVIOR** of the way of life—Christ Himself. John 14:6
 3. 3rd, there is the **BODY** of those making the journey—the church Jesus built and paid for with His blood. Matt. 16:18; Acts 20:28; 2:47

4. 4th, there is the **FAITHFULNESS** of all in the church. 1 Cor. 15:58; Rev. 2:10; 2 Pet. 2:15, 21
5. 5th, it is the way of eternal **SALVATION** in heaven. Acts 16:17

CONCLUSION

- I. God allows us to choose the way of life over any of the ways of death. Deut. 30:15; Jonah 4:3, 8
- II. What is the destination of YOU soul in life's journey, right now?
 - A. Do not delay making your decision, as tomorrow may be too late.
 - B. Reaching the wrong destination will be too late to turn a round and start over.

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