

“Living is death; dying is life. On this side of the grave we are exiles, on that, citizens; on this side, orphans, on that, children; on this side, captives; on that, freemen; on this side, disguised, unknown; on that, disclosed and proclaimed as the sons of God.”

**Henry Ward Beecher** [19<sup>th</sup> Century Pastor] 73 yrs

“A Christian knows that death shall be the funeral of all his sins, his sorrows, his afflictions, his temptations, his vexations, his oppressions, his persecutions. He knows that death shall be the resurrection of all his hopes, his joys, his delights, his comforts, his contentments.”

**Thomas Brooks** [17<sup>th</sup> Century Puritan] 72 yrs

“Death is not the end of the road; it is only a bend in the road. The road winds only through those paths through which Christ Himself has gone. This Travel Agent does not expect us to discover the trail for ourselves. Often we say that Christ will meet us on the other side. That is true, of course, but misleading. Let us never forget that He walks with us on this side of the curtain and then guides us through the opening. We will meet Him there, because we have met Him here.”

**Erwin Lutzer** – 82 years old

“Most of us find comfort in being told that we are going to go on living; [the apostle] Paul was comforted when he was told that he would soon be dying [see Philippians 1:21]! He kept referring to death as that which was “far better.” The fact that we don’t view death with optimism just might be because we think of death as taking us from our home rather than bringing us to our home! Unlike Paul, we have become so attached to our tent that we just don’t want to move.”

**Erwin Lutzer** – 82 years old

“This is noble encouragement to all the saints; die they must, but rise they shall, and though in their case they shall see corruption, yet they shall rise to everlasting life. Christ’s resurrection is the cause, the earnest, the guarantee, and the emblem of the rising of all His people. Let them, therefore, go to their graves as to their beds...”

**C. H. Spurgeon** [19<sup>th</sup> Century Preacher] 58 yrs

“Death in its substance has been removed, and only the shadow of it remains... Nobody is afraid of a shadow, for a shadow cannot block a man’s pathway for even a moment. The shadow of a dog can’t bite; the shadow of a sword can’t kill.”

**C. H. Spurgeon** [19<sup>th</sup> Century Preacher] 58 yrs

“Death is the last and best physician, which cures all diseases and sins – the aching head and the unbelieving heart. Sin was the midwife which brought death into the world; and death shall be the grave to bury sin! O the privilege of a believer!”

**Thomas Watson** [17<sup>th</sup> Century Puritan] 66 yrs

“There is a judgment before us all. Words have no meaning in the Bible, if there is none. It is mere trifling with Scripture to deny it. There is a judgment before us according to our works – certain, strict, and unavoidable. High or low, rich or poor, learned or unlearned, we shall all have to stand at the bar of God and to receive our eternal sentence. There will be no escape. Concealment will be impossible. We and God must at last meet face to face. We shall have to render an account of every privilege that was granted to us, and of every ray of light that we enjoyed. We shall find that we are dealt with as accountable and responsible creatures, and that to whomsoever much is given, of them much will be required.”

**J. C. Ryle** [19<sup>th</sup> Century Anglican Bishop] 84 yrs

“How great an honor will it be to a person to have God at the day of judgment owning a person, declaring before all men, angels and devils that that person is before His all-seeing eyes and that he stands innocent and perfect in His sight, clothed with perfect righteousness and entitled to everlasting glory and blessedness. How honorable will this render them in the eyes of all that vast assembly that will be together at the day of judgment. That will be an infinitely greater honor than any man or any angel declaring that they judge him upright and sincere and that eternal life belongs to him. What can be a greater honor than this — to be owned by the great King and Lord of all things?”

**Jonathan Edwards** [18<sup>th</sup> Century Preacher] 54 yrs

“Believers will not be judged for sin at the judgment seat of Christ. Every sin of every believer was judged at the Cross, when God ‘made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him’ (2 Cor. 5:21). At the cross ‘Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us’ (Gal. 3:13). As our substitute, ‘He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness’ (1 Peter 2:24); ‘He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, sat down at the right hand of God’ (Heb. 10:12; cf. Eph. 1:7; 4:32; 1 John 2:1-2). Because of His atoning sacrifice on our behalf, ‘There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus... Who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us’ (Rom. 8:1, 34). But though salvation is not by works, works are the inevitable result of true salvation.”

**John MacArthur** – 84 years old

“When the day of recompense comes, our only regret will be that we have done so little for Him, not that we have done too much.”

**George Muller** [19<sup>th</sup> Century Evangelist/director of orphanage] 92 yrs

“In the day that we stand before our Master and Maker, it will not matter how many people on earth knew our name, how many called us great, and how many considered us fools. It will not

matter whether schools and hospitals were named after us, whether our estate was large or small, whether our funeral drew ten thousand or no one. It will not matter what the newspapers or history books said or didn't say. What will matter is one thing and one thing only – what the Master thinks of us.”

**Randy Alcorn – 69 years old**

“For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. <sup>54</sup> When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: ‘Death is swallowed up in victory.’ <sup>55</sup> ‘O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?’ <sup>56</sup> The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. <sup>57</sup> But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

**1 Corinthians 15:53-57**