**Second Dimension – Christianity Experienced**

**Segment VI – The Culmination (Concepts 54-60)Progressive Bible Concepts - #58 “Death”**

**Discussion Question**

In the 1800’s, people talked freely about death but not about sex. In our day, we talk freely about sex but not about death. Why do you think that is?

* How would you define death?

**Reality of Death:**

* Every Second – \_\_ people die
* Every Minute – \_\_\_\_\_\_ people die
* Every Hour – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ people die
* Every Day – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ people die
* How often does the average person think about death? According to Billy Graham, once every \_\_ minutes!

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**Death Defined:**

* *Thanatos* – the natural e\_\_\_\_ of life; core word is s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ physical - separation of the soul from the b\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ spiritual - separation of the soul from G\_\_\_\_ – 105 NT uses
* *Anairesis* – a taking up or away, as of dead bodies for burial, or a t\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a\_\_\_\_\_\_ as of life, hence a putting to death, destroying. (rarely used)
* *Teleute –* c\_\_\_\_\_\_ to an e\_\_\_\_*;* an end or limit, hence the end of life. (rarely used)
* D\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of life; but never denotes n\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Theological Meaning:**

* *“Viewed theologically, death refers to the destructive consequences of the entrance of sin into humankind. This consequence is spiritual alienation or separation from God. As a result of sin, humans also experience physical death, a visible and universal r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the ongoing effects of sin. Scripture also points to a “second death”; the final separation of the wicked from God’s glorious presence for all eternity.”* Pocket Dictionary Theological Terms, pg 35.

**Origin of Death - Genesis:**

* *Then the Lord God formed man of d\_\_\_\_\_\_ from the g\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of l\_\_\_\_\_\_; and man became a l\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ b\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Gen 2:7*
* *“The Lord God commanded the man, saying, “From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ d\_\_\_\_.” Gen 2:16,17*
* *“Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, “Indeed, has God said, ‘You shall not eat from any tree of the garden’?” The woman said to the serpent, “From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, ‘You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.’” The serpent said to the woman, “You surely will n\_\_\_\_ d\_\_\_\_! For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be l\_\_\_\_\_\_ G\_\_\_\_, knowing good and evil.” Gen 3:1-5*
* *“By the sweat of your face
You will eat bread,
Till you r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the g\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,
Because from it you were taken;
For you are d\_\_\_\_\_\_,
And to d\_\_\_\_\_\_ you shall r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.” Gen 3:19*
* *“As soon as we leave the c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, we begin our f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ march to the grave.”*

**Scriptural Overview:**

* *“Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned…”* Rom 5:12
	+ Sin entered the world through A\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ Death entered the world though s\_\_\_\_
	+ Sin spread to all men and so did d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ J\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ arose from sin or transgression
	+ Judgment resulted in c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ Condemnation results in e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ death

**Skeptic’s Death Bed Quotes:**

* *“I leave to this world this mournful momento, that however much a man may be favored by personal qualifications or distinguished mental endowments, genius will be useless and abilities avail little, unless a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and attended by virtue. Oh, that I had possession of even the most inferior place in heaven, and could creep into one corner of it.” Captain John Lee, Outspoken Skeptic*
* *“I would give worlds, if I had them, that ‘Age of Reason’ had not been published, O Lord, Help me! Christ, help me! O God what have I done to suffer so much? But there is no God! But if there should be, what will become of me h\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? Stay with me, for God’s sake! Send a little child to stay with me for it is hell to be a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. If ever the devil had an agent, I have been that one.”* Thomas Paine, American author and infidel who opposed God and the scriptures
* *“I am a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by God and man! I will give you half of what I am worth if you will give me six months’ life. Then I shall go to hell; and you will go with me. O Christ! O Jesus Christ!”* Voltaire, the famous skeptic wrote in vigorous opposition to Christianity. The attending nurse at his death said she would not watch another skeptic die for all the wealth in Europe. Shortly after his death, his house became a distribution depot for the Geneva Bible Society. His aim to eradicate the scriptures from everyday life was controverted dramatically.

**Scriptural Overview:**

* *“But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.” Roman 5:15,17*
* *Through the One, Jesus Christ*
	+ *Many receive the abundance of g\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*
	+ *Many receive the gift of r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*
	+ *Many will receive the j\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of life*
	+ *Many will reign in l\_\_\_\_\_\_.*

**Believer’s Death Bed Quotes:**

* *“The only objection against this book is a bad life! I shall die now, but oh what unspeakable glories do I see! What joys beyond thought or expression am I sensible of! I am a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of God’s mercy to me through Jesus Christ. Oh, how I long to die!”* John Wilhot, who lived a life of sin and marital infidelity, was converted later in life. The above quote came on his death bed with his hand laid upon a b\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* *“I commit my soul to God, my body to the earth, my possessions to my nearest relatives. I die in the faith of Jesus Christ and in the firm h\_\_\_\_\_\_ of a b\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ life.”* Michaelangelo, artist and the greatest sculptor of all time
* *“It is a great mercy that I have no manner of f\_\_\_\_\_\_ or d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of death. I could, if God please, lay my head back and die without terror this afternoon…”* which he did. Isaac Watts, famous hymn writer.
* *“I shall h\_\_\_\_\_\_ in heaven. Clap now, my friends, the comedy is done.”* Beethoven, genius composer who was deaf.
* *“Thy w\_\_\_\_\_\_ be done.”* Lew Wallace of the Christian classic book, Ben Hur
* *“Death is the great k\_\_\_\_ that opens e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”* John Milton, Great English, poet wrote Paradise Lost
* *“There is no death; what seems so is t\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”* Longfellow, famous Puritan American poet

**Power of Death Broken:**

* *“Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ him who had the power of death, that is, the d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and might free those who through f\_\_\_\_\_\_ of death were subject to s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ all their lives.”* Hebrews 2:14,15
* As spiritual “death” is conscious existence in s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from God, so spiritual “life” is conscious existence in c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with God.

**Power of Death Broken - Observations:**

* *“Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ him who had the power of death, that is, the d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and might free those who through f\_\_\_\_\_\_ of death were subject to s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ all their lives.”* Hebrews 2:14,15
* Death is a n\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ part of the human existence
* Jesus partook of humanness – l\_\_\_\_\_\_ and death
* Jesus’ death broke the devil’s p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of death
* The fear of death brought a constant s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to all humans
* Jesus’ death broke the believer’s f\_\_\_\_\_\_ of death

**Death – Biblical Highlights:**

* *“P\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the sight of the Lord is the death of his godly ones.”* *Psalm 116:15*
* *“But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, “Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; but thanks be to God, who gives us the v\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ through our Lord Jesus Christ.”* I Cor 15:54-58

**Death and Resurrection:**

* *“For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ’s at His coming, then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. The l\_\_\_\_\_\_ e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that will be abolished is d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”* I Cor 15:21-26

**Death – Striking Quotes:**

* *“There is a r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ whose name is death.”* Longfellow
* *“This fell sergeant Death is strict in his a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”* Shakespeare
* *“That fatal sergeant, death, s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to no degree.”* Stirling
* *“Death – the K\_\_\_\_\_\_ of T\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_…”* Anonymous
* *“Learn that to die is a debt we must all pay – death accepts no e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”* Greek Proverb
* *“Death and the sun are not to be looked on with a steady g\_\_\_\_\_\_.”* Proverb
* “Death keeps no calendar, meets us anytime and anywhere, pays all debts, is as natural *as living, and is the only door that can never be s\_\_\_\_\_\_.”* Collection of Proverbs
* *“O eloquent, just and mighty death! What none could advise, thou has persuaded; What none has dared, thou hast done; And whom all the world flattered thou hast only cast out of the world and despised. Thou has gathered together all the far-stretched greatness, all the pride, cruelty, and ambition of man, and covered it with these two narrow words – ‘h\_\_\_\_\_\_ l\_\_\_\_\_\_’!”*
* *“Where can I go to e\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ death?” asks Epictetus. He answers his own question, “I cannot a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ death.”*
* *“When death is f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the fear is a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ there.” Seneca*
* *As spiritual “death” is conscious existence in s\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from God, so spiritual “life” is conscious existence in c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with God*.

**Death – Biblical Quotes:**

* *“Therefore, we do not lose heart, but though the outer man is d\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the inner man is being renewed day by day.” II Cor 4:16*
* *“For to me to live is Christ, but to die is g\_\_\_\_\_\_.” Phil 1:21*
* *“Therefore, being always of good courage, and knowing that while we are at home in the b\_\_\_\_\_\_ we are absent from the L\_\_\_\_\_\_…we are of good courage, I say, and p\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ rather to be a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from the body and to be h\_\_\_\_\_\_ with the Lord.” II Cor 5:6-8*

**Death – Your Thoughts?**

* *Have you ever faced the reality of your own death?*
* *What are your feelings toward death?*
* *How has your faith affected your view of death?*

**Summary - Concept 58**

* Jesus came to abolish the final enemy of death and to replace it with the gift of eternal life so that believers might be delivered from the power and fear of death.

**Next Week - Concept 59**

* Resurrection