

“For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.” Philippians 1:21 KJV

For the believer, death is the doorway to God! *“To be absent from the body [is] to be present with the Lord.”* We live in a two-dimensional environment; the natural and the supernatural, or the seen and the unseen. It is hard for time-bound creatures to imagine a realm where there is no time, only now. We are created in the image of God, three-in-one. Body, soul, and spirit, and while we generally think in terms of the body, because that is all we can see, Adam became a living SOUL, not a living BODY. *“And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the Breath of Life; and man became a LIVING SOUL.”* We are souls with a body and spirit, not bodies with a soul and spirit. What is the “Breath of Life?” God. *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him; and without Him was not any thing made that was made. In Him was Life; and the Life was the Light of men.”* Death is absence of life. When sin entered the Garden, death made its debut. God, who is Life, had to separate Himself from sin, and Adam and Eve “died,” because God is Life and He left. When life leaves the body, we say “they died.” The undertaker calls the body “the remains,” that which is left behind. It cannot go into the supernatural realm where God dwells, because it is natural. It is left behind to await redemption if that person was a believer. *“For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the REDEMPTION OF OUR BODY.”* We are three-in-one, because God is three-in-one. *“There are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. So God created man in HIS OWN IMAGE, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them.”* Salvation is necessarily a three step process. We are sealed immediately by the work of the Holy Spirit when we are quickened, made alive, by God’s Spirit joining with our spirit. The soul is progressively cleansed of the separating sin that *“doth so easily beset us”* by our obedience to Truth, or *“walking in the Spirit.”* The body is redeemed at the Resurrection of the saints. *“We (believers) shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the Last Trump: for the Trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the Trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”*



When all of life is said and done: and when it's time for going home,
The Lord has promised to His Own, a place of Rest to call their own.
These tired and weary pilgrims came, to call upon His Mighty Name,
And ask forgiveness for their sin, so Heaven's portals they might win.
Death's dark vale they'll fear no more; for them, it's just an open door.
They'll be at Peace forevermore, for they'll be safe on Heaven's Shore! ~CGP

We need faith, to accept and believe the impossible. Nothing is impossible with God and He is our reward. To be present with Him for eternity will be *“joy unspeakable and full of Glory!”*

“Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is.” 1 John 3:2 KJV