



The Sting Is Gone

A Biblical Perspective On Death

An Intriguing Passage

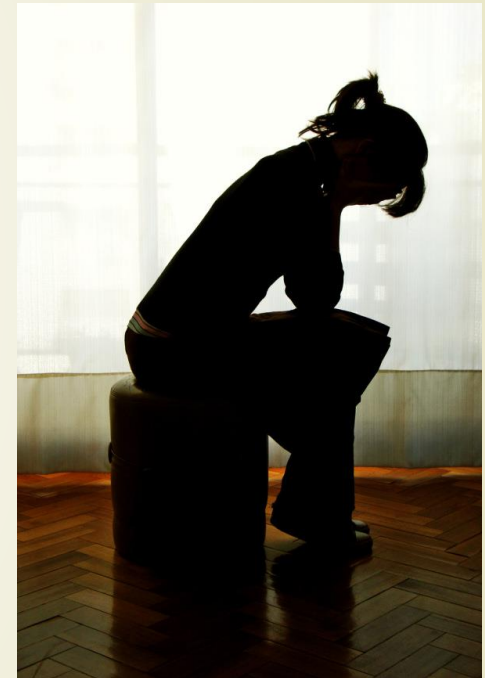
➤ Ecclesiastes 7:1-3 (ESV)

- ¹ A good name is better than precious ointment,
and the day of death than the day of birth.
- ² It is better to go to the house of mourning
than to go to the house of feasting,
for this is the end of all mankind,
and the living will lay it to heart.
- ³ Sorrow is better than laughter,
for by sadness of face the heart is made glad.

What Is It?

Ecclesiastes 7:1-3 seems to suggest that there is something good and positive in death—something superior to the temporary joy of a party.

If so, what is it?



In Other Words...

➤ Ecclesiastes 7:1-3 (CEV)

- ¹ A good reputation at the time of death is better than loving care at the time of birth.
- ² It's better to go to a funeral than to attend a feast; funerals remind us that we all must die.
- ³ Choose sorrow over laughter because a sad face may hide a happy heart.

The End Matters More

► Ecclesiastes 7:1 (ESV)

¹ A good name is better than precious ointment, and the day of death than the day of birth.

This verse simply reminds us that **how you live is more important than how you were born, and how you finish is more important than how you started!**

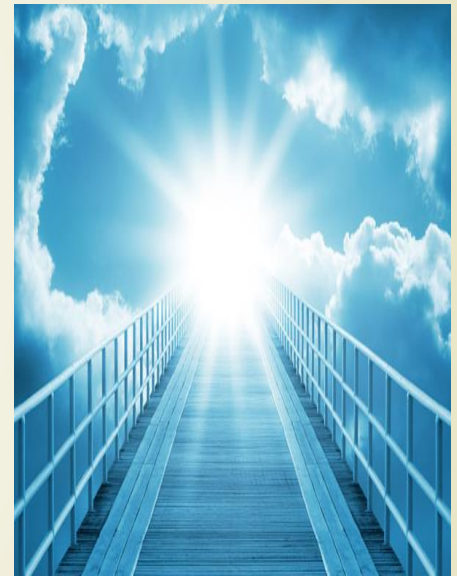


A Reminder Of Eternity

► Ecclesiastes 7:2 (ESV)

² It is better to go to the house of mourning than to go to the house of feasting, for **this is the end of all mankind, and the living will lay it to heart.**

This verse reminds us that **there is more to life than here and now—eternity awaits all of us!**



A Reality Check

► Ecclesiastes 7:3 (ESV)

³ Sorrow is better than laughter, for **by sadness of face the heart is made glad.**

This verse tells us that **humor can be a cover up**, but **sorrow strips away the farce and helps us find real joy!**



Spiritual and Emotional Sobriety

The death of a loved one can bring about what we might call ***Spiritual and Emotional Sobriety***.

The death of a loved one reminds us of what is important in life and how imperative it is to be prepared for eternity. This life is passing but there is more life or more death on the other side of this first death.



The Death of the Wicked

➤ Ezekiel 33:11

¹¹ Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord GOD, **I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked**, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

God does not like to see a sinner die!

The Death of the Saints

► Psalm 116:15

¹⁵ Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.

God delights in welcoming his children home!

When a person is in right relation with God, death is the passage way into eternal life in the presence of God. As Paul tells us, in 2 Cor. 5:6-10, **to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.**

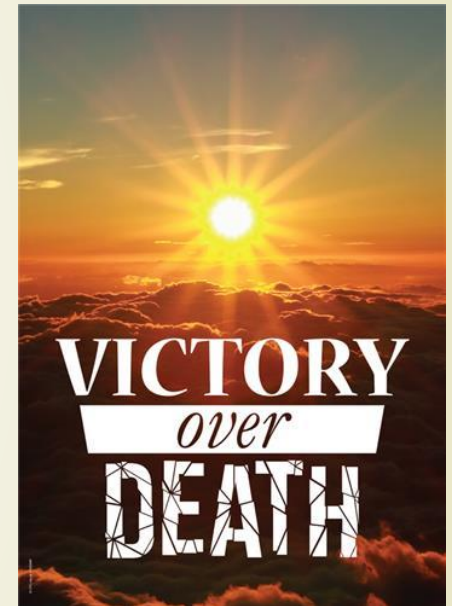
The Sting Is Gone

In talking about the resurrection of all believers, the apostle Paul shouts a defiant challenge to death!

➤ **1 Corinthians 15:55**

⁵⁵ “O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?”

Death hurts, but not forever!



The Sting Is Gone

While driving through the country, a bee got in the car and threatened to sting the children. The father quickly grabbed the bee, was stung by it, than released it.



The children panicked again, but the father said: “You can relax. It cannot hurt you anymore. The sting is gone!”

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The Sting Is Gone!

The life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ took the sting out of death!

- 16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but **have eternal life.**”

Faith in Jesus Christ takes the sting out of death!

