1Thess #89

Understanding physical death brings confidence to a Believer

We will open today in Romans chapter four.

The two subject matters we will cover today, fall under number 5 & 6 of our principles under the doctrine of death. These two subject matters go together because they point to the fact that we are designed in this temporal walk, for a beginning, a middle and an end.

By that I mean these temporary human bodies we have.

/Both Sexual Death and Physical Death point us to the fact that this temporal life is designed by GOD with a very definitive beginning, a middle and an end. The positive Bel learns to flow along this pathway with very little worry or concern because they know the plan of God. The person who rejects truth (Bel or Unbel) will find this pathway very frustrating and worrisome, even to the point of depression or anxiety. \

Sexual death - this category of death is only used within the Bible in relation to Abraham and Sarah, as found in Romans 4:17-21 and Hebrews 11:11-12.

You can find analogies of it when studying many spiritual men and women…Jacob, Moses, David or even the Apostles – because the analogy is this temporal body, we have, gets older and loses capacity for strength and vigour over time.

/The fact is that the human body even when well taken care of begins to change every 7 years and within those changes; areas of weakness or inherent disease from your family gene pool will develop. After the age of 40 most people experience a major shift in overall physical strength and the recover process after injury. They also begin to recognize medical issues developing. \

The fact is the more you take care of yourself the better you will age. Now some men and women that are 40 or 50 years old, still can achieve some of the performance they did at age 30 - but it is in decline.

My guess is, that that group is the minority not the majority. Either way, there is nothing to panic about if you are an educated Bel.

This is the grand design of God that our bodies will age and weaken over time.

One of the key factors within our aging body, is that it develops in us a strong sense of mortality which can be a huge driving force to push people toward GOD.

Bels who understand God’s plan - age with grace and dignity, not anxiety and frustration.

 REPEAT

Abraham and Sarah needed to be at a point of physical breakdown in the sexual realm, so GOD could touch them in supernatural fashion and begin the new race representing BELIEVERS in the CA.

Abraham and Sarah could not do this without GOD!

/Rom 4:16 **For this reason *it is* by faith**, in order that *it may* ***be* in accordance with grace**, so that the promise will be guaranteed to all the descendants, not only to those who are of the Law, but also to **those who are of the faith of Abraham**, who is the father of us all,

Two key factors working together for salvation and spiritual blessing – faith and God’s grace plan. \

*Those who are of the faith of Abraham* - are anyone who believes upon the Lord Jesus Christ. Salvation has always been faith alone in Christ alone.

Those who were of the LAW speaks to Bels who were of the nation of Israel.

 Abraham was called by God at age 75 showing us it is never too late to be used by God and then at age 100 he became a father.

Sarah was ten years younger at age 90 – neither could physically produce children.

Their sexual death was a typology of the Unbel who is spiritually dead.

/[Rom 4:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/4/17/s_1050017) (as it is written: “I HAVE MADE YOU A FATHER OF MANY NATIONS”) in the presence of Him whom he believed, *that is,* **God, who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that do not exist**.

God is in control of history; God is in control of the day of your birth and the day of your death.\

We are simply called to take what GOD gives us – meaning our bodies and mind, our time, talent and treasure and strive toward becoming spiritually mature to glorify HIM in this angelic conflict. We are called to rely upon HIS power and HIS grace plan.

[Rom 4:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/4/18/s_1050018) In hope against hope he believed, so that he might become a father of many nations according to that which had been spoken, “SO SHALL YOUR DESCENDANTS BE.”

/[**Rom 4:19**](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/4/19/s_1050019) **Without becoming weak in faith he contemplated**(*katanoeō*) **his own body, now *as good as* dead**since he was about a hundred years old, and **the deadness of Sarah’s womb;**

He fully understood and perceived and was well aware of his body limitations. \

KAT-AH-NAH-A-O, is a Greek word you have heard me touch on before, this means a deeper understanding then just surface knowledge.

It really means Abraham was not in a confused panic, but well aware and intimately familiar with his current condition.

He was not losing faith even though he knew GOD promised him a son. Not only a son, a whole bloodline of people as many as the sand on the seashore, that would be part of his family.

[Rom 4:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/rom/4/20/s_1050020) yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God,

Abraham didn’t get upset with God or feel anger which would cause him to lose faith.

Many Bels lose faith when the medical challenge comes or death appears within their circle of family and friends.

The full circle of life is God’s design in this temporal walk.

/After the flood it is believed by many Biblical scholars that the world shifted just slightly on its axis causing certain environmental and physical changes. That coupled with the decree of Gen 6:3 - that God would not strive (govern over) mankind for more than 120 years. Is interestingly backed up by the fact, that mankind rarely lived beyond 120 years after the flood. Rare cases are seen but not the norm. \

The descendants of Noah did have long lives but as you witness each generation after the flood it decreased dramatically. Jacob died at 147, Moses dies at 120 years old.

Some will debate this theory - but I believe it holds truth within it.

In fact, that number 120, I think…by my own personal study and thinking, is that it may well also be a key factor in warning us about the end times.

I have mentioned it before so I won’t go into it today…you should have been here for the teaching - so shame on you if you missed that one!

The fact is there is a beginning, a middle and end in God’s divine plan for flesh and blood bodies.

/Gen 6:3 Then the LORD said, **“My Spirit will not remain** (*dîn)***with man forever**, because he is also flesh; nevertheless **his days shall be 120** years.”

Psa 90:10 **As for the days of our life, they contain seventy years, Or if due to strength, eighty years,** Yet
their pride is *only* trouble and tragedy; For it quickly passes, and we disappear. \

The Hebrew verb DEEN - was used to describe a judge or government official to watch over or walk beside a person. An official who guides or reprimands.

The judge who deems guilty or innocent.

Moses who died at 120 years old wrote Psalms 90. This is believed to be the oldest of all the Psalms.

What Moses was saying in Psalm 90 wasn’t that you live to 70 or 80 and die. He was describing a breaking down or weakness of the human body that is inevitable, a process to which you get closer to your eternal destination.

/Physical breakdown of the body and then physical death of the human race is used by Satan to keep people in the bondage of fear and dependance on his comic system. Dependance on human science, human medicine and counterfeit systems to keep you healthy enough to prolong temporal life. A life GOD has already established an end goal for. Because God has established that the soul life never ends – only the physical vehicle deteriorates and ends. \

Satan is able to use a lie as he always does, to keep people chasing an impossible dream of living for extended periods of time with his help.

Fear, anger and frustration are incredible motivators for human beings and Satan is a master at this type of manipulation.

 REPEAT

/God’s design is that - Physical death is defined as separation of the soul from the body. The soul never dies, it lives forever. The human soul will have one of two places it will be assigned to, at the moment of physical death - both are temporary holding patterns until eternity or everlasting misery. The soul of the Believer resides in an interim body until the Rapture, at which time it leaves the third heaven, goes to the second heaven and receives a resurrection body.\

At the moment of physical death, the Bel is face to face with the Lord Jesus Christ and immediately received into comfort and love, placed in an interim body until the Rapture.

The Unbel goes immediately into a holding cell deep within the earth.

They will be able to plead their case one last time at the Great White Throne Judgement.

The rejection of the gospel of TLJC in this temporal life is a guarantee of this exact sentence. It was already approved and decreed through God’s divine justice system in eternity past.

/The soul of the Unbeliever leaves the body and goes to a holding cell called -Hades. There it remains in torments until the end of earthly time (1,000 years of Christ). Then it is resurrected, brought before the Great White Throne, judged, and cast into the lake of fire, existing in an indestructible body, facing eternal agony with fallen angels and Unbels.\

The Unbel receives a type of resurrection body.

Yet, it does not resemble the body that Jesus had after stepping out of the tomb. Its only similarity is the fact that it is indestructible.

God gives this victory to all Believers through our Lord Jesus Christ. Death in the physical sense, is part of your victory IN CHRIST!

Physical death cannot separate the Believer from God;

/Rom 8:38 For I am convinced that **neither death,** nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, **nor any other** **created thing will be able to separate us** **from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord**.\

Nothing can separate us from divine love. Once saved, always saved – no one or nothing, can snatch a Bel from the hand of God!

Physical death is a matter of the sovereign decision of God, based on His perfect knowledge of all the facts.

It has all been approved and filtered through HIS divine justice system and then put upon the Divine Decree of eternity past.

All aspects of illness and death have the hand of God on them. They are either HIS perfect, divine will, HIS permissive will…or in some cases, HIS overriding will.

/Psa 68:20 God is to us a God of salvation; And **to GOD the Lord belong ways of escape from death**.

Psa 118:17 **I will not die,** but live, And
tell of the works of the LORD. 18 The LORD has disciplined me severely, **But He has not turned me over to death**.\

Psalms 68 and 118 were most likely songs written from the hand of King David. Songs that David probably sang and played the harp to these ballads.

No matter how you feel, when the Lord decides to take you, that’s it. It is blasphemous to question His decision.

That is why suicide is against the plan of GOD – it ensures all blessings and rewards are withheld. That Bel goes to heaven, yet is a loser Bel.

 God can and does prolong physical life, in some cases GOD will allow a Bel extended life, we will look at two cases in our last lesson on death.

/Psa 102:19 For He looked down from His holy height; From heaven **the LORD looked upon the earth,** 20 To hear the groaning of the prisoner, **To set free** those who were **doomed to death**,

Prov 14:27 The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, *By which* **one may avoid the snares of death**. \

God is the only power that delivers the Believer from death;

/Job 5:20 “In famine **He will redeem you from death**, And in war, from **the power of the sword**.

Ps 33:19 To rescue their soul from death
And to **keep them alive** in famine.

 (Psa 56:13, Psa 116:8) \

No amount of medicine, meditation and positive thinking can extend your life, GOD is the only author of all life and therefore HE controls death.

The Believer who attains spiritual maturity can depart this temporal life under dying grace;

/Psa 116:15 Precious in the sight of the LORD Is the death of His godly ones.

Dying grace is not necessarily freedom from pain, or dying at a ripe old age. It is simply glorifying God until the physical end and finding HIS comfort in that challenge. (Psa 23:4) \

  Resurrection is victory over death.

Resurrection supersedes whatever you were in dying. Maybe you failed in dying grace, maybe you had failure in your spiritual walk – death still has no victory over you!

Therefore, it is victory for all Bels;

/1Cor 15: 54 But when this perishable puts on the imperishable, and **this mortal puts on immortality**, then will come about the saying that is written: “DEATH HAS BEEN SWALLOWED UP in victory. 55 “**WHERE, O DEATH, IS YOUR VICTORY?** WHERE, O DEATH, IS YOUR STING?”

The victory of physical death is for Believers only – Jesus Christ snatched the victory out of the jaws of death. \

 There is no victory for the grave because all Bels will have a resurrection body

When you begin to understand where you are going and how Satan has tricked you into fear and frustration over something GOD calls a victory. You will learn to live in God’s grace, mercy and power and find a calm assurance.