

The Incomprehensible Agony of Death

Yohannan — I like to gather us in our Master Yahshua's name. He paid the price. We're still learning the depth, height, and breadth of His love. It's a great journey we've embarked on. It's like ascending Mount Zion and telling each other the vistas we see, the revelation we've received from the things we hear.

Yadonah — "What more could our King have done for us?" I read the account of our Master's death and resurrection, and I saw what an amazing thing it was when He was on the cross. How much love He must have had for us! The evil one must have thought he had won. Our Master went into death and then He resurrected. What a terrible surprise it must have been for the evil one. I am thankful for what our Master did for us.

We can comprehend to a degree what He went through physically on the cross. What He suffered on the cross didn't pay for our sins. Rom 6:23 — The wages of sin is death — not just *dying*, but *death*. He paid for our sins in death. The cross put Him to death. He spent three days and nights there. This is something we can't comprehend. We can barely comprehend dying on the cross, the agony He endured until He died on the cross. You could have nails driven through your hands and feet and be put on a cross and hang there and then you would know what dying is all about, but no one has come back in our day from death and can tell us about it.

Acts 2:24 — The agonies of death — that's what He saved us from. We don't know what it was like. Sin is a great and awesome violation. The wages of sin is not just *dying*, but death itself. Death is the place where your disembodied spirit and soul go.

In the end some people will bodily be cast into the lake of fire. They will have an immortal body. Rev 19:20 — They were cast alive into the lake of fire. They will be there for eternity. By the time of Rev 20:10 a thousand years have passed by. At this time Satan himself is cast into the lake of fire where the beast and the false prophet already were. The evil one has to take on a physical body. Our Father has to do it, as Eze 28 and Isa 14 say that you can see his presence.

It is very difficult to comprehend death. I am so thankful that we can be delivered from this. Others may have suffered physically in the same degree as the man Yahshua did before He died. Maybe the two others on the cross with Him suffered to the same degree. But what our Master suffered in death was a million times more than what He suffered before He died.

Acts 2:24 — The agonies of death... He didn't go into detail. We don't know what that agony is. Millions have suffered dying, but no one has come back from death. What everyone fears the most is not dying, but the unknown, not knowing where they are going. If you just die and cease to exist it's no big deal. A lot of people seem to think that is all that awaits them, because it doesn't deter their behavior.

Our Master suffered and died. He took our place in death. He didn't take our place on the cross. In order for someone to go to death he has to die. He doesn't have to go to the cross to die. The cross was the means by which our Master died. When we were baptized we were baptized into His death.

Lk 16:19-31 — The rich man didn't want his brothers to go there. Lazarus had hope. The rich man had no hope. The conscience either excuses or accuses people in death. Our conscience knows, even in death. The depth of understanding doesn't come until you're in death. "Why didn't I do this or that? Why didn't I let Lazarus in? He was a son of Abraham. I had my comfort in full." Dan 12:2 — We will experience that same kind of contempt for ourselves if we failed to love enough.

A few times I was disrespectful to my parents. It still bothers me so much. I still feel that contempt. "Why did I allow myself to dishonor my parents?" I am forgiven, but it still bothers me. That regret, that contempt you have for yourself, is what you would experience a thousand times over in death. We have to make use of every minute we have here in this life.

If you didn't have any regret for dishonoring your parents you are already over the waterfall. At least I had something in me to hate myself. You make up for it. You say,

“I’m sorry that I dishonored you, I slighted you.” Without that there is no trace of the Holy Spirit. He reproves you to make it right with your brother.

Rom 6:23 — The wages of sin is death. This goes for the world and for us. Our Master paid for our past sins and our future sins also — if we confess them. Jms 4:17 — If you don’t confess it, you will go to death. This is not necessarily eternal death, but you must pay for whatever sins are not under our Master’s blood. Only people who aren’t degraded, who have enough self-worth left, can pay for their sins.

Our Master had great worth. He took every sin in the world upon Himself and went to death. Death couldn’t hold Him and had to release Him. He was the atonement, the atoning sacrifice. Acts 2:24 — If you were to define the word *agony*, it probably would be about ten pages long. “The pangs of death...” In the Greek it’s pain, agony, turmoil. It’s everything that paid for all of our sins. Rom 6:23 — It doesn’t say the wages of sin is *dying*, but *death* — you have to die to get there.

I held my father’s hand when he died. He told me to get my heart right with God. As soon as all the breath came out of my father, he expired; his spirit and soul, his intellect (not the brain, that’s only a muscle), went to death. He is there now waiting for the judgment of the nations. It will be determined there whether he’s committed certain sins that can’t be forgiven. We are already saved from that. We know it by 1 Jn 3:14. You’ve given up your life to build up the Body.

All of us could go to the first death for believers. In that case we didn’t put our sins, our anxiety, on our Master. We knew the right thing to do but didn’t do it. We can’t hold grudges; we have to forget the past. That’s how we gain Messiah. Phil 3:9-15 — We have to press on. We have to take hold of what He’s taken hold of us for.

Jude 1:10; 2 Pet 2:12 — There are so many people in the community who are like brute beasts. They hear these words and don’t even know what I’m talking about. They don’t take it to heart. They don’t care. Evidently they have allowed the evil one to take over their faculties to that extent. It doesn’t stir them up. They don’t repent. They go to

celebration only to eat and dance. Jude 1:10-13,16,19 — They are grumblers, malcontent, barbaric in speech, flattering people to their own advantage. They are like brute beasts. They don't know what they are doing. They don't think eternally. It's in all men to think eternally.

I thought about eternity almost every day of my life. I didn't know how to get saved. I responded to the altar call and went to be saved. They asked if I believed in Jesus and I said that I did. They told me that I was saved already. I was supposed to be saved but I was afraid of death. Our Father had to reveal Himself to me. The Christian evangelists would scare the hell out of you, then you'd go down and receive Jesus. I must have gone down about 17 times to get saved. Our Father saw my heart.

Jude 1:20-24 — Keep yourself within the boundaries where our Father's love can reach and bless you, so that you can stand before Him without blemish (Col 1:21-23). He reconciled us through death. Col 1:23 is conditional. This is not talking about eternal life, this is talking about entry into the kingdom. In order to enter into the kingdom we are to be blameless, irreproachable. The gospel will be proclaimed to every creature. This hasn't happened yet. We will stand before Him blameless if we are not foolish virgins.

That's the condition. It's like the condition He made with Abraham and his offspring. Gen 17:1 — "Walk before Me blameless." It's conditional. It won't happen until people are doing it. Israel didn't do it. The kingdom was taken away from them and given to someone else. Then they didn't do it.

If no one does Col 1:23 our Master can't return. But if there is a majority doing it, then the kingdom comes. However all those who are not doing it won't enter. Not everyone in Israel kept the covenant and circumcised their children in faith. Gradually decline took over the whole nation and they were ousted from the land, disciplined. Finally the kingdom was taken away from them to be given to a nation that would produce the fruit of it (Mt 21:43). But then the First Church didn't continue in the faith. Individuals did, but not the Edah as a whole, and the lampstand was taken away.

Rev 3:4 — “You only have a few there in Sardis who do what Col 1:23 says.” There were only a few left. This was probably a pattern for the whole Edah. Those whose garments were not stained were able to be with our Master, but those few weren’t enough to be the holy nation. The majority of us must overcome. If we don’t overcome individually we’ll suffer loss of the kingdom. The First Edah suffered the corporate loss of the kingdom, but not necessarily the individual loss. Those few individual overcomers were ridiculed and scoffed at.

We have to do what no one ever has done, in order to do for the natural seed of Abraham what they can’t do for themselves (Acts 26:7). The sign of the covenant is circumcision — a pure heart that is sensitive to our Father, so we can carry out His will.

If you took a survey today, if you could judge properly as to who was wise and who was foolish, who honors his parents and who doesn’t... Now the Race hasn’t started yet, but if you took such a survey, how many would be found to be wise virgins? The parable says it’s five out of ten — *five*. Is that how it’s going to be? I don’t know. What does it mean? Half of us are wise and half of us are foolish? Is that how it will be?

Now how many can raise their hands? Who can say, “I’m a wise son. I honor my father and mother.” If you do that you won’t be ousted from the land. Don’t disrespect your parents. Let’s see the youth. How many hands go up? Don’t lie, our Father knows your heart. Would our Master say to you, “Well done, good and faithful servant,” or would He say, “No, you can’t be in My kingdom; you’ve disrespected your father.” If you stood before our Master now, would He say to you that you’ve honored your parents, loved them, prayed for them? Your conscience tells you whether you have a good heart, whether you can say that you honored your parents.

You can fool man, but you can’t fool God. Heb 4:12-13 — The word of God is like a double-edged sword. That is pretty clear.