

killing sin

1 Peter 4:1-6

PART TWO

Introduction

In order to put sin to death, you must immerse yourself in the death of Christ.

“that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death” (Philippians 3:10).

The death of sin in us.

“So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions” (Romans 6:11-12).

“I beseech you, seek to have your hearts set against sin, to hate it, to wound it, and to die to it daily. Do not be content unless you feel that it is leaving you and that the divine life is growing in you” (Leighton).

The importance of living with an awareness of death.

“O Lord, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days; let me know how fleeting I am!” (Psalm 39:4).

“What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes” (James 4:14).

“My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle and come to their end without hope” (Job 7:6).

“My days are swifter than a runner; they flee away... like an eagle swooping on the prey” (Job 9:25-26).

“Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths, and my lifetime is as nothing before you. Surely all mankind stands as a mere breath!” (Psalm 39:5).

“Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is” (Ephesians 5:15-17).

Memento mori – ‘Remember death’

“So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom” (Psalm 90:12).

“born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” (1 Peter 1:3).

“*Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh,*” to the point of death, “*arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin*” (1 Peter 4:1).

“If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations—” (Colossians 2:20).

“you died/ye be dead” (KJV)

“If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God” (Colossians 3:1-3).

Awareness of death is our point of connection, our place of safety.

The way to conquer sin and suffering in this life is to embrace the reality of death.

“Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will keep it” (Luke 17:33).

By acknowledging that the death of Christ in the flesh brakes the power of sin in our lives, together with the reality that we were present by faith in Him when He died, allows us to conquer all our sin.

“In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 1:6-8).

“When the reality of death fades to the background of our consciousness, other joy-stealing problems are quick to rise up and fill the void” (McCullough).

“let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God” (Hebrews 12:1-2).

“The time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry” (v3).

“The time that is past”