

Pastor Ron Case
4/12/26

“Death Derision”

“O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?” (1 Corinthians 15:55)

The Plight of the Hopeless

Genesis 3:22-23 – ²²“Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—” ²³therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken.”

Romans 5:12 – “Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned”

Help Has Arrived

John 11:1, 4, 11-15 – ¹“Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ⁴But when Jesus heard it he said, ‘This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.’ ¹¹After saying these things, he said to them, ‘Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him.’ ¹²The disciples said to him, ‘Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.’ ¹³Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, ‘Lazarus has died, ¹⁵and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.’”

John 11:21-26, 34-38, 41-44 – ²¹“Martha said to Jesus, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.’ ²³Jesus said to her, ‘Your brother will rise again.’ ²⁴Martha said to him, ‘I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.’ ²⁵Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶and

everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?’
³⁴And he said, ‘Where have you laid him?’ They said to him, ‘Lord, come and see.’³⁵Jesus wept. ³⁶So the Jews said, ‘See how he loved him!’³⁷But some of them said, ‘Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?’³⁸Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it.⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, ‘Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.’⁴³When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come out.’⁴⁴The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, ‘Unbind him, and let him go.’”

A New & Living Way

Hebrews 2:9, 15 – ⁹“But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. ¹⁵...and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.”

1 Thessalonians 4:13-14 – ¹³“But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.”

Crazy Confidence? – Departure Wish

Philippians 1:20-23 – ²⁰“As it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better.”

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)