

Sermon Quotes
October 7, 2007
Dan Walsh- Our Reluctance to Face Death

Hebrews 2:14-15 “Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself (Jesus) likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those **who through fear of death** were subject to lifelong slavery.”

“As human beings, we have a terminal disease called mortality. The current death rate is 100 percent. Unless Christ returns soon, we’re all going to die. We don’t like to think about death; yet, worldwide, 3 people die every second, 180 every minute, and nearly 11,000 every hour. If the Bible is right about what happens to us after death, it means that more than 250,000 people every day go either to Heaven or Hell.”

—Randy Alcorn

“The young do not want to think about the afterlife because it is too far off, and the old do not want to think about it because it is too near.”

—Harry Blamires

Deuteronomy 18:9-12 “When you come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominable practices of those nations. There shall not be found among you anyone... who practices divination or tells fortunes or interprets omens, or a sorcerer or a charmer or a medium or a wizard...for whoever does these things is an abomination to the LORD. And because of these abominations the LORD your God is driving them out before you.”

Isaiah 8:19 And when they say to you, “Inquire of the mediums and the necromancers (people who consult the dead) who chirp and mutter,” **should not a people inquire of their God?** Should they inquire of the dead on behalf of the living?

Romans 1:18-19 “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness **suppress the truth.** (19) For what can be known about God is plain to them, **because God has shown it to them.**”

A few verses later...

Romans 1:32 “Though they know God's decree (or Judgment) that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.”

1 John 4:17-18 “By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world...For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.”

"Nearly every Christian I have spoken with has some idea that eternity is an unending church service...We have settled on an image of the never-ending sing-along in the sky, one great hymn after another, forever and ever, amen. And our heart sinks. Forever and ever? That's it? That's the good news? And then we sigh and feel guilty that we are not more 'spiritual.' We lose heart, and we turn once more to the present to find what life we can."

—John Eldredge

"I'm intrigued by the way the unbelieving world portrays heaven. At one end of the spectrum is this view that heaven exists to gratify earthly lusts. At the other is a cynical suspicion that heaven will be unbearably monotonous. The classic caricature pictures heaven's inhabitants sitting on clouds and playing harps. I don't know if anyone really imagines heaven will be like that, but I have no doubt that many people think of heaven as a bland, boring place with nothing enjoyable to do. Some golfers think the game may lose its charm in heaven when everyone makes only holes in one."

—John MacArthur

"Picture a single breath escaping your mouth on a cold day and dissipating into the air. Such is the brevity of life here. The wise will consider what awaits us on the other side of this life that so quickly ends...I've spent a lot of time talking to people who've been diagnosed with terminal diseases. These people, and their loved ones, have a sudden and insatiable interest in the after life. Most people live unprepared for death. But those who are wise will go to a reliable source to investigate what's on the other side. And if they discover that the choices they make during their brief stay in this world will matter in the world to come, they'll want to adjust those choices accordingly."

—Randy Alcorn