



The thought of death is not a topic that many care to think about; but, nonetheless, it is a hard fact of reality.

I would like for us to look at the reality of death by approaching it in a different way. Lets look at death from the standpoint of life.

A gravestone represents the life of a person. It has their “name,” date of “birth”, “death”, and also the “sentiments” of loved ones.

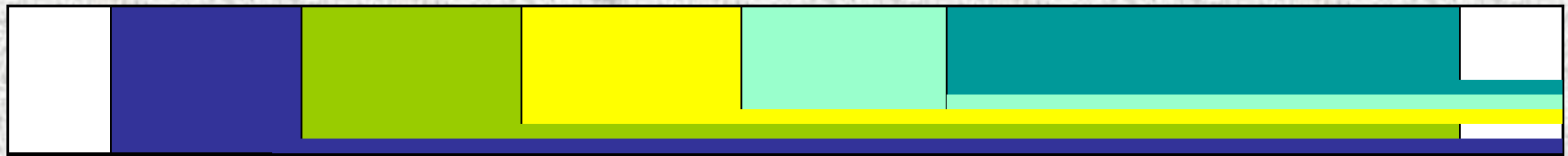
In our lesson, I want us to look at a certain part of the information found on a gravestone...

You were born!
____-____-____
And lived a life of
carefree innocence!

You had ____Children:
You never understood
your parents love until
you had your own!

During it all,
You lived, loved,
labored, laughed
through the good times
and through the bad!

You married:
You met Mr./Miss Right!
And it was all over!



You went to school!
You went K-12 and were
involved in many activities
and maybe went on to get
a degree!

You went to work!
You were able to buy
your first car, rent your
first apartment, and
cooked your first meal!

You retired!
Enjoying (holding
on) to the last few
years, months,
days!

____-____-____



The “**Dash of Life**” is a sobering reality of the person’s life. But, there is a much greater question to consider...

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before God.
(Rom. 9:11)
(Matt. 18:1-5)

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Romans 9:11 - (for the children **not yet being born, nor having done any good or evil**, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works but of Him who calls),

Matthew 18:1-5 - At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who then is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"

2 Then **Jesus called a little child to Him, set him in the midst of them,**

3 and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, **unless you are converted and become as little children**, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

4 "Therefore **whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.**

5 "Whoever receives one little child like this in My name receives Me.

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(Isaiah 59:1-2)
(James 1:13-14)
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Isaiah 59:1-2 - Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear.

2 But **your iniquities have separated you from your God**; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear.

James 1:13-14 - Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone.

14 But **each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.**

Romans 3:23 - for **all have sinned** and fall short of the glory of God,

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Where was God
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(Luke 15:13)
(Prov. 1:29-33)

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Luke 15:13 - "And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, **journeyed to a far country,** and there wasted his possessions with **prodigal living.**

Proverbs 1:29-33 - Because they hated knowledge
And **did not choose the fear of the LORD,**
30 They would have none of my counsel And despised
my every rebuke.
31 **Therefore they shall eat the fruit of their own way,**
And be filled to the full with their own fancies.
32 For the turning away of the simple will slay them,
And the complacency of fools will destroy them;
33 But whoever listens to me will dwell safely, And will
be secure, without fear of evil."

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Where did God fit in
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(Matt. 19:4-9)

(Eph. 5:22-29)

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Matthew 19:4-9 - And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,'

5 "and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'?

6 "So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."

7 They said to Him, "Why then did Moses command to give a certificate of divorce, and to put her away?"

8 He said to them, "Moses, because of the hardness of your hearts, permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so.

9 "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery."

Ephesians 5:21-29 - Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.

24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,

26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,

27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

28 So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself.

29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church.

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With that child, What
about all the promises
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(Psalm 127:3; Eph. 6:4)

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Psalm 127:3 - Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, The fruit of the womb is a reward.

Ephesians 6:1-4 - Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

2 "Honor your father and mother," which is the first commandment with promise:

3 "that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth."

4 And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

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As you experienced all
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(Acts 24:25; 26:28)

(Gal. 2:20)

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Acts 24:24-25 - And after some days, when **Felix** came with his wife Drusilla, who was Jewish, he sent for Paul and heard him concerning the faith in Christ.
25 Now as he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix was afraid and answered, "**Go away for now; when I have a convenient time I will call for you.**"

Acts 26:25-28 - "**King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets?** I know that you do believe."
28 Then Agrippa said to Paul, "**You almost persuade me to become a Christian.**"

Galatians 2:20 - "I have been crucified with Christ; **it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me;** and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

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In those final days
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(Matt. 13:15)

(II Tim. 4:7-8)

Matthew 13:15 - For the hearts of this people have grown dull. **Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed,** Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, So that I should heal them.'

II Timothy 4:7-8 - **I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.**

8 Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

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Your dash is not complete!

The question is, "*When will it be complete and are you ready?*"

- You do not know when that day will come, James 4:14.

James 4:14 - whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.



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The question is, "*When will it be complete and are you ready?*"

- You do not know when that day will come, James 4:14.
- You will be judged for your life, Hebrews 9:27.

Hebrews 9:27 - And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,



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The question is, "*When will it be complete and are you ready?*"

- **You do not know when that day will come, James 4:14.**
- **You will be judged for your life, Hebrews 9:27.**
- **You'll receive just judgment, II Corinthians 5:10.**

II Corinthians 5:10 - For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

c.f. John 5:30



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- You do not know when that day will come, James 4:14.
- You will be judged for your life, Hebrews 9:27.
- You'll receive just judgment, II Corinthians 5:10.
- You'll receive your eternal destiny, Matthew 25:31-34,41.

Matthew 25:31-34; 41 - "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.

32 "All the nations will be gathered before Him, and **He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats.**

33 "And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.

34 "Then the King will say to those on His right hand, **'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:**

41 "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, **'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:**

THE "DASH" OF LIFE...

YOUR NAME

In Service

Obey The Gospel:

Believe, John 8:24

Repent, Luke 13:3

Confess, Matthew 10:32

Baptized, Mark 16:16

WHAT WILL YOURS SAY?