



MESSAGE: CHARLIE MENG

MUSIC: BEN WONG

DATE: AUGUST 8, 2021

A Healthy View of Death
2 Timothy 4:6-8

Paul acknowledges his present condition: sacrificial death is imminent.

2 Tim. 4:6 *For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come.*

1. **Recognize that life on this earth is not permanent (and that's a good thing!).**

Psalm 103:14 *For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust. 15 As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field, 16 for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more.*

2. **Embrace the sacrificial life the gospel demands.**

Phil. 2:17 *Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. 18 Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.*

3. **View death as the catalyst to fuller life.**

Phil. 1:21 *For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.*

Paul evaluates his past: loyal and successful ministry.

2 Tim. 4:7 *I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.*

1. **Live life in a worthy manner - "fight the good fight."**
2. **Endure suffering to the end - "finish the race."**
3. **Remain loyal to Christ and to his message - "keep the faith."**

Paul anticipates his future: merited reward from the Savior.

2 Tim. 4:8 Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

1. Understand that we will one day stand before the Savior.

2 Tim. 4:1 I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom:

2. Jesus will reward his people in conjunction with their faithfulness.

Matthew 25:14-30

3. Genuine love or longing for Jesus' appearing demands obedience.

John 14:23 Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. **24** Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

Phil. 1:9 And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, **10** so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, **11** filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

Reflection/Discussion/Application

1. What is your general attitude towards death? Does this attitude inform the way you live life?
2. Take time to evaluate your life up to this point. Can you say similar things to what Paul says about his life in verse 7?
3. Does the thought of standing before the Savior excite you? How does the possibility of being rewarded by him influence your life today?
4. Identify one area to focus on this week that will help you nurture you love for Jesus - and his appearing.

SONGS

"Your Love Never Fails" - Anthony Skinner, Chris McClarney

"Build My Life" - Brett Younker, Karl Martin, Kirby Kable, Pat Barrett, and Matt Redman

"Way Maker" - Osinachi Kalu Okoro Egbu

"No One Beside" - Chris Brown, Steven Furtick, and Tiffany Hammer

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$35,868.90

WEEKLY NEED: \$35,272.00

YTD GIVING: \$978,232.28

YTD GENERAL NEED: \$1,093,432.00