

Funeral For An Elderly Christian

- I. Out of respect for _____ and love for her family we have gathered here today in this house of mourning.
 - A. We are not here today to eulogize her—that sermon was preached during her long and godly life.
 - B. She lived well past the “three-score and ten” that Moses spoke of in Psalms 90—she spent over 70 years laboring in the Lord’s vineyard.
 - C. Though she was not a preacher, she did preach many sermons by her dedication and simple life of service to others.
- II. “Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints” (Ps. 116:15).
 - A. That which is so dark and heart-rending to us, in this case, is precious in God’s sight—one of His children has gone home.
 - B. A saint is not one who has inherent goodness or moral perfection—it is simply one who has been separated from sin by the gospel and cleansed in the precious blood of Christ.
 - C. When a faithful child of God dies, they are released from the pain, uncertainty and inequities of this life.
- III. “For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain” (Phil. 1:21).
 - A. Paul cherished this sentiment because he viewed death as a doorway to gaining more of Christ.
 - B. At the end of his life he wrote to Timothy (2 Tim. 4:6–8).
 - C. In every instance, when a faithful child of God departs this life for the next, they have a great gain.
- IV. “Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, Write: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. Yes, says the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them.” (Rev. 14:13).
 - A. We often speak of “times side of eternity”—it would be far better if we lived more in view with God’s side of eternity.
 - B. When His disciples were concerned, Jesus said... (John 14:1–3).
- V. My remarks today are directed to the grandchildren and the great-grandchildren of _____.
 - A. Speak of the influence this Christian had on the lives of her family.
 - B. I could not improve on her advice, so let me simply say “Amen.”
- VI. Though death is certain for each of us, we can triumph over it in Christ.
 - A. Living for God makes both life and death meaningful.
 - B. To the righteous, death is a doorway leading to a crown (2 Cor. 5:1–7).

“Grant, O Lord, that we may live in thy fear,
die in thy favor, rest in thy peace,
rise in thy power, reign in thy glory,
for Thine own beloved Son’s sake,
Jesus Christ our Lord.”

(William Laud)