

Sandra McLaughlin.

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





Psalm 23

1. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

**2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
he leadeth me beside the still waters.**

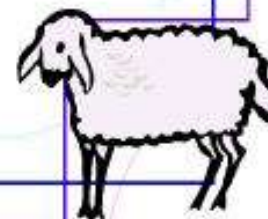
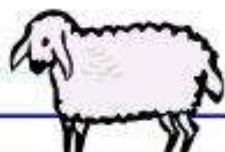
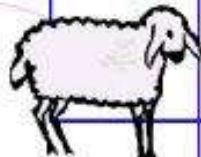
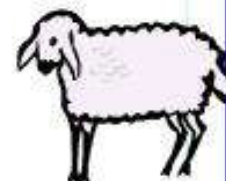
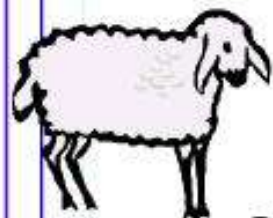
**3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of
righteousness for his name's sake.**

**4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of
death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.**

**5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine
enemies: thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.**

**6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house
of the Lord for ever.**

KJV



The Lord knows us intimately.

David was known by God in his mother's womb.

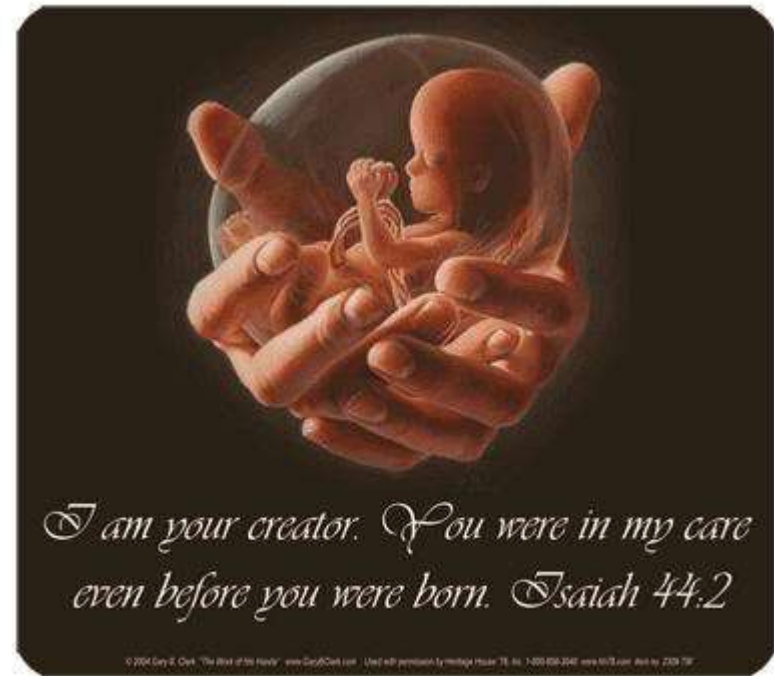
Psalm 139:13-18.

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place,

when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. How precious to me are your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand.



The Lord knows us intimately.

Isaiah 44:1-2.

But now listen, Jacob, my servant, Israel, whom I have chosen. This is what the Lord says he who made you, who formed you in the womb, and who will help you: Do not be afraid, Jacob, my servant, Jeshurun, whom I have chosen.

Jeremiah 1:4-5.

The word of the Lord came to me, saying, Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations



The Lord knows us intimately.

Luke 12:4-9.

I tell you, my friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body and after that can do no more. But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear him who, after your body has been killed, has authority to throw you into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him. Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. I tell you, whoever publicly acknowledges me before others, the Son of Man will also acknowledge before the angels of God. But whoever disowns me before others will be disowned before the angels of God.



We are all faced with death.

None of us can say that we will be alive tomorrow.

James 4:13-16.

Now listen, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money. Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that. As it is, you boast in your arrogant schemes. All such boasting is evil.

Hebrews 9:27.

And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.

Your appointment with death.

We need to make the decision to acknowledge Christ as Lord, not just with our mouth, but with our lives.

There are many who profess to know Christ and may even be involved in Church/Christian activity, but they don't have a personal relationship with Jesus, they are just religious.

Isaiah 29:13.

The Lord says: These people come near to me with their mouth and honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is based on merely human rules they have been taught.



What will you say at your appointment?

There are prophets, miracle workers and those who have cast out demons will not all go to heaven

Matthew 7: 21-23.

Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles? Then I will tell them plainly, I never knew you

Away from me you evildoers!

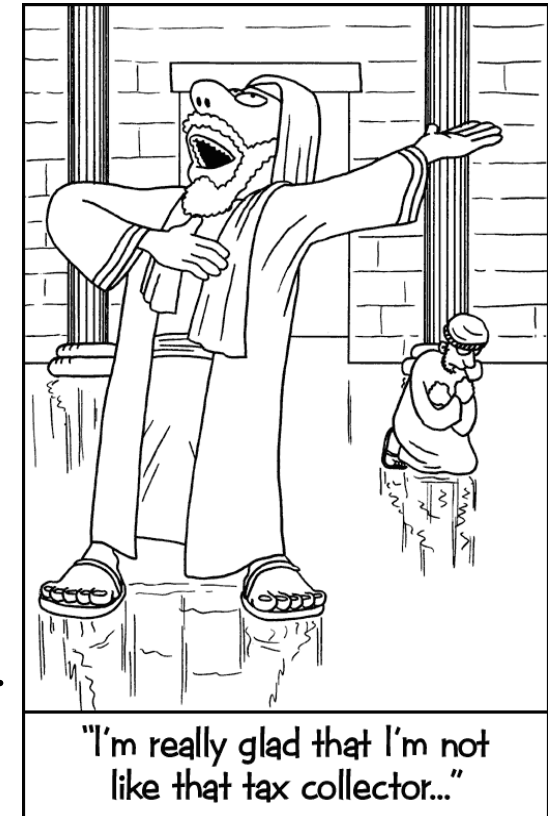
What will you say at your appointment?

1. Will you say “I’ve lived a good life”? Luke 18:9-14.

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: God, I thank you that I am not like other people robbers, evildoers, adulterers or even like this tax collector.

I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get. But the tax collector stood at a distance.

He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, God, have mercy on me, a sinner. I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.



What will you say at your appointment?

2. Will you say “I never knew”?

Romans 1:18-20.

The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may

be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities his eternal power and divine nature have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.



What will you say at your appointment?

3. Will you say “I have my own religion”?

Galatians 2:21.

*I do not set aside the grace of God,
for if righteousness could be gained
through the law, Christ died for nothing!*

If we could be righteous through any
other religion, Jesus died for nothing.

❖ **We do not reach Christ through
righteousness, we reach
righteousness through Christ!**

John 14:6.

*Jesus answered, I am the way and the truth and the life. No one
comes to the Father except through me.*



What will you say at your appointment?

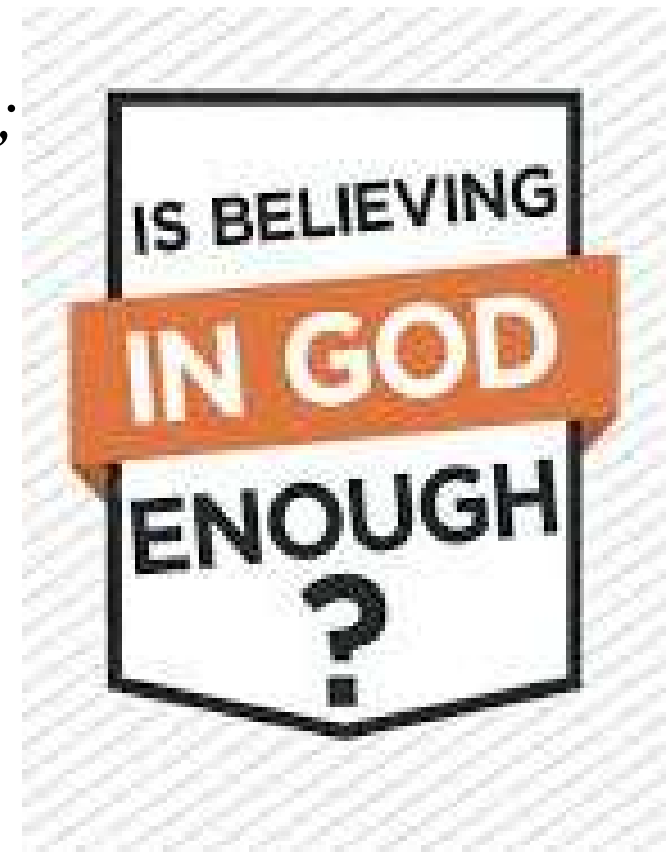
4. Will you say “I believed in God”?

James 2:18-20.

*But someone will say, You have faith;
I have deeds. Show me your faith
without deeds, and I will show you
my faith by my deeds.*

*You believe that there is one God.
Good! Even the demons believe
that and shudder.*

*You foolish person, do you want
evidence that faith without deeds is useless*



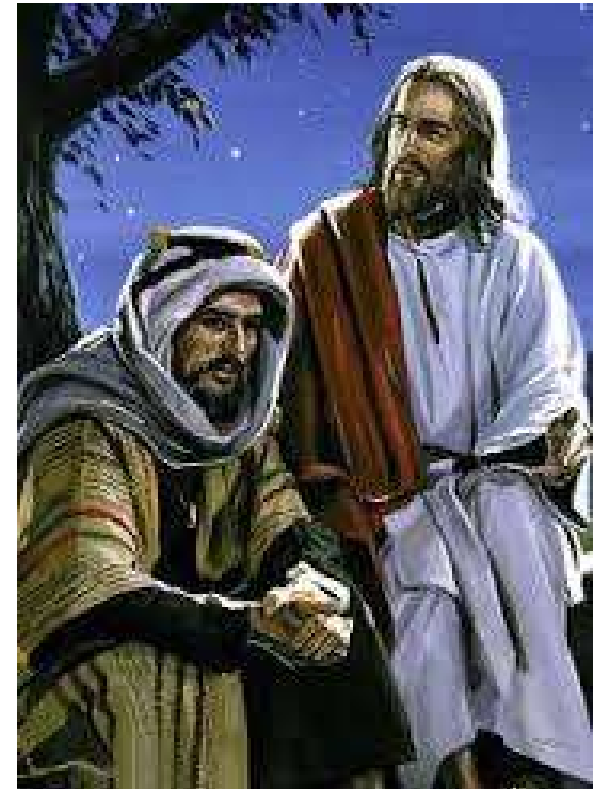
Aren't we all “Children of God?”

- ❑ We are not automatically children of God, it is up to us to make the decision and to turn from our sin to God.

John 3:1-5.

There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.

This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do except God is with him.” Jesus answered and said to him, Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God.



Nicodemus said to Him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the Kingdom of God.

Aren't we all “Children of God?”

❑ We are not automatically children of God, we have to be Born into God's family.

John 8:44.

Jesus said of the Pharisees... “*You are of your Father the Devil*”

2 Corinthians 6:17,18.

Come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you and I will be a Father to you and you will be my sons and daughters says the Lord Almighty.



Paul did not fear death.

Philippians 1:20-26.

I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labour for me.

Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far.



Christians should not be afraid of death.

Hebrews 4:14-15.

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death that is, the devil and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

In fact the Christian walk starts with a burial.

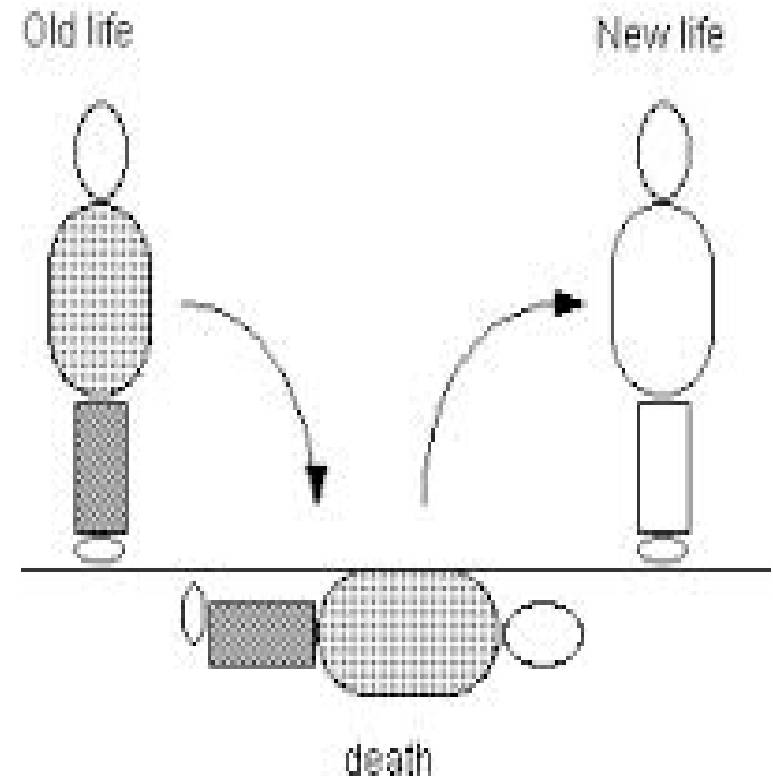
Colossians 2:12.

Having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

Galatians 2:20.

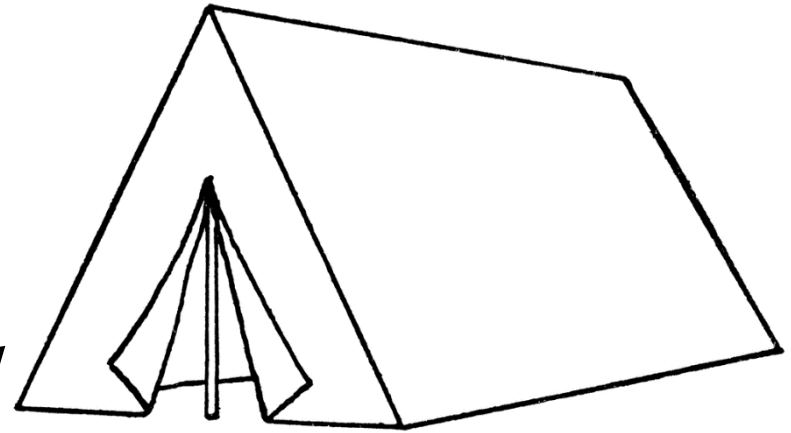
I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.

The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.



2 Corinthians 5:1-9.

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, because



when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.

Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

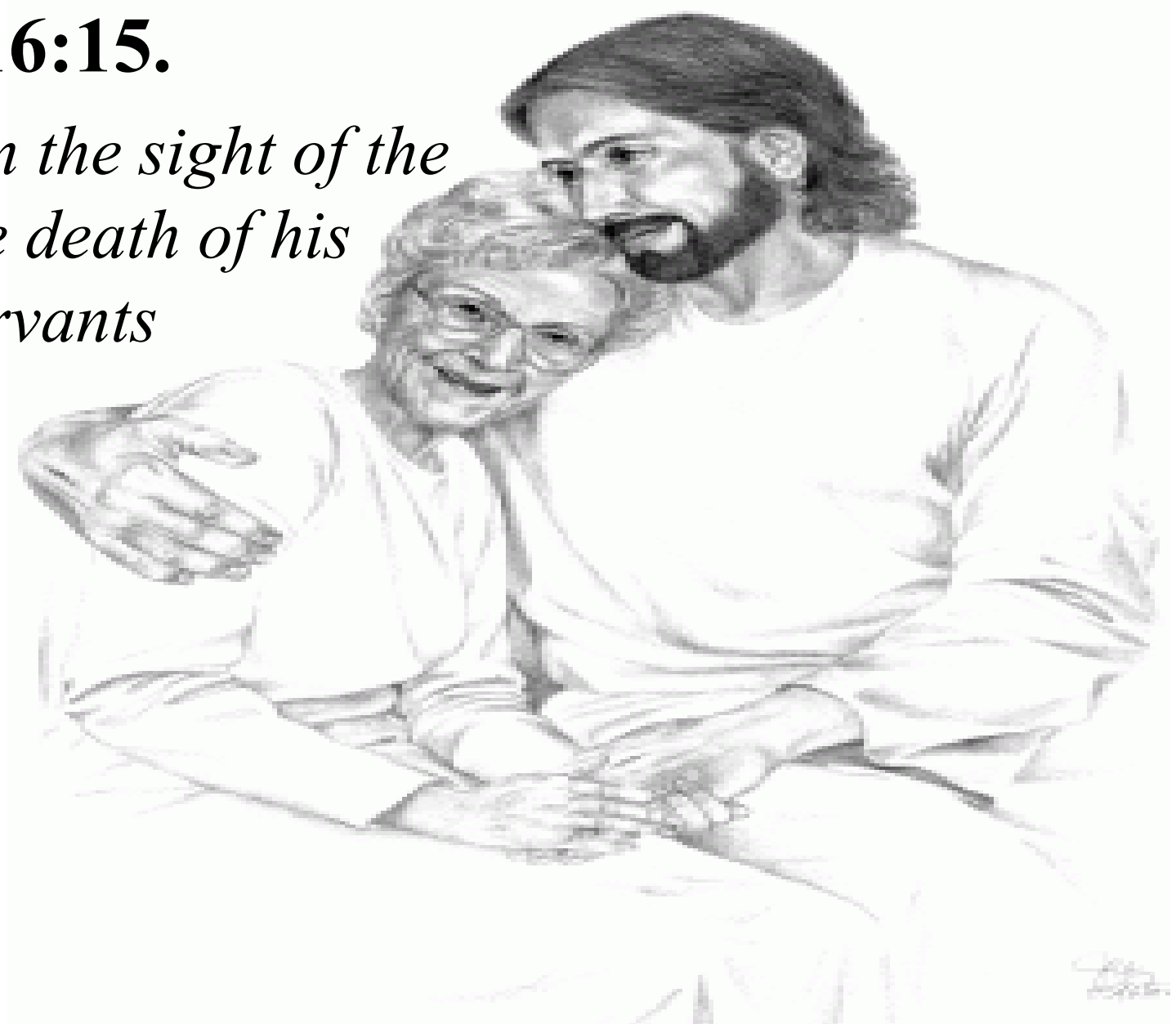
Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. For we live by faith, not by sight.

We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

Sandra.

Psalm 116:15.

*Precious in the sight of the
Lord is the death of his
faithful servants*



Death.

Why did Jesus weep at the tomb of Lazarus?

I have heard different ministers speak on this passage and I know we can extract different truths from the same passage, but my persuasion is that Jesus wept not because Lazarus died (He was going to raise him to life and had purposely delayed coming until he had been dead for 3 days)

I believe that Jesus wept because they did not see beyond the grave.

Although we grieve at the death of a child of God, we do not grieve like the rest of men who have no hope.

Death for the child of God is rest, falling asleep in Jesus.



1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.

Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope.

For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.



Isaiah 57:1-2.

*The righteous perish,
and no one takes it to heart;
the devout are taken away,
and no one understands
that the righteous are taken
away to be spared from evil.
Those who walk uprightly
enter into peace;
they find rest as they lie in death.*



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