



There are three kinds of death: spiritual death, temporal death, and eternal death. All involve separation. **Spiritual death** is the separation of the soul from God and separation from all the spiritual blessings God provides. By nature, all humans begin life spiritually dead. **Temporal death** is the separation of the soul from the body and separation from all the blessings of life here on earth. **Eternal death** is separation from the presence of God and separation from the joys of heaven forever in hell.

- Luther's Catechism

WHAT IS DEATH?



John 4:24
God is _____

Genesis 2:7
Humans are made of _____

2 Corinthians 5:1
Our bodies are essentially _____

Hebrews 9:7
We are appointed to _____

Genesis 3:19
Our bodies will return to _____

Ecclesiastes 12:7
Our souls IMMEDIATELY return to

WHAT DEATH IS NOT

Using the passages above, or any other passages you may know of, to refute the following ideas about death:

The dead roam the earth as ghosts --

The dead are reborn as people or animals --

The dead can help the living --

The living can help the dead get into heaven --

AGREE OR DISAGREE

The death of a Christian is an occasion for celebration.

AGREE OR DISAGREE

It is sinful to be sad or cry or mourn the death of a Christian.

Biblical Burials

While the bible doesn't mention funeral services, per se, there is quite a bit of ink spilled about death and burial:

Deuteronomy 34:8

The Israelites grieved for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days, until the time of weeping and mourning was over.

Isaiah 61:2b-3

to comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve in Zion—to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.

Genesis 37:29

When Reuben returned to the cistern and saw that Joseph was not there, he tore his clothes.

John 11:38-39

Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. "Take away the stone," he said. "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."

John 19:39-40

He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds.[e] 40 Taking Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs.

Jeremiah 26:23

They brought Uriah out of Egypt and took him to King Jehoiakim, who had him struck down with a sword and his body thrown into the burial place of the common people.

Matthew 26:12

When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial.

Genesis 50:2-3, 25-26

Then Joseph directed the physicians in his service to embalm his father Israel. So the physicians embalmed him, taking a full forty days, for that was the time required for embalming. And the Egyptians mourned for him seventy days...And Joseph made the Israelites swear an oath and said, "God will surely come to your aid, and then you must carry my bones up from this place." So Joseph died at the age of a hundred and ten. And after they embalmed him, he was placed in a coffin in Egypt.

Joshua 24:32

And Joseph's bones, which the Israelites had brought up from Egypt, were buried at Shechem in the tract of land that Jacob bought for a hundred pieces of silver from the sons of Hamor, the father of Shechem. This became the inheritance of Joseph's descendants.



Courtney Husby
Manager, Funeral Director
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CARING FOR THE BODY

What happens between death and burial?

Come up with at least 3 reasons why your body ought to be cared for, both before and after death:

Other than at the funeral, have you ever spent time in the presence of a loved one who recently passed? Did you hold their hand? Kiss them? Care for them in any way?

Who ya gonna call?

What does a Funeral Director do?

OPTIONS, OPTIONS, OPTIONS

--Embalming/full traditional
(if they're going to be shown to the public, they MUST be embalmed)

--Closed casket/earth burial
(green=no casket/limited but available in this area)

--Viewing ending in cremation

--Cremation memorial

--Direct cremation/no services

AGREE OR DISAGREE

Cremation is against our religion.

Why do you think that embalming was invented? Why is still popular today?

List at least 3 reasons why people might be uncomfortable with cremation:



Words of Advice from a Funeral Director:

TALK TO YOUR FAMILY ABOUT YOUR WISHES

Who is the funeral/memorial service for?

Even outside of religious reasons--why are funerals beneficial?

-Closure

- Shock
- Denial
- Grief
- Anger
- Depression
- Resolution

-Recognize Characteristics to Emulate

-



Venue

Readings

Hymns

Sermon

Ceremonia

Paschal Candle
Pall