

Worse Than Death

by Bill Crews

Death awaits every living person (Hebrews 9:27), and we know it (Ecclesiastes 9:5). Many fear it, although, because of Christ's resurrection, there is no need to (Hebrews 2:14-15). We usually put it out of mind as an unpleasant subject. We often dismiss it as if it were far removed from us. But it is always at hand because it can happen to anyone at any time. All who die do not die of old age, bodies worn out. Some are very young. Some are taken by accidents or diseases. Some are victims who die at the hands of others. But however and whenever it comes, either to us or to those near and dear to us, it has a way of getting our attention. Having said all of that, I now want to say this: THERE ARE MANY THINGS THAT ARE WORSE THAN DEATH. To name a few:

To live in sin, apart from God, spiritually dead, is worse than death.

To reject the gospel when you are given opportunity to be saved by it is worse than death.

To marry someone you do not love or who does not love you, with whom you will never be compatible or happy, is worse than death. (But this does not change the fact that marriage is for life.)

A divorce is worse than death. Only God can tell us all of the consequences, in time and eternity, that will follow a divorce -- for each of the two parties, their children and their children's children and any others whose lives their influence touches.

To forsake the "assembling of yourselves together" (Hebrews 10:25), to quit attending Bible classes and worship assemblies is worse than death.

To lose your faith in God, Christ, the Holy Spirit and the holy scriptures is worse than death.

To deliberately do anything wrong, to deceive, to lie, to steal, to hate someone, to covet, to lust, to commit adultery or fornication, etc., or to deliberately choose not to do right is worse than death.

All of these things are true because sin is worse than death. It is not a sin to die, and it is not dying that condemns anyone.

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