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...the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel. Mark 1:15

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Free Grace Baptist Church

Preaching the Once-Revered Gospel of the
Sovereign Grace of God

A Calvinistic Baptist Church

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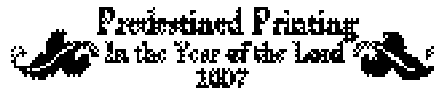
- Bible Study 10am
- Worship 11am

We meet on Wednesday nights for:

- Bible Study / Prayer 7pm

Our meetings take place at the:
SYAR Conference Room
1558 Starr Drive, Yuba City

Tract #6



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Instruction from Death

Events in life often influence what we do. For example, after my mother-in-law died suddenly I comforted my wife and then thought about how this event might instruct my congregation concerning death. As this is a topic that affects everyone at some point in life, I thought I would teach on a little known truth-"A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth." How can the day of one's death be better than the day of one's birth? Give me a moment or two to open the Word of God so that you may receive instruction from death.

The truth about death that I mentioned above comes from the seventh chapter of the book of Ecclesiastes. Have you ever considered that one's death may do

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more good than one's birth? How can that be? Consider in the first place Ecclesiastes 7:1a "A good name is better than precious ointment." A "good name" will last longer and do more good than a precious container of perfume. Consider Mary, the sister of Martha, in Matthew 26:7-13. She poured an alabaster box of very precious ointment on the Lord, and He explains, "...she did it for my burial." That ointment has long since evaporated, but our Lord honors Mary's good name by stating, "Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached in the whole world, there shall also this, that this woman hath done, be told for a memorial of her."

The writer of Ecclesiastes then states another contrast in verse 1b, "...and the day of death than the day of one's birth." A similar contrast is found in verse 2a and then

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The writer of Ecclesiastes then states another contrast in verse 1b, "...and the day of death than the day of one's birth." A similar contrast is found in verse 2a and then

an explanation in verse 2b: "It is better to go to the house of mourning, than to go to the house of feasting: for that is the end of all men; and the living will lay it to his heart." The attitude of most concerning death is to avoid the subject altogether. Some will deal with the death of a loved one by partying in order to erase the sorrow, and yet we are instructed that it is better to go to a funeral than to go to a party. Why? At such times it is better to contemplate the state of your own soul than to waste the opportunity on frivolity. Death brings us face to face with future reality- we are all going to die. There is no better time to consider one's eternal state than at a funeral. It is at such times that the "living will lay it to his heart." It is at such times that one may ask "Where will I go when I die?"

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"...it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment..." What sentence will be passed upon you on the Day of Judgment? Will the blood of Christ redeem you from the penalty of sin or will your sin condemn your soul for all eternity? Do you consider these things? Have you ever considered these things? Is it only upon hearing about the death of a loved one or someone else that brings to mind eternal issues? That is why the day of one's death is better than the day of one's birth. That is why it is better to go to the house of mourning than to go to the house of feasting, for that is the end of all men and the living will lay it to his heart. Are you laying these things to heart?

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