**Blessed Are Those Who Die In The Lord**

**By**

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**Revelation 14:13—“And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors and their works do follow them.”**

**Chapter 14 is designed to encourage, to strengthen, and to console. In times of severe trials and intense persecution God’s people desperately needed a message of encouragement.**

**Some of the early Christians trials: Imprisonment, death by crucifixion, lions den, stoning, burned alive, disembodied, gutted and left for animals to eat them, pulled apart by animals or carts, and more.**

**Some encouragements for Christians in Chapter 14:**

1. **The Lamb standing on Mount Zion**
2. **The giving of the vision of the angel with eternal good tidings going forth to get the divine message to all men.**
3. **The announcing of the fall of Babylon**
4. **The message of God’s wrath upon the enemies of His people.**
5. **The relating of the Sacred Message from Heaven relating the blessedness of certain dead.**
6. **Giving the vivid picture of the final overthrow of the enemies of the Church**

**The review of Verse 13:**

1. **John says that he heard a voice from heaven—This is a voice of one who had the right to speak, one, which had authority to speak, and who had an urgency to speak.**
2. **The voice said to WRITE: The voice proceeded to tell John the message he was to write or record**
3. **The MESSAGE written: Of course the message starts out with the word Blessed which we know means (happy, fortunate, favored—it involves divine favor).**
4. **This message is not a wish with regard to a coming condition, or a description of a present condition, but is rather a judgment pronounced.**
5. **The VOICE identifies those who are blessed: Those under consideration are the dead, but not all of the dead. Those that are the blessed dead are those who die in the Lord.**
6. **Those who die in the Lord will rest from their works**
7. **Those who die in the Lord their works will follow them.**

**Acts 21:13-Paul states—“Then Paul answered, What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? For I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.”**

**Romans 5:6-8—“For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. (7) For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. (8) But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”**

**Revelation 2:10 To the Church at Smyrna Christ says, “Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer; behold the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.”**

**We are to be faithful even to the degree or extent of dying for the cause of Christ.**

**What does “in the Lord” mean?**

**The phrase carries with it this connotation:**

1. **All who die in the faith loyal to the Lord**
2. **Expressing a living connection with him (vs12) “they that keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.”**
3. **In the faith and obedience of Christ**
4. **Those that come to the end still one with Christ, still faithful, still inseparable from the Lord**
5. **In fellowship with and trusting in the Lord**

**What is the significance of “from henceforth”**

1. **It relates from that time forward**
2. **Were the ones who died faithful previously to this announcement blessed? Probably!**
3. **During Bible times many Christians suffered violent deaths, and even today that happens.**

**What is the significance of “Yea, saith the Spirit”?**

1. **First this is probably the Spirit of the Lord speaking. Some say that it may be that the Lord is adding to this verse, that maybe the voice is not the Lord.**
2. **Those that die in the Lord will “rest from their labors” their toils, criticism, persecution, opposition, and sometimes death.**
3. **Their works will follow them. Just because they die does not mean that their works that they have performed on this earth will stop producing fruit.**

**Points to Ponder:**

1. **In times of opposition to the Lord’s Church, our God was concerned about His people so much he wanted them to know that he had a special concern and place for them if they remained faithful. God doesn’t want his people to be discouraged.**
2. **The Christians life is a life of labor. We are called to workers in the vineyard.**
3. **A Christian is a person completely devoted to the Lord. He loves the Lord, follows the Lord, preaches and teaches what the Lord would have us to teach, devoted to point of even giving his life for the Lord if need be.**
4. **Death in the Lord brings forth rest.**
5. **The powers of the world may destroy our buildings, and kill Christians around the world but it will never destroy the Church that our God has created.**

**Matthew 11:29—“Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.”**

**Matthew 16:18—“And I say also unto thee, That thou are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”**