

# **Epidemic**

## *Fear of Death*

**Hebrews 9:27** And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, (NKJV)

**1. We don't like pain**

**2. We love our family**

**3. People don't know what lies after death**

### **1. God views death as an enemy**

**Romans 5:12** When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned. (NLT)

**1 Corinthians 15:24–26** Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. <sup>25</sup> For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup> The last enemy to be destroyed is death. (NIV)

### **2. God does not view death as final**

**1 Corinthians 15:17–22** And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless and you are still guilty of your sins. <sup>18</sup> In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost! <sup>19</sup> And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world. <sup>20</sup> But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the first of a great harvest of all who have died. <sup>21</sup> So you see, just as death came into the world through a man, now the resurrection from the dead has begun through another man. <sup>22</sup> Just as everyone dies because we all belong to Adam, everyone who belongs to Christ will be given new life. (NLT)

**1 Corinthians 15:54–57** Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die, this Scripture will be fulfilled: "Death is swallowed up in victory. <sup>55</sup> O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" <sup>56</sup> For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power. <sup>57</sup> But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ. (NLT)

**1. Death has lost its sting**

**2. Death has lost the war**

**Hebrews 2:14-15** Because God's children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death. <sup>15</sup> Only in this way could he set free all who have lived their lives as slaves to the fear of dying. (NLT)

### **3. God views death as a graduation**

**Philippians 1:21–23** For to me, living means living for Christ, and dying is even better. <sup>22</sup> But if I live, I can do more fruitful work for Christ. So I really don't know which is better. <sup>23</sup> I'm torn between two desires: I long to go and be with Christ, which would be far better for me. (NLT)

**2 Corinthians 5:8** We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. (NIV)