To sit down and drink coffee in the kitchen and discuss death is NOT the desire of anyone. We do not embrace death or dying.

But I can tell you today that your LIFE will have added MEANING and HOPE by talking about death now.

There are 3 GOOD reasons for death, and I will share them with you now. INTRO 4

When we examine the most dreaded subject on earth, that is death, we find there are 3 positive, purpose filled reasons for death as described in the Bible.

Yes, you heard me right. There are 3 good, purpose-driven reasons for Death.

The 1st reason for death is to carry out God's justice.

The Apostle Paul told the Romans a very clear message concerning sin. In Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, ...

But this was nothing new. Death has been tied directly to sin since the beginning in Genesis 3. When Eve was tempted by Satan, she said, "but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat from it or touch it, or <u>YOU WILL DIE</u>."

God had made it very clear that eating from that particular tree WAS DEADLY. But after the serpent lied to her, she believed him and ate the fruit. Then she gave it to Adam and he knowingly ate of it. Knowing that such action was DEADLY, THEY DID NOT OBEY GOD, ANYWAY. That is what sin is.

145R Later, God confronted both of them and told Adam in Genesis 3:19 "By the sweat of your face You will eat bread, Till YOU RETURN TO THE GROUND, Because from it you were taken; FOR YOU ARE DUST, AND TO DUST YOU SHALL RETURN."

145L The same concept is given by Ezekiel Ezekiel 18.20 The PERSON WHO SINS WILL DIE. The son will not bear the punishment for the father's iniquity, nor will the father bear the punishment for the son's iniquity;...

For God to be merciful, faithful, truthful, and just, he MUST carry out what he has said. Death is His sentence for sin. If he does not inflict the right and proper penalty, death, then he is not God.

So, the first purpose of death is to carry out God's justice.

A second POSTIVE reason for death is so that Jesus could PROVE HE IS GOD'S SON.

In John 11 is a traumatic event that only God's son could orchestrate.

Early in the chapter, Jesus learned that his good friend Lazarus, the brother of Mary and Martha, was extremely sick. Jesus knew Lazarus would die. 145R But in verse 4 Jesus tells us of the purpose for Lazarus' death. He said "But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the GLORY OF GOD, so that the SON OF GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED THROUGH IT."

Jesus told the apostles that the illness of Lazarus would be something that would GLORIFY HIMSELF, PROVING that is the Son of God.

145R In verse 11 Jesus says that Lazarus has fallen asleep but I'm going to go wake him up. It appears the disciples did not understand it correctly so in verse 14 he says, "Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died,"

But Jesus did not rush to be with Lazarus. He waited two days before he started the two-day trip to where Lazarus was in Bethany.

When Jesus arrived, Lazarus had been dead 4 days. So, Jesus, Mary, Martha, and others when to the tomb Some bystanders beginning to talk among themselves.

saying, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have KEPT THIS MAN FROM DYING?"

At the tomb, Jesus told those present to remove the stone.

But Martha reminded Jesus, ""Lord, by this time there will be a STENCH, for he has been DEAD FOUR DAYS."

After saying a prayer to God, Jesus told Lazarus with a load voice to come from the tomb. John 11:44 says, "The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Here is the point: Jesus used the death of Lazarus to prompt belief in people that HE IS GOD'S SON. He did it by showing His tremendous POWER OVER DEATH.

A third reason for death is to give everyone an opportunity at eternal life. Jesus's death atoned for men's sin. It appeased God's Wrath against ANYONE who DISOBEYS.

Listen to what Jesus said at the last supper. "And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; (28) FOR THIS IS MY BLOOD OF THE COVENANT, WHICH IS POURED OUT FOR MANY FOR FORGIVENESS OF SINS.

He also said in Mark 10:45 "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a RANSOM FOR MANY."

Jesus and his father had planned for Jesus to die since the beginning of the world. This plan was carried out when Jesus DIED on the cross. His DEATH cleared the way for man to be OFFERED FORGIVENESS of sins. And here is a bonus, a 4th reason for death. Jesus' bloody death put into effect the New Testament, that New Covenant between God and man.

If you believe that Jesus Christ truly is God's son you will obey Jesus because of it. There is NO REASON for you to DIE ETERNALLY, that is, be separated from God eternally.

- Your belief will cause you to confess Jesus' name before men
- Your belief will cause you to change your life, or as Jesus said, repent.
- Your belief will cause you to submit to baptism to have your sins, that thing that causes death, to be forgiven.
- Even the Apostle Paul was told in Acts 22:16. 'Now why do you delay? Get up and be baptized, and WASH AWAY YOUR SINS, calling on His name.'

145R Those three reason of death are.

To allow God to carry out his Justice

To prove that Jesus is God's son

To allow Jesus to atone for your sins and offer You eternal life.

And the bonus reason, to put the New Testament into effect.

If we can help you here at Timeless talk with more information, or prayers, please visit us at Timeless talks. Net. There you can use the contact page or the prayer request page.

We thank you for your time and wishing you the very best.

Until we can visit again, goodbye for now.