



## Beyond the Sermon

A Sermon Application Guide

Title: Death is Not the End: Prepare for Eternity

This guide is designed to offer a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print this guide to study on your own, or use it in a group and experience transformation together.

### Prayer

*"Heavenly Father, we thank You for the gift of eternal life through Your Son, Jesus Christ. We acknowledge that our lives are but a passing moment in light of eternity, and we ask for the wisdom and strength to live each day with the awareness of our eternal destination. Open our hearts to Your truth, and may we never take lightly the gift of salvation that You have freely offered. Help us to align our lives with Your Kingdom, to walk in righteousness, and to be ready for the day we stand before You. May Your mercy lead us and others to repentance, and may Your love draw us ever closer to You. In Jesus' name, Amen."*

### Message Theme

The Reality of the Afterlife - focuses on the eternal nature of human existence, the importance of being spiritually prepared for life after death, and the finality of one's state at the point of death.

### Key Concepts/Truths

Life Beyond Death: Our current life is temporary and that there is an eternal kingdom that awaits us after death. As believers, we are to see ourselves as pilgrims just passing through this world. Have an eternal perspective and focus on the things of God rather than getting entangled in worldly affairs. While earthly things may rise and fall, God's Kingdom is everlasting and constantly increasing.

Human Nature and the Trichotomy of Man: We are made up of three parts: spirit, soul, and body. Our spirit is the true essence of who we are, and it's connected to God's spiritual realm. While our body may die, our spirit lives on eternally.

**Key Verses:** 1 Thessalonians 5:23 • Hebrews 9:27 • Luke 16:19-31 • Philippians 1:23 • 2 Corinthians 5:8 • Hebrews 4:12 • Ecclesiastes 7:2 • John 14:6 • Revelation 20:10

### This Week's Declarations

*I declare that I am a child of God, redeemed by the blood of Jesus, and my eternal destiny is secured in Him.*

*I declare that my life is focused on Christ and His Kingdom, not on temporary things that will fade away.*

*I declare that I am led by the Spirit, equipped to discern between the temporal and eternal, living with the wisdom of God.*

*I declare that my heart is open to share the hope of eternal life in Christ with others, that they may also know the joy and peace of being right with God.*

## **Scripture References**

### **Death is Not the End: Prepare for Eternity**

**1 Thessalonians 5:23 NKJV** Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Hebrews 4:12 NKJV** ...piercing even to the division of soul and spirit...

**John 4:24 NKJV** God is Spirit...

**Proverbs 20:27 KJV** The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord...

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

**Luke 16:22 NKJV** So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom.

**Philippians 1:23 NKJV** For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better.

**2 Corinthians 12:1-6 NKJV** It is doubtless not profitable for me to boast. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord: I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a one was caught up to the third heaven. And I know such a man—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows—how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter. Of such a one I will boast; yet of myself I will not boast, except in my infirmities. For though I might desire to boast, I will not be a fool; for I will speak the truth. But I refrain, lest anyone should think of me above what he sees me *to be* or hears from me.

**2 Corinthians 5:8 NKJV** We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

**James 2:26 NKJV** For as the body without the spirit is dead...

**Luke 16:19-23 NKJV** “There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man’s table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

**Luke 16:23-24 NKJV** And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. “Then he cried and said, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.’

**Ecclesiastes 7:2 NIV** ...death is the destiny of everyone...

**Ecclesiastes 7:2 NIV** ...the living should take this to heart.

**Hebrews 2:14-16 NKJV** Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham.

**Ecclesiastes 11:3 NKJV** ...if a tree falls to the south or the north, In the place where the tree falls, there it shall lie.

**Luke 16:24 NKJV** “Then he cried and said, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.’

**Psalms 85:10 NKJV** Mercy and truth have met together; Righteousness and peace have kissed.

**Luke 18:11-12 NKJV** The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.’

**Luke 18:13-14 NKJV** And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified...

**Psalms 49:7-8 NKJV** None of them can by any means redeem his brother, Nor give to God a ransom for him—For the redemption of their souls is costly, And it shall cease forever—

**1 Peter 1:18-19 NKJV** you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ...

**Revelation 20:10 NKJV** ... tormented day and night forever and ever.

**Hebrews 6:2 NKJV** ...eternal judgment.

**Luke 16:27-28 NKJV** “Then he said, ‘I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father’s house, for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.’

**Acts 10:43-48 NKJV** To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins.”

**Genesis 49 NKJV**

**Genesis 49:29-30 NKJV** Then he charged them and said to them: “I am to be gathered to my people; bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite, in the cave that is in the field of Machpelah, which is before Mamre in the land of Canaan, which Abraham bought with the field of Ephron the Hittite as a possession for a burial place.

**Genesis 49:33 NKJV** And when Jacob had finished commanding his sons, he drew his feet up into the bed and breathed his last, and was gathered to his people.