

Engage Joy, pt 10
Sanctity of Life and Death, pt 2
Philippians 1:19-26

How about a promotion?

Purpose and Promotion (Phil 1:19-26)

Purpose: *to live is Christ*

Promotion: *to die is gain*

Gain: the visible presence of the Lord

2 Corinthians 5:4-10

1. Earthly life includes suffering, part of which is the longing for eternity (immortality).
2. Real life is eternal life.
3. God so guarantees this that He gave a down payment.

4. There is a distinction in earthly & eternal life with respect to the **presence** of God - and the journey involves **faith**.
5. There is a goodness, a "betterness," a preferable state to be **home** with the Lord.
6. Being with the Lord is not an end in itself. It motivates us to live in a manner **pleasing** to the Lord - now and forever.
7. Part of the gain is **rewards** God gives.

Summary

Life is great. The afterlife is even **greater**.

Suffering stirs **anticipation**. (cf Rom 8:25)

Death is not escape, but **improvement**.

Philippians 1:23-24

very much better

= much, to a great extent, more excellent

In relational terms, **present** is better.

Gain: freedom to be just like Jesus

1 John 3:2, 5

1 Corinthians 13:12

Gain: freedom from struggle, pain, suffering, loss

Revelation 21:1-5

Gain: freedom to be rewarded

2 Timothy 4:7-8 (cf 2 Cor. 5:10)

Reality: not all will enjoy these gains

Hebrews 9:27

1 John 5:12

Gain: freedom from the tentacles of evil and sin

Revelation 21:27, 22:3

Daniel 9:24

Take it Home