

CALLED TO BE SAINTS TOGETHER

Deconstructing Death

1 Corinthians 15:50-58 (ESV)

⁵⁰ I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. ⁵¹ Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. ⁵³ For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴ When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." ⁵⁵ "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" ⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

How to think biblically about death:

Consider the _____!

Consider the _____!

Consider the _____!

Consider the _____!

Thinking biblically about death ...

... helps me _____

... helps me _____

... helps me _____

... helps me _____

The proper epitaph to write for the Christian believer is not a dismal uncertain petition, 'R.I.P.', but a joyful and certain affirmation 'C.A.D.' ('Christ abolished death').

— John Stott