## The Last Enemy Pastor Anthony J. Shetley Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024

Hebrews 13:14 "This world is not our permanent home; we are looking forward to a home yet to come." (NLT). "In the world you will have tribulation but take courage; I have overcome the world." (Jesus) John 16:33.

This world is a battlefield. The battle which is being fought is a battle for the souls of men. If you are not fighting this battle, it probably means that you've already lost it! In this battle sin reigns over man and death reigns by sin. The Last Enemy is Death - "The sting of death is sin."

Sin is of the devil. His essence is lies, deceit, and murder. He comes to steal, kill, and destroy!

He took power in death through sin for the wages of sin is death, and Hell is never satisfied. Therefore, Sheol has enlarged its throat and opened its mouth without measure; Isaiah 5:14. "Where the worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched (Gehenna).

According to world data, 61 million people died in the year 2023. The last enemy we all will face is death. This is a battle that no man can win.

But God so loved the world, that He sent His only Son to save us! It is not God's will that any one of us will perish. God doesn't want us to live under Satan's reign nor suffer Hell's eternal torment.

Unto us a child was born, a savior was given! He is the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, and the Prince of Peace. He was born yet without sin. He showed us the glory and righteousness of God, and He brought to us the truth and grace of God!

However, He was rejected and despised by men; wounded for our transgressions; bruised for our iniquities and nailed to a cross on which He died and then was buried.

He did not die for His sins for He knew no sin. He died for our sins; the just for the unjust. His blood is the atonement for our sin. ARE YOU WASHED IN THE BLOOD?

If His death were the end there would be no gospel to preach and our faith would be useless. But death could not hold Him, and the grave could not keep Him. On the third day, Jesus walked out of the tomb alive! He took the keys of death and of Hell.

Now to all who believe in Him, receive Him, and live for Him to them He gives the Holy Spirit and the gift of eternal life. Jesus Christ has won the battle that we could not win!

**<u>Read: Romans 6:4–11</u>**: Our experience of His Resurrection.

Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil: sins reign over man in life and death. No one took His life, but He gave it for us! The empty tomb gives Jesus the title – He is the all-time undisputed, undefeated champion of love!!!

## 1 Corinthians 15:26 (NLT) And the last enemy to be destroyed is death.

John 14:1–3 (TPT) *I* go to prepare a place for you, and when everything is ready, *I* will come back and take you to Myself so that you will be where *I* am.