

The death of Christ has _____ death for His people in 2 ways:

(1) Christ has taken something _____ from death:

- a) Death was _____ by God as a penalty and punishment for sin (Gen. 2:17, 3:19; Rom. 6:23)
- b) In Christ we are not delivered from death as an experience, but as a _____ (Rom. 8:1)
- c) In Christ death is no longer a punishment for sin because it was fully paid by _____ on the cross

(2) Christ has also _____ something to death:

- a) *United to Christ by faith, death brings us into communion w/ Christ's _____*
 - Every follower of Christ is guaranteed to experience suffering for 2 reasons:
 - i. 1st, we live in a _____ world of suffering and death (Gen. 3:15-19)
 - ii. 2nd, suffering is part of what it means to _____ Christ (Phil. 1:29; 1 Pet:4:12-13)
 - Suffering for Christians has 2 great purposes:
 - i. God's _____ and our _____
 - ii. Suffering and death serve to remind God's people of what _____ did for us
- b) *United to Christ by faith, death gives us a unique experience of Christ's _____*
 - 2 Cor. 12:9 _____
 - Heb. 13:5 _____
 - Ro. 8:35-39 _____
 - Psalm 23 _____
- c) *United to Christ by faith, death transforms us into Christ's _____*
 - When a believer dies our _____ is complete (Heb. 12:23)
 - In Christ, God intends through death to free us from _____ and _____
 - Upon the death of a believer, sin will no longer affect our _____ w/ God
- d) *United to Christ by faith, death is our last & greatest opportunity to witness to Christ's _____*
 - Death also provides the greatest opportunity to _____ about our faith in Christ
 - v20 → Paul says Christ is honored or glorified by a believer's _____ and _____
 - v21 → Death honors Christ when we see it not as loss, the end, defeat, or tragedy, but as _____
 - v22 → Purpose of our _____ life is the fruitful labor of helping other see Christ's glory
 - Paul did not just say to die is gain, He said to _____ is Christ
- e) *United to Christ by faith, death brings us into Christ's _____*
 - v23 → What makes death far better? To be with Christ (1 John 3:2; 1 Cor. 13:12; Rev. 14:13)
 - Only God can take something as awful as death to bring about _____
 - Piper: “Christ did not die to forgive sinners who go on treasuring anything above seeing and savoring God. People who would be happy in heaven if Christ were not there, will not be there. The gospel is not a way to get people to heaven; it is a way to get people to God.”
 - Jesus is not just the only way to heaven; He is what makes heaven - _____
 - Christ is the hidden _____ in the field and the _____ of great price who does not just save us from our sin, but brings us to _____

Every Christian will die unless Christ comes before then, so we should prepare for death in 2 ways:

- (1) We must think more, and not less, about our death
- (2) We must consider what we will exchange upon our death