

## WORD OF THE WEEK

### The Subject: Death

Romans 3:23 -- all have sinned --

Romans 6:23 -- For the wages of sin is death. --

death - Greek: thanatos - loss of life; separation by which life is ended;  
James Strong says that spiritual death is eternal separation from God.

1 John 5:12 -- He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the  
Son of God hath not life.

John 14:6-- (Jesus speaking) --I am the life--

Luke 16:26-- (speaking of the rich man in hell)--there is a great gulf  
fixed.

gulf -Greek: chasma: from chao (to gape or yawn); chasm or vacancy  
(impassable interval); a separation

Death is not annihilation, but rather separation. Jesus is life. Those who have not Christ are abiding in death and will be separated from God forever in hell, unless they repent of sin (self) and live for Christ (Luke 13:5). Some will say, "My sin isn't that bad." It is sin (sing.), not bad sins (plural) that separates from God. All sin is heinous in the eyes of God and worthy of nothing but "death". How evil was Eve's sin? There were no nightclubs, no drugs, no other men with which she could be unfaithful (adultery), no drinking, no smoking, no one to envy, no one to hate (except God), no vices of any kind. What was this great sin with which the human race is continually separated from God. Eve merely ignored God's commandment when he said, "Thou shalt not"--. She said to herself, "I will make my own rules; I will interpret for myself what God meant." (Men still say these words about the Bible). The "worst sin" is not child molestation, rape, murder, abortion, homosexuality, sexual promiscuity, etc. These are no different than all other sins of "pride". When God says, "Thou shalt not", pride vaunts itself against God in rebellion and says, "I will if I want to, because I don't believe God means it when He says that I must obey or die. After all, God understands my sin." Some men say, "I'm not a bad guy to my neighbor and I'm not excessive in my vices. The town looks at me as pillar of the community -- and besides, I go to church every Sunday." Paul said, "There is none righteous, no, not one-- there is none that seeketh after God -- there is none good" (Rom. 3:10-12). David said, "every man "at his best state" is altogether vanity" (Psalms 39:5). Ignore God's words and you will die (separate) forever in hell without Jesus (life). There is only one hell. There is not a "good" hell for "good sinners" and a "bad" hell for "bad sinners". The moral suburban churchgoer who ignores God's word without repentance will spend eternity in the same hell with Adolph Hitler, Pontius Pilate, rapists, murderers, thieves, child molesters, etc. Eve became her own judge (the word God means judge or magistrate). God said, "thou shalt not" and Eve said, "I'll be the judge of that." The sin that brings death is self (self indulgence, self esteem, self advancement). If we are going to crusade against sin, let's start with self. Judgment must begin at the house of God and we are his house (Heb. 3:6; 1 Peter 4:17). Repent or perish.

### GRACE AND TRUTH MINISTRIES

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