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How Will You Be Remembered?

The Puritans spoke of "dying grace"

ECCLESIASTES 9:12

"A person does not know their time"

How much longer do you expect to live?

Joseph's final words are recorded in two places:

Genesis 50 and Hebrews 11

Genesis 50:

God Will Take You to the Promised Land

GEN 50:24-26

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am about to die, but God will visit you and bring you up out of this land to the land that he swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob." Then Joseph made the sons of Israel swear, saying, "God will surely visit you, and you shall

GEN 50:24-26

carry up my bones from here."
So, Joseph died, being 110 years old. They embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt"

How could Joseph be so sure about the future?

He knew what God had promised his great-grandfather Abraham.

How could Joseph be so sure about the future?

his own life proved that God keeps his promises.

Hebrews 11:

Take Me with You!

HEBREWS 11:22

"By faith Joseph, when his end was near, spoke about the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt and gave instructions about his bones"

"By faith Joseph, when he was betrayed, did not become bitter."

"By faith Joseph, when he was tempted by Potiphar's wife, did not yield to temptation."

"By faith Joseph, when he was forgotten in prison, did not turn away from God."

"By faith Joseph, when he met his brothers, did not seek revenge."

His children and grandchildren knew what sort of man he was.

His descendants knew where he stood and what he stood for.

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Despite the fact that he spent almost a century in Egypt, he never forgot who he was or where he came from.

What does this mean for us today?

Nothing of God dies when a person of God dies.

The greatest thing you can do is to pass your faith along to your children and grandchildren.

The saddest thing that can happen is to become bitter in your old age.

The happiest way to live is to realize that God's work is bigger than you are.

God's plans are bigger than mine. My part is to live for God and to pass my faith along to my children and then to my grandchildren.

I must live so that those things for which I am praying and those things I dream about may happen some day after I am gone.

PSALM 100:5

"His faithfulness continues through all generations."

The workers are buried but the work goes on. The sower may die but the seed remains.

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I do not know how far we have to go until we reach the end of our earthly road.

But this I know—that road is paved with God's love and faithfulness. Therefore we need not be afraid.

We are just links in the great chain of God's purposes.

We're Going to Make It!

Death cannot exhaust the promises of God.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:55

"O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"

We need someone who's been there before.

The saints of God have nothing to fear in the moment of death. Though it may not be pleasant or painless, though it come after long suffering or in a fiery crash,

the moment itself will be filled with joy as the Lord himself escorts God's children through the darkest valley of all.

At that moment, all other guides must turn back. Only the Lord Jesus Christ can help us through. And he does.