

Isaiah 57:1-2

When the Righteous are Taken

Word of the Day: Righteous

1. The Righteous are those who have placed their faith in Jesus.

Romans 3:21-24, James 2:23, Matthew 19:16-17, John 14:15

2. The Righteous hold back destruction

2 Thessalonians 2:6-7, Matthew 24:38-39

- Genesis 18:22-33 Abraham asked God if He would destroy the righteous with the unrighteous
- Ephesians 2:10 we are created to do good works
- Matthew 5:13-16 we are salt and light to help preserve a world that is rotting and in darkness.

3. The Righteous are Spared the wrath of God

Genesis 5:24, Hebrews 11:5, 2 Kings 22:14-20, Revelation 3:10

- Calamity disastrous event marked by great loss and lasting distress and suffering
- Some believe that poor leadership caused the righteous to be taken, some say persecution caused the righteous to be taken and some believe God took them.

4. The Righteous Enter Peace

1 Corinthians 15:51, John 13:36, 1 Thessalonians 4:13

- They will rest upon their beds
- 2 Corinthians 5:8 says to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.
- Whoever walks honestly; The idea again is not just what they say but how they lived.
- Colossians 1:10 walk in a manner pleasing to God.

Closing Points

- We need to view death differently from the rest of the world and those who are in Christ have been freed from the suffering and curse of this world.
- While we are here on earth we need to live righteously for the sake of the world even when they do not appreciate it.
- Christians will speak out simply because we know that the world is being deceived and is being led astray into more destruction.
- The world may want us to be silent but we must tell the truth for their sake even if it cost us our lives like it did John the Baptist.
- Are you living as salt and light in a world that is rotting in darkness?
- What has God created you to do? Then do it for His glory and to point people to Him.
- You never know what destruction we are holding back from the world whether it is their own sin that destroys them or it is the wrath of God.
- How has God called you to live differently knowing that the righteous may not be missed?

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John 15:5



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Devotions:

1. Why do you think the world does not want us to live differently than the way they live?
2. Why do you think the people did not notice the righteous were being taken away?
3. What promise is given for the person who dies that is righteous?
4. How do we become righteous? (See 2 Corinthians 5:21)
5. What does it mean to live uprightly or to walk honestly before God?
6. What does Genesis 5:24 and Hebrews 11:5 tell us about Enoch and what can we learn from him?
7. How should Christians grieve when a loved one who is in Christ passes away? (See 1 Thessalonians 4:13)