

Revelation 14:13 (ESV):

“And I heard a voice from heaven saying, ‘Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.’ ‘Blessed indeed,’ says the Spirit, ‘that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!’”

The Bible doesn’t simply say, “*Blessed are the dead.*” It specifies:

“Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.”

This distinction is crucial. Not every death is a blessing. To **die in the Lord** means to die in a living relationship with Jesus Christ—having received His salvation, being found in His grace, and remaining faithful to Him until the end.

To die outside of Christ is to face the opposite reality. The blessing turns into a curse, the rest becomes torment, and the hope of eternal life becomes the fear of eternal judgment. As Jesus said in

John 5:29:

“...those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned.”

This passage in Revelation reminds us that **there is something beyond death**—something more than a peaceful sleep. It is **judgment** and **eternal destiny**.

For the believer, death is not the end—it is the beginning of **eternal rest in the presence of God**. That’s why the Spirit declares them blessed.

If death were the final stop, Scripture would have said, “Blessed are the living,” not “Blessed are the dead.”

So let me ask you plainly:

Is your life in order before God?

Are you certain that, should you die today, you would be counted among the blessed—those who die in the Lord?

How do we prepare for that moment? Through our **faith in Christ**, which is expressed through **a life of righteousness and obedience**.

Because, as Revelation 14:13 clearly says: “...*their deeds follow them.*”

Houses, cars, and wealth will all be left behind when we die.

But your actions—your obedience, your love, your faithfulness, your witness—**they follow you.**

They don’t save you (only Christ does), but they testify to the genuineness of your faith.

as **James 2:17** reminds us:

“So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.”

This is not something to take lightly.

There will be **no second chance after death.**

Hebrews 9:27 (ESV):

“And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment,”

Now is the time to repent. Now is the time to surrender your life fully to Jesus. He is **our only refuge** and **our eternal hope**.

Acts 4:12:

“And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

Maranatha - The Lord is coming!

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