



Mark Mielbrecht- Teaching Pastor



# BE BRAVE

O Death, Where is Your Sting?





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BREAKING NEWS

# Washington State risks seeing explosion in coronavirus without dramatic action, new analysis says

BY HELEN BRANSWELL

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# Why Do Many People Fear Death?

- They don't really know what comes next.
- Even with some sense of a hereafter, they don't feel worthy...If their good deeds were placed on a scale, they would be found lacking.
- They feel like they don't deserve heaven.
- They have some kind of unfinished business, some secret, some sin, an unpaid debt, or relational brokenness, that gives them a lack of peace.

## Acts 7:51-60 (ESV)

“You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

## Acts 7:51-60 (ESV)

“Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him.”

## Acts 7:51-60 (ESV)

“Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.”

## 1 Corinthians 15:55-58(ESV)

“When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.” “O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?”

## 1 Corinthians 15:55-58(ESV)

“The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast. Immoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.”

## Romans 5:8-10(ESV)

“But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.”

## Romans 8:1-2(ESV)

“There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.”

## Hebrews 2:14-15(ESV)

Through Christ's death he destroys the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and delivers all those who through the fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. (paraphrased)

## Romans 6:22(ESV)

, “But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life.”

## Ephesians 2:8-9(ESV)

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.”

## Romans 8:15-17(ESV)

“For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.”

## Romans 5:2b-5(ESV)

“And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.”

# Questions To Consider...

- If you somehow could know that you were going to die suddenly, unexpectedly, what regrets would you have? (unfinished work?)
- What relationships do you have that need to be restored? As much as it depends on you.
  - How are you and God doing (relationally?)
- How can you offer hope and courage to those in your sphere of influence during this time of uncertainty?

# BE BRAVE

What does the ending of  
our story look like?

# A Tale of Restoration

“Behold, I am making all things new!”





# Revelations 21:1-5 (ESV)

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”



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What is the Richest Place on the Earth?

A photograph of a cemetery with numerous headstones of various shapes and sizes, mostly dark grey or black, set in a well-maintained grassy field. Small, colorful flower arrangements are placed at several graves. The background shows a fence and a line of trees under a clear sky.

# The Graveyard..

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“Most men lead lives of quiet desperation and go to the grave with the song still in them.”

~Henry David Thoreau

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