

The Land of Darkness and the Shadow of Death.

by F.B. Meyer

The Christian view of death is one of hope and confidence, with death abolished and life and immortality brought to light.

Scripture: Job 10:21, Matthew 25:1-13, John 14:3, Romans 13:12, 1 Thessalonians 5:6, 2 Timothy 4:8, Titus 2:13, Hebrews 9:28, 1 Peter 1:13, Revelation 22:12

Topics: "Hope in Christ", "Readiness for His Return"

Description

F.B. Meyer reflects on the contrast between the ancient understanding of death as a land of darkness and the Christian hope of eternal life and light through Jesus Christ. He emphasizes that while the patriarchs viewed life as day and the afterlife as night, believers today see the present as night and the future as a glorious day. Meyer encourages Christians to live in anticipation of Christ's return, likening the soul's affections to the tides influenced by the cross and the hope of His coming. He urges believers to remain vigilant and prepared, embodying the spirit of waiting for the Lord's return with faith and readiness.

Transcript

The land of darkness and the shadow of death. Job x. 21.

THIS represented the highest thinking of that age about the future. There were gleams now and again of something more; but they were fitful and uncertain, soon overtaken by dark and sad forebodings. How different to our happy condition, for whom death is abolished, whilst life and immortality have been brought to light! The patriarch called the present life Day, and the future Night. We know that in comparison the present is Night, and the future Day. "The night is far spent, the day is at hand; let us put on the armour of light."

For us, too, there is something better. We wait for his Son from heaven; we look for that blessed hope, the glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ. "As the waters of the sea are held between two mighty gravitations, the moon now drawing them towards itself, and the earth drawing them back again, thus giving the ebbing and flowing tide, by which our earth is kept clean and healthful, so must the tides of the soul's affection move perpetually between the cross of Christ and the coming of Christ, influenced now by the power of memory and now by the power of hope." It is said of the late Dr. Gordon: "Hardly a sermon was preached without allusion to the glorious appearing. Never a day passed in which

he did not prepare himself for it, in which its hastening was not sought for with prayer." "Yet a little while [Greek, how little! how little!] and He that shall come will come." The attitude of every believer should be that of waiting: with loins girt and lamp burning, let us be ready to meet our Lord.

"The Best is yet to be,

The Last for which the First was made."

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