

NOTHING SURER THAN DEATH AND TAXES

6/5/18

*The quote, "In this world nothing is sure but death and taxes" is attributed to Benjamin Franklin. It simply draws on the actual inevitability of death, to highlight the difficulty in avoiding the burden of taxes. Sadly, both death and taxes were never part of God's plans for humanity. Due to our arrogant attitude towards God, we are troubled by much more than death and taxes. We were warned... **GEN 2:17** But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt **surely** die. & **ISAM 8:7** And the LORD said unto Samuel, Harken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not **rejected** thee, but they have **rejected** me, that I should not reign over them (God lists all the taxes and burdens of human government in these Samuel verses), but again they would not listen. We are bound by death and taxes and many other human ills, but we still have a real choice on the biggest issue still to come. We are warned again of unavoidable truths; but this time it is within our own power to escape.*

***Spiritual death (second death, or death of the soul) is still totally avoidable. EZE 18:4** Behold, **all souls are mine** (the only thing we truly own are the choices we make); as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: **the soul that sinneth, it shall die.** Unless our soul is one with God's, we cannot survive.*

GAL 6:7** Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. The choices we make determine our future, not the choices other people make. God wants us to choose spiritual life. **REV 21:8** But the **fearful** (timid), and **unbelieving** (unfaithful), and the **abominable** (haters), and **murderers**, and **whoremongers** (immoral lives), and **sorcerers** (fake remedies), and **idolaters** (Godless), and all **liars**, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the **second death.

***The Holy Spirit is the only way of escape from spiritual death, through Jesus Christ. JOH 14:6** Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. Jesus also warned those who were with him, to prepare for the soon to come anointing/baptism of the Spirit). **JOH 16:12** I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye **cannot bear them now.** **13** Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come (the indwelling Spirit is power), he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. Paul further explains...*

***ROM 8:9** But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is **none of his.** God offers proof so we are no longer at the mercy of other people and their endless ability to reinvent life 'truths'. **MAR 16:17** And these **signs** shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; God's proof is ever present.*

***These are the only current choices. JOH 3:5** Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit (baptised both in water and also in the spirit), he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. This is a law of spiritual reality, not just church doctrine. Without indwelling power; death rules.*

***LUK 6:39** And he spake a parable unto them, Can the blind lead the blind? shall they not both fall into **the ditch?** Salvation is never a matter of personal opinion. This world invents its own 'truths' and changes them regularly to suit their latest cravings... The majority reject God, inventing their own corruptions in the name of 'love'... all is love. However, none of it is sustainable, nor is it life giving like God's true love.*

***PSA 96:13** Before the LORD: for he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, **and the people with his truth.** God's judgment on the human race (his creation); is based on the truth, power and evidence which His word reveals to be true. Those who make good choices will also have miraculous evidence as a daily part of their lives... not just doctrine and theory, no matter how good it sounds.*

***This is our new role. We are empowered to preach. ROM 10:14** How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and **how shall they hear** without a preacher? Many temporarily escape death through medicine and even good fortune, some even manage to avoid or minimise their taxes, but no one can escape death without the knowledge of salvation. Preaching (witnessing/sharing your testimony) also maintains the salvation of the preacher. **REV 12:11** And **they overcame** him (Satan) by the blood of the Lamb (being filled with Spirit & power), and by the word of their testimony (witnessing); and they loved not their lives unto the death (always putting God's way first).*

***This is the only way of escape. REV 3:18** I **counsel** thee (call your attention) to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy **nakedness** do not **appear** (your sins and failings are completely covered); and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see (to fully understand and be equipped to save others who were once like you).*

There is nothing surer than eternal life, if you follow the Lord's simple and provable directions; otherwise it's only death and taxes and more misery than you could ever imagine.