

Daily View

“But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called ‘today’” Hebrews 3:13

October 23, 2020



The most sobering stop during our trip to Europe in October of 2108 was this tour of the American Cemetery in Luxembourg, not far from where the Battle of the Bulge took place. We see rows and rows of crosses marking the graves of courageous young men who died in battle. Christians can live with such courage, if we realize that we are “indestructible.”

“Did you know you are indestructible?”

Have you heard someone say something like this recently: “she is not going out in public for awhile, *out of an abundance of caution.*” I’ve heard this bromide a lot, lately, and it makes sense when it is describing people who are most vulnerable should they contract the coronavirus. But I don’t want to live my life that way. I don’t want to live every day “*out of an abundance of caution,*” do you?

I’ve written a lot about fear in this column, for good reason. We all share a healthy fear of a deadly disease that’s changed our lives, and are doing our best to avoid getting it and/or giving it to others. The challenge is to do that without undue fear. It’s hard because there are plenty of fearmongers on the loose. But Christians do not give in to fear. We are doing our best to live as Jesus lived; or, as Dallas Willard put it, in his book, “The Divine Conspiracy,” “*I’m learning to lead my life as Jesus would lead my life if he were me.*”

The goal of living as Jesus would live if he were me has several components — worldview, morality, spirituality, — many others. But all of these are enveloped in an attitude that we must learn to emulate: *Jesus was not afraid to die* and he did not live his life “*out of an abundance of caution.*” There came a point in his life when the ruling class sought how they might kill him (Mark 3:6, etc.) and he faced that threat every day. He told his disciples on several occasions that he must go to Jerusalem to die (Matthew 16:21ff.; 17:22ff.; 20:17ff.) but while he loathed a death as a criminal on a cross and the

physical anguish it would bring (hence his prayer to let the cup pass from him) but he did not fear “passing away,” even a little bit. Still, though he knew his time wasn’t up, being pursued by murderers is not a pleasant way to live.

What gave him the power to live a fearless life? It’s simple, really. He knew his life was “indestructible.” You say, “*of course he could think that way; he was the Son of God on earth.*” True. But here’s the really good part: he has told us, *explicitly*, that we are indestructible, too. **In-des-tract-ible.** Not able to be destroyed; everlasting, eternal, immortal. Not in our flesh, of course, but indestructible just the same. Listen to Jesus’ words to Martha:

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me **shall never die.** Do you believe this?” *John 11:25-26.*

Do you believe this?

One of C.S. Lewis’ mentors, George MacDonald said, “*We don’t have a soul. We are a soul. We have a body.*” That soul cannot be killed; it cannot die. It is indestructible and those who live in and believe in Jesus will never die.

So, yes, we are we concerned with preserving our life — up to a point. But if that *becomes* our life then we really need to stop and ask the question: “Do I really trust Jesus when he says, ‘you will never die?’” Paul did and that’s why he could say, “*For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain*” (Philippians 1:21).

*Unless otherwise indicated the opinions expressed in this publication and images used are solely those of David Posey.
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