

*1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 50-57*

A. Death’s Reign

* Death’s Dominion
* Because Sin reigned, Death reigned
* Death reigned Supreme from the beginning of Time
* Death’s Origin; Genesis 3
* Adam and Eve’s sin brought disastrous Consequences
* Death’s reign had just Begun; cf, Genesis 5

B. Death’s Death

* Death’s plan for ultimate Victory: the Cross
* The Promised Savior would Come and take away Death’s Rule
* But Death did not Want to give up his Throne
* His Plan was Perfect; it looked Foolproof
* But the Cross was Not the End
* What Death thought would bring him Total Triumph instead became the instrument of his own Total Defeat
* Death wanted Victory but instead was completely Vanquished
* God is in the work of taking Tragedy and turning it into Triumph
* When Jesus cried, “It is Finished!”*,* itwas not end of His Life but the end of Death

C. Christ’s Reign

* Spiritual: We are restored to the Father
* Physical: We shall Rise from the grave; Hebrews 2:14-15
* Eternal: We shall be at home in heaven with Jesus for all Eternity

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