

Lesson 57 : How Will YOU Die?

Memory Verse: Matthew 5:30 "And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell."

1. The memory verse tells us that it would be better for us to lose our _____ than for the whole body to die in hell (the second death).

Note: "To prevent disease from spreading to the body and destroying life, a man would submit to part even with his right hand. **Much more should he be willing to surrender that which imperils the life of the soul.**" MB 60.2

Even the animals will give up a part of their body to save their life. Here are a few examples:

Lizard: Have you ever seen a lizard without a tail? Do you know why he is without a tail? If a predator comes to eat him up, he disconnects his tail and leaves it wiggling in front of the predator while he scurries off to hide. A new tail will grow in time. The lizard would rather lose its tail than to be eaten by another animal.

Crab: When a crab meets an enemy, it puts up its claws to fight it off. If the enemy grabs the claw, the crab detaches it and runs off to hide. Each time he grows a new shell, a part of the new claw will grow. The crab would rather lose one claw than to be eaten by another animal.

Sea Cucumber: When a sea cucumber is attacked, it quickly contracts and spits out its insides for the enemy to eat. The empty leather skin does not die, but grows new internal organs.

Fox: When a fox or other animal is caught in a trap, it will sometimes actually chew off its own foot in order to escape. People who have set traps for animals in order to get their fur have actually found only a foot in their trap. The animal was able to get away free on three legs.

The memory verse tells us that freedom from sin should be as important to us as freedom is to the fox or other animal who will actually sacrifice part of its body in order to avoid death and save its life. We have an eternal life to win and an eternal death to avoid.

"**Choose poverty, reproach, separation from friends, or any suffering rather than to defile the soul with sin.** Death before dishonor or the transgression of God's law should be the **motto** of every Christian." MYP 80.2

2. What was the mission of Jesus? Matthew 1:21: "And she shall bring forth a _____, and thou shalt call his name _____: for he shall _____ his people _____ their sins." Jesus wants to save us from our _____.

Note: "Through the gospel, souls that are **degraded** and **enslaved** by Satan are to be **redeemed** to share the **glorious liberty** of the sons of God. **God's purpose** is not merely to deliver from the **suffering** that is the inevitable result of sin, but **to save from sin itself.**" MB 60.3

3. What is God's purpose for us? Romans 6:14 "For sin shall not have _____ over you: for ye are not under the law, but under _____."

God's purpose is to free us from the D _____ of _____ in our lives. He wants to get sin **out** of us so that it will no longer be the ruling power in our lives.

What will take its place?

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Colossians 1:27 "To whom God would make known what is the riches of the _____ of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is _____ **in** you, the _____ of glory." Instead of sin, self and Satan ruling our thoughts and feelings, _____ will be ruling. What happens to our thoughts? 2 Corinthians 10:5 "Casting _____ imaginations, and every _____ thing that _____ itself _____ the knowledge of God, and bringing into _____ every _____ to the _____ of Christ." God wants to get sin **out** of us and Christ **in**.

Note: "The soul, corrupted and deformed, is to be **purified, transformed**, that it may be clothed in 'the **beauty** of the Lord our God,' **conformed** to the **image** of His Son.' 'Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.' Psalm 90:17; Romans 8:29; 1 Corinthians 2:9. **Eternity alone can reveal the glorious destiny to which man, restored to God's image, may attain.**" MB 60.3

4. God has a plan, a glorious destiny for each one of us, to restore God's image in us. Let us look at how man was originally created. Genesis 1:27 "So God created _____ in his own _____, in the image of _____ created he him."

Note: "When Adam came from the Creator's hand, he bore, in his physical, mental, and spiritual nature, a **likeness to his Maker**. 'God created man in His own image' (Genesis 1:27), and it was His purpose that the longer man lived the **more fully** he should reveal this image – the **more fully** reflect the **glory** [character] of the Creator." Ed 15.1

5. When sin came all this changed. What was man like after sin came? Genesis 6:5 "And God saw that the _____ of man was _____ in the earth, and that every _____ of the _____ of his heart was only _____ continually."

Note: God created man in His own image. The **longer** man lived, the **more** fully he was to **reflect** the glory of the Creator.

"But by **disobedience** this was forfeited. Through sin the divine likeness was **marred**, and **well-nigh obliterated**. Man's physical powers were **weakened**, his mental capacity was **lessened**, his spiritual vision **dimmed**. He had become subject to **death**. Yet the race was not left without hope. **By infinite love and mercy the plan of salvation had been devised**, and a life of probation was granted. **To restore in man the image of his Maker, to bring him back to the perfection in which he was created**, to promote the development of body, mind, and soul, that the divine purpose in his creation might be realized – **this was to be the work of redemption**. This is the **object of education**, the great **object of life**." Ed 15.2

6. Where sin, self, and Satan rule, God's image cannot be restored because "He was manifested to take _____ our sins; and **in** _____ is _____ sin." 1 John 3:5 In order for God to restore His image in us, the sin in us has to go.

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7. What is our part in this great plan of redemption so that we can reach this glorious destiny which God has planned for us? Isaiah 55:7 "Let the wicked _____ his _____, and the unrighteous man his _____: and let him _____ unto the Lord, and he will have _____ upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly _____."

Note: "In order for us to reach this high ideal, **that which causes the soul to stumble must be sacrificed. It is through the will that sin retains its hold upon us. The surrender of the will** is represented as plucking out the eye or cutting off the hand. Often it **seems** to us that to surrender the will to God is to consent to go through life maimed or crippled. But it is better, says Christ, for self to be maimed, wounded, crippled, if thus you may enter into life. That which you look upon as disaster is the door to **highest benefit.**" MB 61.1

8. God's image **can** be restored in us,

however, **we must surrender our will** for this to happen. What is the will?

Webster's dictionary tells us that the will is "*That faculty of the mind by which we determine either to do or forbear an action; the faculty which is exercised in deciding among 2 or more objects which we shall embrace or pursue. The will is directed or influenced by the judgment. The understanding or reason compares different objects, which operate as motives, the judgment determines which is preferable and the WILL decides which to pursue.*"

Note: "Every child should understand the true force of the will. He should be led to see how great is the responsibility involved in this gift. The will is the **governing power** in the nature of man, **the power of decision, or choice.** Every human being possessed of reason has power to choose the right.

In every experience of life, God's word to us is, 'C_____ you _____ day whom ye will _____.' Joshua 24:15.

Everyone may place his will on the side of the will of God, may choose to obey Him, and by thus linking himself with divine agencies, he may stand where **nothing** can force him to do evil. In every youth, every child, lies the power, **by the help of God**, to form a character of integrity and to live a life of usefulness." Ed 289.1

9. How did Jesus use His power of choice, His will? Luke 22:42 Jesus' constant prayer and mode of action was "Father, if _____ be willing, remove this cup from me: **nevertheless** _____, but _____, be _____."

John 4:34 "Jesus saith unto them, My _____ is to _____ the _____ of him that _____ me, and to _____ his work." It was like food and drink to Jesus to do God's will.

What attitude did Jesus have toward God's will? Psalm 40:8 "I _____ to do _____ will, O my _____: yea, thy _____ is within my _____."

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What does Jesus say about those who are in His family? Mark 3:35 "For **whosoever** shall _____ the _____ of _____, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother." When we do the will of God like Jesus did and happily choose it for ourselves, we too, will delight in it. It will be like food and drink to us to do God's will too.

10. How is our physical life described in James 4:14? "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your _____? It is even a _____, that appeareth for a _____ time, and then _____ away." This physical life that we live on this earth is only very short and then it is over.

11. But in John 5:24 Jesus talks about a life that lasts forever: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and _____ on him that sent me, hath _____ life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from _____ unto _____."

Note: "God is the fountain of life, and we can have life only as we are in communion with Him. Separated from God, **existence** may be ours for a **little time**, but we do not possess **life**." MB 61.2 This is spiritual life which comes from God. Only if we have **spiritual life**, can we live forever.

12. If we have only our physical life, the Bible describes us as the woman in 1 Tim. 5:6: "But she that liveth in pleasure is _____ while she _____."

Note: "Only through the **surrender of our will to God** is it **possible** for Him to impart **life** to us. Only by receiving **His life through self-surrender** is it possible, said Jesus, for these **hidden sins**, which I have pointed out, to be **overcome**. It is possible that you may bury them in your hearts and conceal them from human eyes, but how will you stand in God's presence?" MB 61.2

13. What kind of life does Jesus want to give to you? John 10:10 "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have _____, and that they might have it more _____." Jesus wants you to have eternal life, not just a vapour that will soon vanish away. He wants you to enjoy **REAL** life, not just existence for a little while on this earth. But to enter this **real** life we must first **die** to the old life.

Jesus tells us in Mark 8:35-36 "For whosoever will _____ his _____ shall _____ it; but whosoever shall _____ his _____ for _____ sake and the _____, the same shall _____ it. For what shall it _____ a man, if he shall _____ the whole world, and _____ his own soul?"

And in John 3:3 "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, _____ a man be _____ again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

We must die to the old worldly life and be born into the new spiritual life.

14. Everyone must die some kind of death. How will YOU die?
There is more than one kind of death. Which one will you die?

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a. There is physical death. People are most afraid of this death.

What does the Bible call this death? Psalm 13:3 "Consider and hear me, O Lord my God: lighten mine eyes, lest I sleep the _____ of _____."

We do not have much choice about this death. But since the Bible calls it "sleep", we will wake up from this death.

Jesus taught this in John 5:28,29: "Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which _____ that are in the _____ shall hear his voice, And shall _____ forth; they that have done _____, unto the resurrection of _____; and they that have done _____, unto the resurrection of damnation."

We do have a choice about all the other kinds of death.

b. There is spiritual death. The Bible tells us in Romans 8:6 "For to be carnally minded is _____; but to be _____ minded is life and peace." We may be spiritually dead now, but we still have the opportunity to choose spiritual life.

Ephesians 2:1-6 describes it this way: "And you hath he quickened [made alive], who **were** _____ in trespasses and _____:

2 Wherein in time _____ ye walked _____ to the course of this _____, according to the _____ of the power of the air [Satan], the _____ that now worketh in the children of _____:

3 Among whom also we _____ had our conversation in times _____ in the lusts of our _____, fulfilling the _____ of the _____ and of the _____; and were by _____ the children of _____, even as others.

[We were all spiritually dead. We did our own thing and were disobedient to God.]

4 But God, who is rich in _____, for his great _____ wherewith he loved us,

5 Even _____ we were _____ in sins, hath _____ [made alive] us together with Christ, (by _____ ye are _____;) [He gave us new spiritual life]

6 And hath _____ us up together, and made us _____ together in _____ places in Christ Jesus:"

So spiritual death is the plight we are all in, unless we are converted. It means that we are dead in sins and we have a carnal mind. But Jesus has made it possible for us to be raised from this death by our choosing death to self. We discuss this death in section d.

Colossians 3:1-3 "If ye then be _____ with Christ, _____ those things which are _____, where Christ _____ on the right hand of God. Set your _____ on things _____, **not** on things on the _____. For ye are _____, and your _____ is _____ with Christ in God."

The end result of spiritual death is the 2nd death.

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c. **There is the 2nd death.** This death is eternal. There is no resurrection from it. We should fear this death more than anything else. The Bible tells us about this death in Revelation 21:8 "But the fearful, and _____, and the abominable, and _____, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all _____, shall have their _____ in the _____ which burneth with _____ and brimstone: which is the _____ death." Jesus has made a **provision** by which **all can escape** the second death, if they **choose**. The way to escape this death is through **death to self**.

d. **There is death to self.** This death is described in the following Scriptures:
Galatians 2:20 "_____ am _____ with Christ: nevertheless I _____; yet _____ I, but _____ liveth _____ me: and the _____ which I _____ live in the flesh I live by the _____ of the Son of God, who _____ me, and _____ himself for me." Self is crucified and we live with Christ in charge of our lives.
1 Corinthians 15:31 "I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, _____."

Will we continue a life of sin if we are experiencing death to SELF? Paul tells us in Romans 6:1-2: "What shall we say then? Shall we _____ in _____, that _____ may abound? God _____. How shall _____, that are _____, live any _____ therein?"

There is a **great difference** between being "dead in sin" and being "dead to sin". In Ephesians 2:1-3 we saw what it was like to be dead in sin. But thank God for the good news in verses 4-6 that we can be raised up to new spiritual life! How does God quicken us? Verse 5 says "together with Christ". Symbolically, we rise with Christ. But in order to partake of His resurrection, we also must partake of His death. This is dying to self. Romans 6:4 tells us "Therefore we are _____ with him by baptism into _____: that _____ Christ was _____ up from the _____ by the _____ of the Father, _____ we also should walk in _____ of _____." When we are experiencing this death to self and rising to newness of life, we will _____ those things that are _____ and we will not set our _____ on things on the _____ for we are dead to those things. (Col. 3:1-3)

Note: "The Lord would have us submissive to his will, and sanctified to his service. **Selfishness must be put away, with every other defect in our characters.** There must be a **daily death to self**. Paul had this experience. He said, 'I die daily'. Every day he had a new conversion; every day he took an advance step toward Heaven. We, too, must **gain daily victories in the divine life**, if we would enjoy the favor of God." ST, March 3, 1887 par. 18

"Our God is gracious, of tender pity, and plenteous in mercy. He knows our weaknesses and needs, and **he will help our infirmities if we will only trust in him.**" ST, March 3, 1887 par. 19

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How do we die to self daily? We do it like Jesus did:

Luke 22:42 "Saying, Father, if _____ be willing, remove this cup from me: **nevertheless** not _____ will, but _____, be _____."

Note: "If you cling to self, refusing to yield your will to God, **you are choosing death**. To sin, wherever found, God is a consuming fire. **If you choose sin**, and refuse to separate from it, the presence of God, **which consumes sin**, must consume you." MB 62.1

How will the consuming fire of God's presence consume sin in you?

You can allow Him in your life NOW to consume sin out of your life.

OR

You can refuse to part with your sin and be consumed **with** your sin in the end.

Which kind of death do you choose?

You can choose death to self NOW and receive spiritual life which brings everlasting life.

OR

You can refuse death to self and stay **spiritually dead** which brings the **2nd death**.

Note: We all have been given the ability and the power of choice. We all CAN choose eternal life. I am sure that if someone asked you, "Do you want eternal life or eternal death?", you would say you want eternal life. But **every choice** we make has **conditions** that are necessary for that choice to become a reality. And **every choice** we make has **consequences** which are the result of that choice. So you may wish to choose eternal life, but not be **willing to fulfill the conditions** for that choice to be a reality for you. You may wish for eternal life, but in the day-by-day choices that you make in your life, you may be actually preparing for eternal death as a **consequence**. Remember that the will or choice is not the wish or the want. It is the **deciding** power. **So if you want eternal life, you must also choose it with your deciding power in your day-by-day choices.**

15. How does this work? Romans 8:5 tells us: "For they that are after the _____ do _____ the things of the _____; but they that are after the _____ the things of the _____."

This verse tells us that we either "mind" the things of the F _____ or the things of the S _____.

What does this word "mind" mean? *Strong's Concordance* tells us it means "to exercise the mind", or to "entertain or have a sentiment or opinion" and "to be (mentally) disposed (more or less earnestly in a certain direction)" and "intensively to interest oneself in (with concern or obedience)"

So when you "mind" the things of the flesh, you are intensively interested in them and your mind is earnestly disposed or leaning in that direction.

If you "mind" the things of the Spirit, you are intensively interested in them and your mind is earnestly disposed or leaning in that direction.

So what do **you** "mind"?

"Who has the heart?

With whom are our thoughts?

Of whom do we love to converse?

Who has our warmest affections and our best energies?

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If we are Christ's, our thoughts are **with Him**,
 and our sweetest thoughts are **of Him**.
 All we have and are is consecrated **to Him**.
 We **long** to **bear** His image,
 breathe His spirit,
 do His will,
 and **please** Him in all things." SC 58.2

16. Now let us compare the two minds and the consequences of each kind of mind:

Romans 8:6 labels the two minds:

C_____ minded

S_____ minded

What are the consequences of each?

_____ and _____

How is each described in Romans 8:7-14

E_____ against _____

S_____ of God _____

Not _____ to His law

in you

Cannot _____ God

You have L_____ because of

Without the S_____ of God

R_____

you are not H_____

If you mortify the _____ of the

If you live after the _____,

body, you shall _____.

you shall _____

If you are _____ by the Spirit,

you are a _____ of God.

You will have to choose one or the other. You cannot have both.

Note: "It will require a sacrifice to give yourself to God; but it is a sacrifice of **the lower for the higher, the earthly for the spiritual, the perishable for the eternal**. God does not design that our will should be destroyed, for it is only through its exercise that we can accomplish what He would have us do. Our will is to be yielded to Him, that we may receive it again, purified and refined, and so linked in sympathy with the Divine that He can pour through us the tides of His love and power. However **bitter** and **painful** this surrender may **appear** to the **willful, wayward** heart, yet **'it is profitable for thee.'**" MB 62.2

There is a sacrifice that must be made if you want eternal life.

But what do we **really** sacrifice? Look in the note above to fill in the chart:

We sacrifice the _____

and we get the _____

We sacrifice the _____

and we get the _____

We sacrifice the _____

and we get the _____

Which list do you **really** want? We can only have one. The consequences of keeping the left list are the same as those in the list above – death, eternal death.

The consequences of the list on the right are also given above – life, eternal life.

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So choose which death you will die:

Death to sin and self and rising to new life with Christ with eternal life as the consequence
OR

Keeping sin and self and being dead spiritually with eternal death as the consequence

17. Jesus tells us in John 12:24-25 "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and _____, it abideth _____: but if it _____, it bringeth forth **much** _____. He that _____ his _____ shall _____ it; and he that _____ his life in _____ world shall _____ it unto life _____." This verse tells us that if we L_____ our worldly life and refuse to D_____ to sin and self, then we will L_____ eternal life. But if we H_____ the worldly life and are willing to D_____ to sin and self, then we will actually K_____ our life for eternity.

18. When we choose death to sin and self, what will be the result? Paul asks an important question in Romans 6:1: "What shall we say then? Shall we _____ in sin, that _____ may abound?

What is his answer in Romans 6:2: God _____. How shall we, that are _____ to sin, _____ any longer _____?" If we choose to die to sin and self, will we continue to choose sin in our daily life? YES NO

We will enter Christ's school to learn how to avoid sin and live instead according to His Word and His principles. While we are learning, we may sometimes sin, but we will be sorry as soon as we realize it. Then we will repent and return to following Christ.

19. In this school we must learn to think differently than we have been thinking before. What must we learn to think about our old life? Romans 6:6 "K_____ this, that our _____ man is _____ with him, that the body of _____ might be _____, that _____ we should **serve** _____."

We must remember that we have chosen to die to self and that we do not have to yield to the urging demands of sin and self. Romans 6:7 says "For he that is _____ is freed from _____.

A dead person does not sin. You can kick them, or do anything to them, but they will not hit you back, or get angry, or react in any way. You also could tempt them and entice them in various ways, but they will not react to this either. This is the way we should consider ourselves to be dead to sin.

20. Romans 6:8-10 tells us more: "Now if we be _____ with Christ, we believe that we shall also _____ with him: K_____ that Christ being _____ from the _____ dieth no more; _____ hath no more _____ over him. For in that he _____, he died unto sin once: but in that he _____, he liveth unto God."

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21. Now how does Paul apply this to us? Romans 6:11-14 **Likewise** _____ ye also yourselves to **be** _____ indeed unto _____, but _____ unto _____ through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Let** not _____ therefore _____ in your mortal body, that ye should _____ it in the lusts thereof. Neither _____ ye your _____ as _____ of unrighteousness unto _____: but _____ **yourselves** unto _____, as those that are _____ from the dead, and your _____ as instruments of _____ unto God. For _____ shall not have _____ over you: for ye are not under the law, but under _____."

We choose to use our will to yield our "members" (parts of our body) to do righteousness instead of sin. When we **die** to sin and self, they have no more power over us. We are free from their rule. This is true as long as we **yield** ourselves to God. That is why it is **Satan's constant effort** to tempt us to **choose our own way** since this **separates** us from God. Then **he** can have power over us.

22. What will be seen in our life if we are surrendered to God and dead to sin and self? Galatians 5:22-24 "But the _____ of the _____ is love, _____, peace, longsuffering, _____, goodness, _____, Meekness, _____: against _____ there is no law. And they that _____ Christ's have _____ the _____ with the _____ and lusts."

23. When only can we have these fruits of the Spirit in our life? John 15:5 "I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that _____ in me, and I _____ him, the same bringeth forth _____ fruit: for _____ me ye can do _____." We must A _____ in Christ and He must dwell _____ us in order for us to bring forth the fruit of the Spirit. When sin and self are in charge, we will bring forth the fruit of the flesh. You can read the list in Galatians 5:19-21.

Is it a good list? YES NO

Which list do you want in your life?

The Fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-24

OR

The Works of the Flesh in Galatians 5:19-21

24. When you choose to die to sin and self, you may have difficulties in this world, but through all these difficulties you have something that those who choose to go their own way and who allow sin, self, and Satan to rule in their lives don't have. Paul tells us about this in 2 Corinthians 12:10: "Therefore I take pleasure in _____, in _____, in necessities, in _____, in distresses for _____ sake: for when I am _____, then am I _____."

And Ephesians 6:10 tells us where this strength comes from: "Finally, my brethren, be _____ in the _____, and in the _____ of _____ might."

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In this power what have others done? Hebrews 11:33,34 "Who through _____
Subdued _____,
Wrought _____,
Obtained _____,
Stopped the mouths of _____,
Quenched the violence of _____,
Escaped the edge of the _____,
Out of weakness were made _____,
Waxed _____ in fight,
Turned to _____ the armies of the aliens."

Note: "Whatever may be our temperament, we are to form a character after the **divine Pattern**; we have **no excuse** for retaining the mold and superscription of our nature; for Christ has died that we may have **his** mold and superscription. **We cannot retain self and yet be filled with the fullness of God.** We must be **emptied** of self. **If heaven is gained by us at last, it will be only through the renunciation of self, and the receiving of the mind of Christ.** Pride and self-sufficiency must be **crucified**, and the vacuum supplied with the Spirit and power of God.

Are we **willing** to pay the price required of us for eternal life?

Are we ready to sit down and count the cost,
and **conclude that heaven is worth the sacrifice of dying to self,**
of having our will brought into **perfect conformity** with the will of God? ...

The Lord would not have us perish.

He would have us **consecrate** to his service **all** there is of us;
for **he desires to bless us** more than we desire to be blessed.

He would have us **abide** in Christ,
receive his blessing,
and **diffuse** it to others while we live,
that we may **enjoy** a blessed eternity.

**Life is Short,
But Eternity is Endless.**
ST, November 21, 1892 par. 4

"We should ask ourselves,

For **what** are we living and working?

And **what** will be the **outcome** of it all?

We **need** the religion of Jesus Christ **daily**;

for **everything** we do or say comes under the notice of God." ST, November 21, 1892 par. 5

Die to Self Now **How will YOU die?** **Eternal Death Later**
OR

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