

Bible says life is God’s gift, death is the Devil’s will

A woman called me and wrote a letter expressing concerns about what I wrote in my most recent column concerning the death of Sen. Stan Clark.

She said it is God’s will for people to die when they do, that it is their time. Furthermore, she said, bodily death is a certainty and that eternity is not an option.

These statements are simply not in agreement with what the Bible teaches. First of all, God told Adam at Genesis 2:17: “But as for the knowledge of good and bad, you must not eat from it, for in the day you eat from it you will positively die.”

It was not God’s will for Adam and Eve to die, and He gave them a commandment and warned them that disobeying would lead to their deaths. Whose will was it for them to die?

Genesis 3:1-5 tells us that Satan, using a serpent to talk, misled Eve and convinced her that the fruit was desirable and that eating it would be good for her. Verses 4 and 5 say, “At this the serpent said to the woman: ‘You positively will not die. For God knows that in the very day of your eating from it, your eyes are about to be opened and you are bound to be like God, knowing good and bad.’”



sharon corcoran
• use it or lose it

When Satan said that, he directly contradicted what God had told Adam. Satan lied. In John 8:44, Jesus says, “You are from your father the Devil, and you wish to do the desires of your father. That one was a manslayer when he began, and he did not stand fast in the truth, because truth is not in him. When he speaks the lie, he speaks according to his own disposition, because he is a liar and the father of the lie.”

Satan has continued to spread lies throughout mankind’s history, even until today. It takes accurate knowledge of the Bible to see what God’s will is and to tell the truth from lies promoted by Satan.

One of Satan’s lies is that we all have an immortal soul that leaves our bodies at death. That is not true. If it were, Jesus would not have needed to be resurrected. His immortal soul would have simply gone to heaven. And don’t you think that when Jesus resurrected his friend Lazarus, who had been dead

for four days, that he would have told his sisters if his immortal soul had gone to heaven?

What does the Bible teach? Ezekiel 18:4 says, “Look! All the souls—to me they

belong. The soul that is sinning—it itself will die.”

The soul that sins dies. What is the soul? Genesis 2:7 says of Adam, “And God proceeded to form the man out of dust from the ground and to blow into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man came to be a living soul.”

The living creature is a soul. So what happens at death? Genesis 3:19 says, “In the sweat of your face you will eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken. For dust you are and to dust you will return.”

Psalms 146:4 says, “His spirit goes out, he goes back to the ground; in that day his thoughts do perish.”

When we die, we are dead, we are buried. Jesus said his friend Lazarus was “sleeping.” Those who have died are awaiting a resurrection. God created all things, and He can re-create his faithful servants on His new earth under His kingdom.

Jesus taught his followers to pray for that kingdom to come and God’s will to be done on EARTH. Isaiah 45: 18 tells us God is the “Former of the earth and the Maker of it. He the One who firmly established it, who did not create it simply for nothing, who formed it even to be inhabited.”

Revelation 21:1, 3 and 4 says, “And I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea is no more. . . . With that I heard a loud voice from the throne say: ‘Look! the tent of God is with mankind, and he will reside with them, and they will be his peoples. And God himself will be with them. And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away.’”

God has a wonderful future planned on earth for His faithful servants who will be resurrected.

Bodily death is not a certainty for all. It is a certainty for those chosen to go to heaven to reign with Christ in God’s kingdom. 1 Corinthians 15:50 says, “However, this I say, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit God’s kingdom, neither does corruption inherit incorruption.”

Those who go to heaven have to die first. But, those living on earth at the time of the end will not all die. A conversation between Lazarus’ sister Martha and Jesus is recorded at John 11:24-26: “Martha said to him: ‘I know he will rise in the resurrection on the last day.’ Jesus said to her: ‘I am the resurrection and the life. He that exercises faith in me, even though he dies, will come to life; and everyone that is living (at the last day) and exercises faith in me will never die at all. Do you believe this?’” (Italics mine)

Revelation 7:9-17 refers to those who will never die as a “great crowd” and says they “come out of the great tribulation.”

Death is not a certainty for everyone. Neither is eternity. Matthew 25:46 says, “And these will depart into everlasting cutting-off, but the righteous ones into everlasting life.”

2 Peter 2 mentions false prophets and other wicked ones and then says in the second part of verse 3, “But as for them, the judgment from of old is not moving slowly, and the destruction of them is not slumbering.”

The wicked will be destroyed, forever. The Bible is clear that eter-

nity will not happen for them, even an eternity of torment.

Another thing the woman said is that Satan does not have the power to cause death. But Hebrews 2:14 says, “Therefore, since the ‘young children’ are sharers of blood and flesh, he also similarly partook of the same things, that through his death he might bring to nothing the one having the means to cause death, that is, the Devil.”

2 Corinthians 4:4 says, “among whom the god of this system of things has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, that the illumination of the glorious good news about the Christ, who is the image of God, might not shine through.”

Satan is powerful in the world today, in fact, the *god* of this world in general, and he has the means to cause death. Christians need to read and study the Bible to have accurate knowledge and to see his lies for what they are, so he can’t blind our minds.

matters of record

Real Estate

The following real estate transactions were reported by the Sherman County Register of Deeds:

Lori L. and Clayton Janicke, successor co-trustee of the Floyd E. and Norma H. Wright Revocable Living Trust, to Tonia S. Vallejo, formerly Tonia S. Semler, an undivided 1/2 interest in the N/2 of Sec. 16, T7S, R38W; NW/4 and the SE/4 of Sec. 8, T7S, R38W.

Lori L. and Clayton Janicke, successor co-trustees of the Floyd E.

and Norma H. Wright Revocable Living Trust, to Cary C. Migchelbrink, formerly Cary C. Semler, an undivided 1/2 interest in the N/2 of Section 16, T7S, R38W; the NE/4 and the SW/4 of Sec. 8, T7S, R38W.

Gertrude E. Baker, trustee of the Robert C. Baker Revocable Trust, to John R. Baker the SE/4 of Sec. 6, T6S, R39W.

Gertrude E. Baker, trustee of the Robert C. Baker Revocable Trust, to Jean Ann Reid the SW/4 of Sec. 6, T6S, R39W.

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