

The Death of a Champion II Tim 4:6-8

Champions who died a Shameful death:

Saul (I Chron 10:1-6), Goliath (I Samuel), Jezebel (II Kings 9),
Korah (Numbers 26)

The Death of God's Champion...Apostle Paul

Died a fighter (died in the fight)

Serving God not automatic, not without obstacles. First enemy is me. Then, behind me there are others. The secular world is against the things of God. The Devil is the prince of the power of the air, the god of this world. There is a spiritual kingdom aligned against what we are doing here in this church.

Excepting for the helping hand of God, we all be dead men.

The Gospel met its first hinderance in the Garden of Eden. It was called the Devil telling lies.

2Co 10:3-5 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: 4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) 5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

We read about the Christian walk having weapons, we read about war, we read about opposition, we read about strongholds, we read about the church prevailing against the gates of hell, but we don't want to suffer any inconvenience serving the Lord.

Every testimony has opposition. Every song that glorifies the Lord has opposition. Every prayer to father God in the name of the Son has opposition.

Died a Finisher (died at the finish line)

We speak not of Demas, the quitter, but of Apostle the Finisher. “Paul, would you like to rescind?” “Paul, you have an opportunity to disavow your allegiance to Jesus Christ and worship the King’s god. What is your decision?”

I have not, you have not completed your work for our Lord. I wish to keep going by the grace of God. The mission field is growing. The mission field is not crowded. There is room for all who are willing to labor.

Died Faithful (died in the faith)

We are in age of change. I am sick to my stomach at change.

* We changed songs.

* We changed doctrine

* We changed congregations

* We change dress code.

* We changed the house of God. Christ would drive the donut makers and turn over the coffee makers in today’s church.

Hell is real. Heaven is sweet. Sin kills. Judgment is coming. Every knee shall bow.

Died Fruitful (died in the black)

A crown.

The death of a champion.

We do not need to follow Hollywood, NBA, NFL, Big Oragne.

We have a CHAMPION for our example: Phil 3:17 *Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.*

I have some good examples who have walked before me.