

Every Person in the Bible Is Dead

Commentary for July 15, 2020 — ... Except Christ

When I watch old movies, I sometimes think ... "Everyone in this movie is dead." When the 1939 movie *Gone With the Wind* was recently in the news I remembered that [Olivia de Havilland](#), one of the stars of the movie, was still alive at 104 years old! And she is alive as I write these words. That is 34 more years than King David wrote about in Psalm 90:

"The days of our years are threescore years and ten [70]; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore [80] years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away."¹

• **Psalm 90:10**

Born in 1916, Ms. De Havilland is certainly a strong person to live so long and I wish her long life.² With all this in mind I want to present familiar passages to give a different perspective:

All Are Dead — Every Human Being from Adam to Now, Except ...

Everyone who ever lived and died is still dead. So too, every believer in the Bible is also dead with one exception, Christ Jesus. NO ONE else is alive, not one.

He alone is alive, because of His resurrection from the dead to immortality. Read again the power and authority Jesus had before He became a man,

"... the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: by him were all things created ...

all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. [and] ... the firstborn from the dead."

• **Colossians 1:15–18**

In a sense He had immortality, but not really. I say this because He and God His Father planned His death **"before the foundation of the world"** (Hebrews 9:24–26; 1 Peter 1:18–21). He **"emptied Himself"** from His exalted status as Creator and Elohim under God His Father:

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

- **Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:**
- **But made himself of no reputation [emptied Himself], and**
- **took upon him the form of a servant, and**
- **was made in the likeness of men:**

And being found in fashion as a man,

¹ What did David mean by the phrase **"and we fly away"**? The metaphor will make sense if you read Psalm 78:39; Job 14:10, 24:24; Isaiah 38:12; Luke 12:20; and James 4:14.

² Ms. De Havilland's younger sister [Joan Fontaine](#) was also a well-known Hollywood star actress. She died at age 96. Two other non-star actors from *Gone With the Wind* are still alive as I write.

- **he humbled himself, and**
- **became obedient unto death,**
- **even the death of the cross** [Greek *starous*, an upright stake].

Wherefore God also has

- **highly exalted him, and**
- **given him a name which is above every name:**

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of

- **things in heaven, and**
- **things in earth, and**
- **things under the earth;**

And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

• **Philippians 2:5–11**

Still a Man, Still a Human Being – and Alive

I want to present another passage you know well. Keep in mind what I am declaring — that every human being is dead — except Christ:

“**For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; Who will have all men** [Greek, *anthropous*, men] **to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.**

For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men [Greek, *anthropon*,³ men], **the man** [Greek, *anthropos*, man] **Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.”**

• **1 Timothy 2:3–6**

Implications for You and Me

What this means for you and me is that we will be raised to glory when Christ returns,⁴ at the same time as Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, Elijah, Isaiah, Jeremiah, all the minor prophets, and all New Testament people, too many to mention. All are “asleep” in death. They will not exist until God and Christ make them live, putting their spirits into a new physical, fleshly body. We will meet all of them. (And eventually Ms. De Havilland.)

For each of us, “**in the twinkling of an eye**” (1 Corinthians 15:52) a new glorified body will be wrapped around us and we will have an immortal body energized by, and composed of, our Father’s own Holy Spirit. Our body will be just like Christ’s body (1 John 3:2).

Remember also, we have the benefit of God’s revelation from both Testaments. No biblical people knew what we are blessed to know. We have more information than they ever had, both because we have the complete Scripture and the hindsight of 1900+ years of history.

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³ The English term “anthropology” means, “the study of men” or mankind.

⁴ If you are in that group, see my article, “[Losing Your Salvation](#).” You may miss out of the first resurrection at Christ’s return, but all will be saved eventually.