

Mirror, Mirror... Part 3: "Defiers of Death"

By Cere Muscarella

"Receive with meekness the implanted word of God which is able *to save your soul*. Be a doer of the word and not a hearer only, which would be to deceive yourself. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who sees his image in the mirror but then goes away and forgets what manner of man he was..." **James 1.21-24**

"Receive with meekness the implanted word of God which is able *to save your soul*. Be a doer of the word and not a hearer only, which would be to deceive yourself. *But if anyone is a hearer and a doer, he is like a man who sees himself in the mirror of God's word and never forgets who he is!*" **James 1.21-24, flipside**

Working our way through the word to see what kind of images we see! So far, image of integrity/self-control in facing self-indulgent offerings! Uriah! Image and exercise of Praiser's and Worshipper's! Psalm 149 Hallel-Jah! Because praise and worship are two expressions and actions of love... *And we love Him for who He is, and for loving us... first!*

Today, a two-parter as we peer into the word to become "Defier's of Death!"

To defy: to brave, challenge, dare, face, confront, oppose, resist with courage, refusing to submit or cooperate with, *to be unaffected by...* death!

Jesus took the keys of hell and death, and handed us the keys of his kingdom! And one key frees us from 'fear of death!'

"Death" can affect us... *What we think about death determines what we do with life...* "You only go around once, so grab..." ***It can affect our sexuality!*** Who's heard about mid-life crisis? ***It affects the way we face end of life...*** Anxious/timid or expectant/determined! ***It affects our faith, our mission, our peace, our effectiveness!***

Desperate for you to understand the Christian perspective...

The Set-up! Going to watch a Robert Morris video of his near death experience!

From the moment I saw it knew we would use it on a Sunday morning! First part is a good talk/testimony! Three points will help you get focused! His conversation with God is where you will get centered!

[To see the video: YouTube, God's Goodness, Robert Morris]

"Oh death where is your sting? Where is your victory? Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through Jesus Christ!" 1Cor 15.55-58

Can you see yourself as a Defier of death...?