

# Last Words of Saints and Sinners

*They teach us to prepare for that day.*



We are wise to take to heart  
the last words of the dying.

*"It is better to go to a house of  
mourning, than to go to a house of  
feasting, because that is the end of  
every man. And the living takes it to  
heart." – Ecc. 7:2*



## BLESSING WHILE DYING

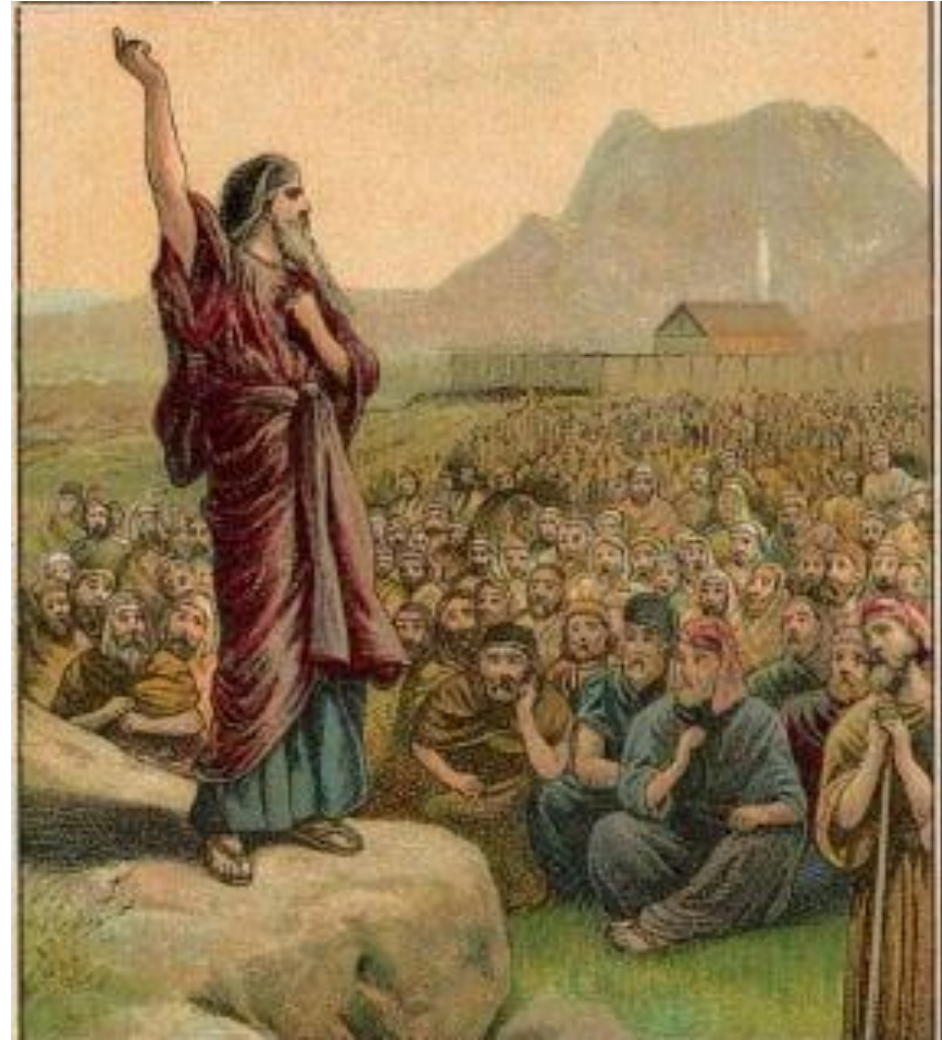


“By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, leaning upon the top of his staff.”

A Good Example for  
Fathers (and  
Grandfathers)

“Happy are you, O Israel! Who is like you, a people saved by the LORD, the shield of your help, and the sword of your triumph! Your enemies shall come fawning to you, and you shall tread upon their backs.” (Deut. 33:29)

Moses's Last Words  
= Blessing!



“And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. **But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.**

Joshua 24:15

## Joshua's Final Commitment



“Behold, this stone shall be a witness against us, for it has heard all the words of the LORD that he spoke to us. Therefore it shall be a witness against you, lest you deal falsely with your God.” –Joshua 24:27

Joshua's Last  
Words = Warning!



armourbearer, *Draw thy sword, and thrust me through therewith; lest these uncircumcised come and thrust me through, and abuse me.*

But his armourbearer would not; for he was sore afraid. Therefore Saul took a sword, and fell upon it.”

Saul's Last Words



# Contrasting Last Words and Fates

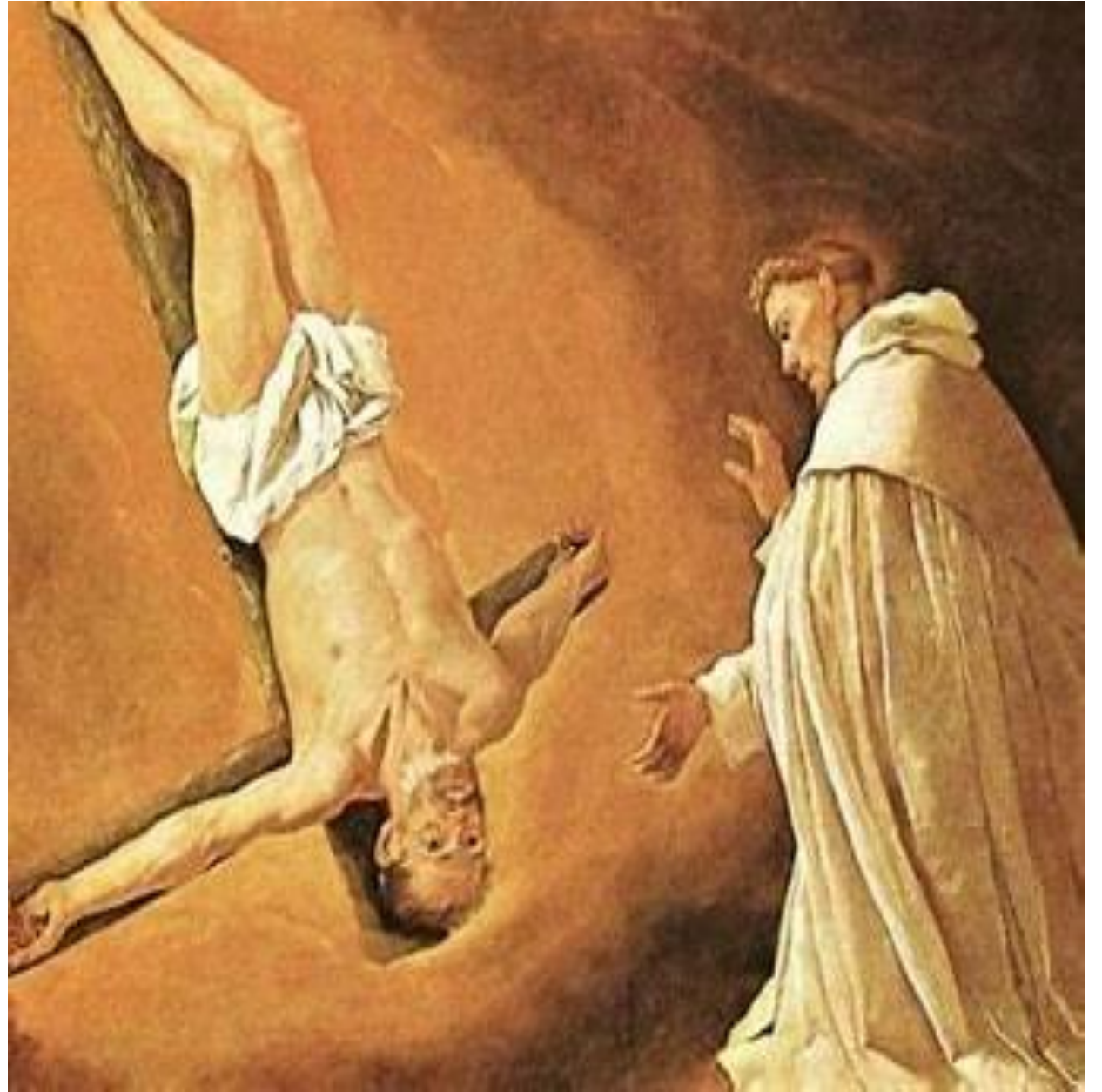
## Judas's Tragic Defeat by Evil

"I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood." And they said, What *is that* to us? see thou *to that*. And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself. (Mt. 27:4-5)

## Stephen's Triumph Over Evil

"Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he fell on his knees and cried out, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he fell asleep." (Acts 7:60)

# Peter's Challenge Just Before "Putting off His Body"



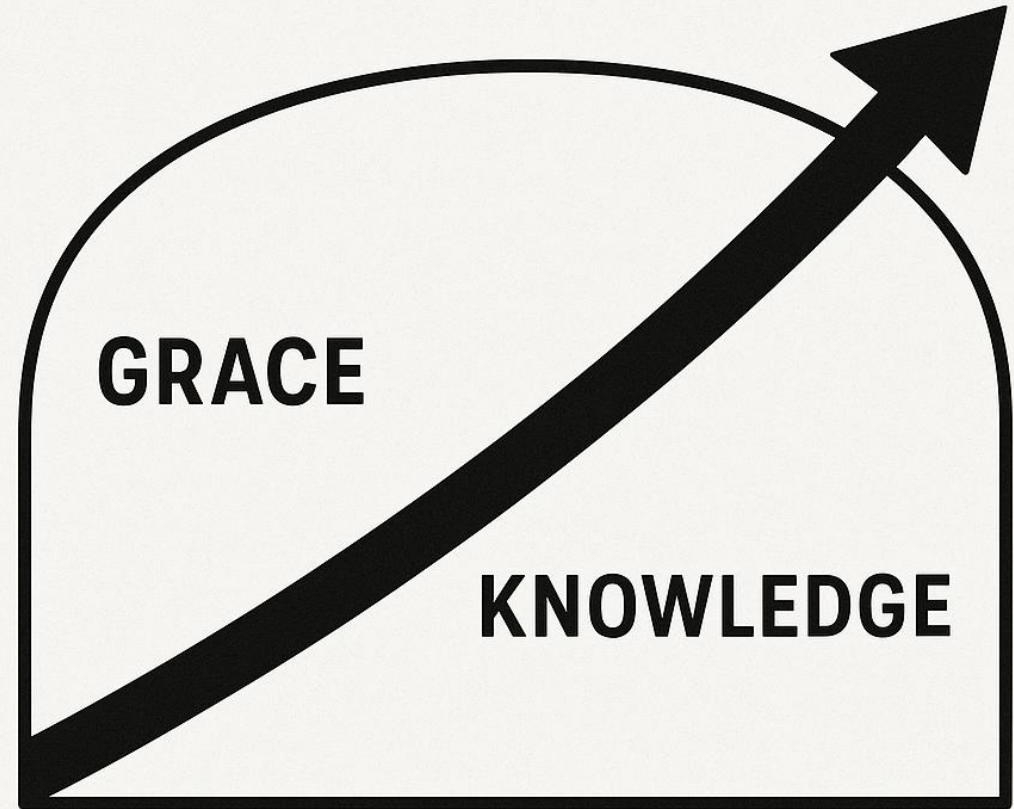
From [themindguild.com](http://themindguild.com)

2Pe 1:13, "I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to stir you up by way of reminder, 14 since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me. 15 And I will make every effort so that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things.

2Pe 3:17, "You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability. 18 *But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.* To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen."

Peter's Last Words (to us): *Grow in Grace and Knowledge!*

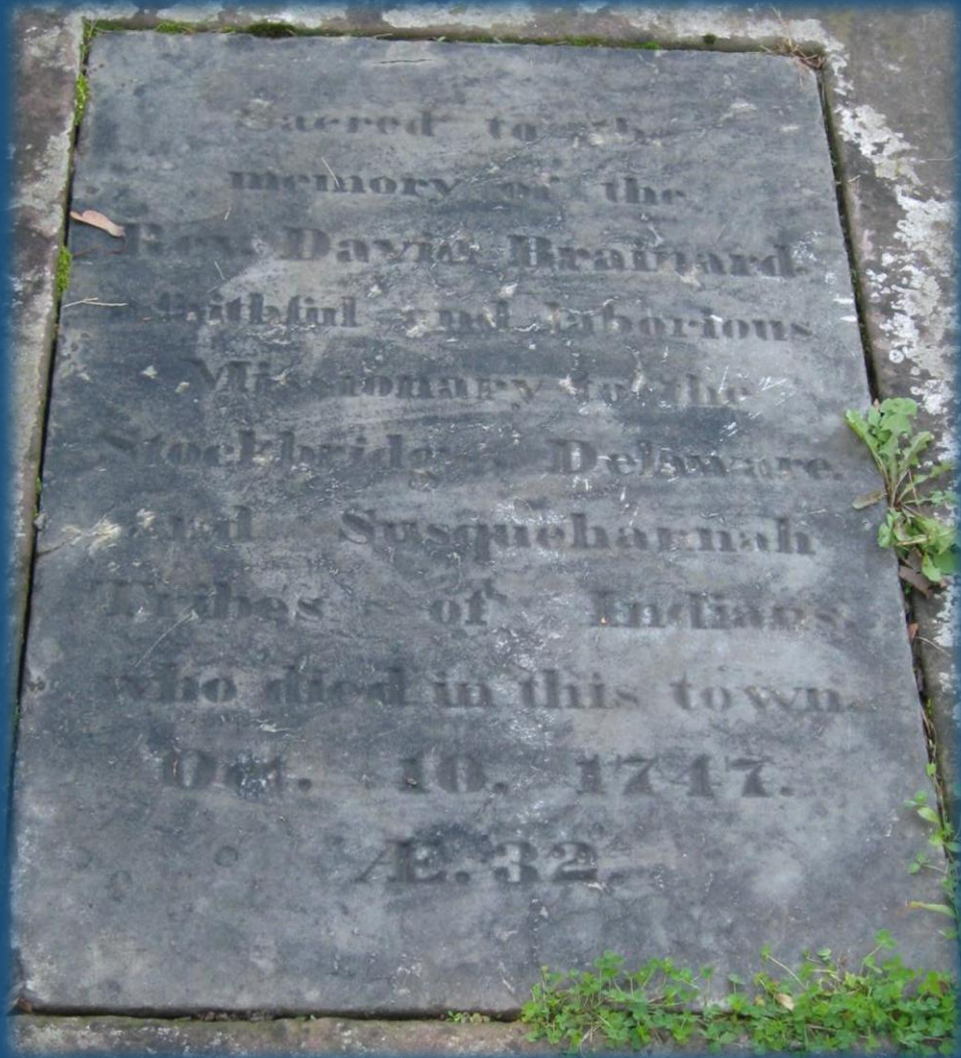
## GROWTH IN GRACE AND KNOWLEDGE



...be of good  
cheer, Master  
Ridley, and play  
the man, for we  
shall this day light  
such a candle in  
England as I trust  
by God's grace  
shall never be put  
out."

Hugh Latimer's Exhortation  
to Nicholas Ridley; Martyrs'  
Memorial in Oxford





David Brainerd

*My soul was this day, at turns, sweetly set on God: I longed to be with him, that I might behold his glory. I felt sweetly disposed to commit all to him, even my dearest friends, my dearest flock, my absent brother, and all my concerns for time and eternity. Oh that his kingdom might come in the world; that they might all love and glorify him, for what he is in himself; and that the blessed Redeemer might see the travail of his soul, and be satisfied! 'Oh come, Lord Jesus, come quickly! Amen.'* **(Last entry in diary)**



## John and Charles Wesley

“Our  
people die  
well.”

-- John Wesley's  
assessment of the  
Christians he knew in  
his movement. We  
want the same to be  
true of us.



In age and feebleness  
extreme,  
Who shall a sinful worm  
redeem?  
Jesus, my only hope thou art,  
Strength of my failing flesh  
and heart;  
Oh, could I catch a smile from  
thee,  
And drop into eternity.

## Charles Wesley's Last Effort at Poetry

As January 1788 advanced Charles found himself too weak to take even the shortest ride. He remained in his house and by February was confined to his bed. He had no actual disease and suffered no pain, but he was worn out physically. One of the Methodist preachers stated, '**He had no transports of joy, but solid hope, unshaken confidence in Christ, and perfect peace.**' Late in the month of March, being too feeble to use a pen, Charles requested his wife to write down the lines of his last production of poetic truth. (p. 250 in Dallimore's *Life of Charles Wesley*)



John Wesley's last sermon was on "Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near."

Two days later he was quite ill, but then on Sunday he felt better and quoted one of Charles' hymns:

*"Till glad I lay this body  
down,  
Thy servant, Lord, attend;  
And oh! my life of mercy  
crown  
With a triumphant end!"*



The best of all,  
God is with us!”

“I’ll praise, I’ll  
praise.”

“Farewell”



Those he left behind sang  
this song:

"Waiting to receive thy  
spirit,  
Lo, the Saviour stands  
above;  
Shows the purchase of His  
merit,  
Reaches out the crown of  
love."



“TRUST IN  
GOD, AND YE  
NEED NOT  
FEAR”

Jonathan Edwards' Last  
Words – in response to  
overhearing dark thoughts  
about his demise and its  
effect on religion and the  
College of New Jersey



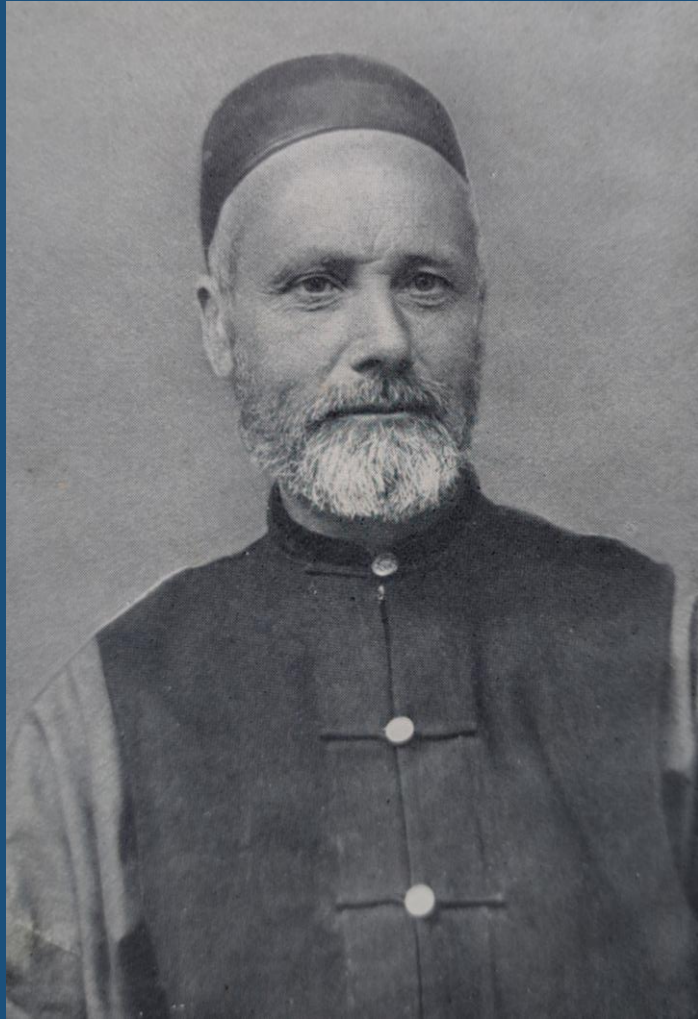
"I enjoy heaven  
already in my  
soul. My prayers  
are all  
converted into  
praises."

*Augustus Toplady, author of  
the great hymn "Rock of  
Ages," who died at age 38 in  
1778,*

**Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in Thee;  
Let the water and the blood,  
From Thy wounded side which flowed,  
Be of sin the double cure,  
Save from wrath and make me pure.**

**Not the labor of my hands  
Can fulfill Thy law's demands;  
Could my zeal no respite know,  
Could my tears forever flow,  
All for sin could not atone;  
Thou must save, and Thou alone.**

**While I draw this fleeting breath,  
When my eyes shall close in death,  
When I rise to worlds unknown,  
And behold Thee on Thy throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in Thee.**



James Gilmour  
of Mongolia

- The next day, his last, was still more restless. At one time he seemed to be addressing an audience and earnestly gesticulating with his hands; and, with as much force as he could command, he said:
- **“We are not spending the time as we should; we ought to be waiting on God in prayer for blessing on the work He has given us to do. I would like to make a rattling speech – but I cannot – I am very ill – and can only say these few words.”**
- And then he nodded his head and waved his hand, as if in farewell to his listeners.

Jacob Eames, Judson's friend from Brown University, was a "Free Thinker," as was Judson.

When Eames died overnight in the room next to Judson's at a NJ inn, Judson himself was not a Christian.

In dying, Eames was bound by that philosophy in a chain of despair.  
He was not free!



TE.	NAMES.	PLACE OF ABODE.	STATE.
setts.	Levi Hoppin,*	Providence,	Rhode-Is
land.	John L. Hutchins.	Killingly,	Connectic
setts.	Adoniram Judson, jun.	Plymouth,	Massachu
ut.	Bailey Loring,	Duxborough,	Massachu
setts.	Charles Manton,	Johnston,	Rhode-Is
setts.	William J. Manton,	Johnston,	Rhode-Is
ut.	George W. Martin,	Newport,	Rhode-Is
setts.	John R. Martin,	Providence,	Rhode-Is
ut.	Zedekiah Sanger, jun.	Bridgewater,	Massachu
setts.	Ebenezer Stoddard,	Woodstock,	Connecti
setts.	Samuel I. Thurston, jun.	Georgetown,	South-C
setts.	Charles Wheeler,	Rowley,	Massachu
setts.	Eliab Whitman,	Bridgewater,	Massach
setts.	John Willis, jun.	Bridgewater,	Massach
setts.	Ezekiel R. Wilton,	Hightstown,	New-Je



## John Paton's parting challenge

In your life and mine there is at least one chapter, one final scene, awaiting us—God, our Father knows where and how! By His grace, I will live out that chapter, I will pass through that scene in the faith and in the hope of Jesus, who has sustained me from childhood till now. As you close this book, go before your Saviour, and pledge yourself upon your knees by His help and sympathy to do the same. Fare thee well!”



"No," he answered tenderly, "just the many and great needs of the Mission; and I want to be wholly occupied with my Lord Jesus."

J. O. Fraser's answer to his wife's question, "Is there any special burden on your heart that you could share with me?"





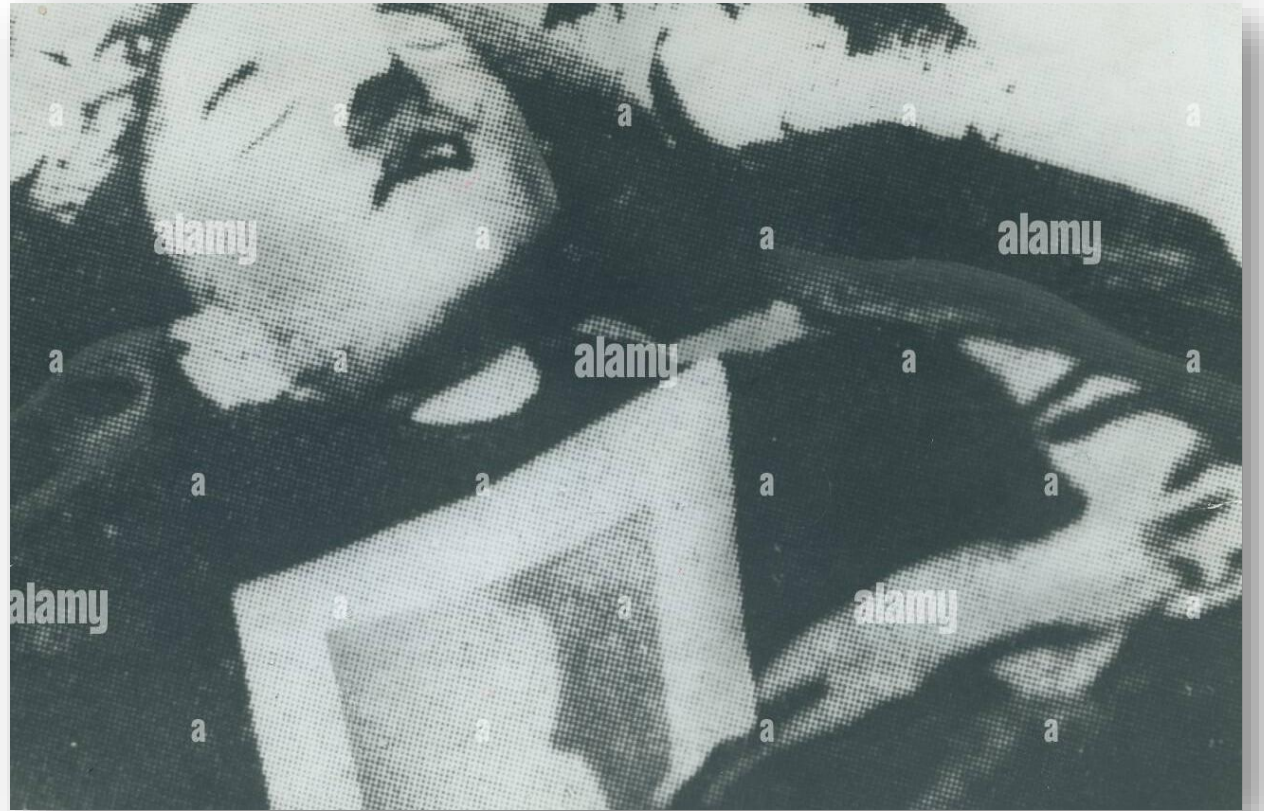
Dwight Moody's dying observations from the beloved home place

Loved ones with the dying man heard him say in a clear voice, ***“If this is death, there is no valley. This is glorious. I have been within the gates, and I saw the children! Earth is receding; Heaven approaching! God is calling me!”*** Then his eyes turned toward Emma... ***“You have been a good wife to me!”***



"I'm  
ending it  
today."

This was only the  
beginning of his  
eternal experience.



# Words of Unwarranted Optimism

*Unbelieving  
sinners are  
deceived.*

“We are all time travelers, journeying together into the future. But let us work together to make that future a place we want to visit. Be brave, be determined, overcome the odds. It can be done.”

*Stephen Hawking*, *theoretical physicist, who died on March 14, 2018*



# Actions Can Speak Louder than Words

*Death bed  
conversions are  
rare, but we  
should witness to  
the end*

Response to Cathy Payne's  
attempt to share her faith with  
a dying South African  
acquaintance –

*“If you wish to believe,  
grasp my hand.”  
The woman quickly  
withdrew her hand.*



Some last words of  
our dear friend Dr.  
Dan Dahlhausen,  
written since last  
years' family  
Conference.

5/3/25 5:30 am  
There is no fear in death  
God has conquered death  
It is my doorway to heaven  
I myself have conquered death  
I look forward to being in heaven  
with God soon  
I'll be with God forever  
God has given me a good family  
a good God  
I love God I love God  
I love God & I love His Son  
very much  
Sorry for all the sins that I've  
committed  
I look forward to rejoicing with  
the angels  
I praise God & I glory in all  
that God has given me  
I'm glad for relief from this world  
I appreciate all the ppl that have  
enriched my life for Christ sake those  
cousins that support my wife & my  
kids & my wife  
Hallel



*There is no fear in death.  
God has conquered death.  
It is my doorway to heaven.  
I myself have conquered death.  
I look forward to being in heaven  
with God soon.  
I'll be with God forever.  
God has given me a good family.  
A good God.  
I love God. I love God.*

Some last words of our dear friend Dr. Dan Dahlhausen, written since last years' family Conference.

5/3/25 5:30 am  
There is no fear in death  
God has conquered death  
It is my doorway to heaven  
I myself have conquered death  
I look forward to being in heaven  
with God soon  
I'll be with God forever  
God has given me a good family  
a good God  
I love God I love God  
I love God & I love His Son  
very much  
Sorry for all the sins that I've  
committed  
I look forward to rejoicing with  
the angels  
I praise God & I glory in all  
that God has given me  
I'm glad for relief from this world  
I appreciate all the ppl that have  
impacted my life for Christ esp those c.  
spiritual impact, my wife & my kids, my  
kids, my kids & my wife  
Hallel



*I love God and I love His Son very much.*

*I look forward to rejoicing with the angels.*

*I praise God and I glory in all that God has given me.*

*I'm glad for relief from this world.*

*I appreciate all the ppl that have impacted my life for Christ, esp those c. spiritual impact, my wife and my kids, my kids and my wife.*

*Amen*

**IT IS FINISHED!**

