

## What Will Your Marker Say?

---

by Bill Crews

Everyone wants to be remembered after this life is over. So, certain things are written upon his tombstone as an epitaph to him or her. Just what would **you** like to see on your stone? Let us notice some epitaphs that could have been written upon the stones of well-known people of the past. Especially well-known Biblical characters:

- **JESUS** — *“The Christ, the Son of the Living God”* (Matthew 16:16)
- **DORCAS** — *“She was full of good works and charitable deeds”* (Acts 9:36)
- **ABRAHAM** — *“The Friend of God”* (James 2:23)
- **ENOCH** — *“And Enoch walked with God”* (Genesis 5:24).
- **DAVID** — *“A man after God’s own heart”* (Acts 13:22)
- **PAUL** — *“For me to is Christ, and to die is gain”* (Philippians 1:21)

But let us take time to consider some epitaphs that might have been written upon the stones of evil people:

- **JUDAS ISCARIOT** — *“Judas, who betrayed Jesus”* (Matthew 26: 25)
- **THE RICH MAN WITH A GREAT HARVEST** — *“Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?”* (Luke 12:20)
- **THE RICH MAN WHO SAW LAZARUS DAY BY DAY** — *“Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented”* (Luke 16:25)
- **DEMAS** — *“For Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world, .”* (2 Timothy 4:10)
- **ALEXANDER THE COPPERSMITH** — *“Alexander the coppersmith did me much harm. May the Lord repay him according to his works”* (2 Timothy 4:14)

**How** we live will long out-live how **long** we lived. Our epitaphs will be determined by what we do or do not do in our lives here upon earth. What will your epitaph say? We are told In Hebrews 11:4 of Abel *“...and through it he being dead still speaks.”* We are also told in Revelation 14:13, *“Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, ‘Write: “Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.”’ “Yes,” says the Spirit, “that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them.”*

In looking at a headstone indicating the birth and death of the person who lies there, do you ever stop to realize that the most important thing engraved there is not the two numbers indicating birth and death, but the dash between the numbers that indicate the number of years the person has lived upon this earth? Yes, the most important thing to be remembered is the type of life he lived upon the earth!

— Adapted from *House to House and Heart to Heart*, Vol. 16, No. 4