HAVING PEACE IN THE VALLEY

1. BECAUSE I UNDERSTAND WHAT DEATH IS

1) The word "death" means "separation;" so, when we die something separates.

(James 2:26) "For as the body without the spirit is dead ..."
(Ecclesiastes 12:6-7) "... dust will return to earth ... the spirit will return to God ..."

- 2) (2 Timothy 4:6) "... the time of my departure is at hand"
- 3) (2 Peter 1:14-15) "knowing that shortly I must put off my tent ..." (2 Corinthians 5:1) "... our earthly house, this tent ..."

2. BECAUSE I KNOW DEATH WILL HAPPEN TO ME

1) (Hebrews 9:27) "And as it is appointed for men to die once ..."

(Ecclesiastes 3:2) "A time to be born, and a time to die" (Ecc. 9:5) "For the living know that they will die ..."

2) I do not how, when, or where I will die: (Ecclesiastes 8:6-7 and 9:12)

3. BECAUSE I KNOW WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I DIE

1) I know that its just my body that ceases to exist.

(Job 14:14) "If a man dies, shall he live again?" O, yes!
(John 11:25) "Jesus said to her (Martha), I am the resurrection and the life.
He who believes in Me, though he die, he shall live."

- 2) Death is my departure to be with Jesus: (Philippians 1:21-23)
- 3) I am not alone in death: (Psalm 23:4) "... for You are with me ... "
- 4) For me, death brings to an end life's difficulties.

(Revelation 21:4) "... for the former things have passed away."

All the "dis" in life will be gone: disappointment, discouragement, dis-ease.

4. BECAUSE I HAVE PREPARED FOR DEATH

(Amos 4:12) "... prepare to meet your God ... "

1) I have made my peace with God: (Romans 5:1) "Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

I obeyed the gospel: (2 Thessalonians 1:7-10)

2) I have made peace with others: (Romans 12:18 and 14:19; 1 Peter 3:10-12)

CLOSE - Some congregations refer to their funerals as "a home-going."