

- ▢ Home
- ▢ Reading notes
- ▢ Good Poems
- ▢ Media Diary
- ▢ Photos
- ▢ Live Blogs
- ▢ Links

Cyprian on martyrdom

"If we could escape death, we might reasonably fear to die. But since, on the other hand, it is necessary that a mortal man should die, we should embrace the occasion that comes by divine promise and condescension, and accomplish the ending provided by death with the reward of immortality; not fear to be slain, since we are sure when we are slain to be crowned."

~Cyprian, "Facing Martyrdom," quoted in *Pastor*, edited by William H. Willimon [#death](#)
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