

DEATH. *n. f.* [deaf, Saxon.]

1. The extinction of life; the departure of the soul from the body.

He is the mediator of the New Testament, that by means of *death*, for the redemption of the transgressions, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. *Heb. ix. 15.*

They say there is divinity in odd numbers, either in nativity or *death*. *Shakesf. Merry Wives of Windsor.*

*Death*, a necessary end,

Will come, when it will come. *Shakesf. Julius Caesar.*

He must his acts reveal,

From the first moment of his vital breath,

To his last hour of unrepenting *death*. *Dryden's Æn. b. 6.*

2. Mortality; destruction.

How did you dare

To trade and traffick with Macbeth,

In riddles and affairs of death? *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

3. The state of the dead.

In swinish sleep

Their drenched natures lie, as in a *death*. *Shakesf. Macbeth.*

4. The manner of dying.

Thou shalt die the *deaths* of them that are slain in the midst of the seas. *Ez. xxviii. 8.*

5. The image of mortality represented by a skeleton.

I had rather be married to a *death's* head, with a bone in his mouth, than to either of these. *Shakesf. Merch. of Venice.*

If I gaze now, 'tis but to see

What manner of *death's* head 'twill be,

When it is free

From that fresh upper skin;

The gazer's joy, and sin.

*Suckling.*

6. Murder, the act of destroying life unlawfully.

As in manifesting the sweet influence of his mercy, on the severe stroke of his justice; so in this, not to suffer a man of *death* to live. *Bacon, Essay 14.*

7. Cause of death.

They cried out, and said, O thou man of God, there is *death* in the pot. *2 Kings, iv. 40.*

He caught his *death* the last county-sessions, where he would go to see justice done to a poor widow woman. *Addis. Spectat.*

8. Destroyer.

All the endeavours Achilles used to meet with Hector, and be the *death* of him, is the intrigue which comprehends the battle of the last day. *Pope's View of Epic Poetry.*

9. [In poetry.] The instrument of death.

*Deaths* invisible come wing'd with fire;

They hear a dreadful noise, and straight expire. *Dry. In. Em.*

Sounded at once the bow; and swiftly flies

The feather'd *death*, and hisses through the skies. *Dryd. Æn.*

Oft, as in airy rings they skim the Heath,

The clam'rous plovers feel the leaden *death*.

*Pope.*

10. [In theology.] Damnation; eternal torments.

We pray that God will keep us from all sin and wickedness, from our ghostly enemy, and from everlasting *death*.

*Church Catechism.*