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## **THE SURE WORD by Jonnie Hutchison**

### **TIME TRAVELERS**

The possibility of traveling through time has always fascinated people. H.G. Wells published his classic novel "Time Machine" back in 1895 which was also made into a movie released in 1960. A number of popular books and movies have been produced since that time with the theme of time travel. What would it be like to travel back in time to witness great historical events or to witness your own birth or childhood? The possibilities are staggering, but is it possible?

Actually, time travel is not only possible, you are traveling through time even as you read this article. No, it is not possible for you to physically travel back in time or travel forward to the future. There is no such thing as a time machine. Nevertheless, you are traveling through time in the present. With each passing second, minute, hour, day and year, you are traveling through time. However, our time traveling will not continue indefinitely. It will end. The Psalmist penned, "Remember how short my time is; For what futility have You created all the children of men? What man can live and not see death? Can he deliver his life from the power of the grave?" ("Psalms 89:47-48). Death will end our travel through time. Nothing can prevent our appointment with death save the Lord's return (Hebrews 9:27; 1 Thess. 4:17).

As you are traveling through time, are you using those precious passing moments to make preparation for what comes after your time traveling ends? Although one's departure from this life ends one's travel through time, it does not end one's existence. The record of the rich man and Lazarus proves a conscious existence after death (Luke 16:18ff). Moses and Elijah had long been dead when they appeared talking with Jesus at our Lord's transfiguration (Matthew 7:1-3). Yes, death ends one's time travel but not one's eternal existence.

We plead with each of our readers, as you are traveling through time make certain that you are using your limited time wisely. Ephesians 5:16-17 reads, "redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is." Every time traveler needs to learn the will of the Lord and obey it. Believing that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, one must repent of sin, confess faith in Christ, and be buried with the Lord in baptism to receive the forgiveness of sins and the hope of eternal life (John 8:24; Acts 17:30-31; Rom. 10:9-10; Acts 2:38; 1 Pet. 3:21). You can't go back in time to change the past, but you can change your future as you travel through time in the present.