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THE SURE WORD

By Jonnie Hutchison

YOU KNOW YOU WILL DIE

Death is a common experience in this life. Every reader of this article has experienced either the death of a loved one, a friend, or acquaintance. Though most of us do not like to think about it, each one of us will ultimately face the reality of our own death. You know YOU will die even though you may not know when and how.

The Bible speaks to the shortness of life. The Bible affirms, “Man who is born of woman Is of few days and full of trouble. He comes forth like a flower and fades away; He flees like a shadow and does not continue” (Job 14:1-2). The New Testament speaks of both the brevity and uncertainty of life in James 4:14-15, “whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.” All of us have made plans for the next day only to have those plans changed by some unexpected event. That unexpected event could be ones’ own death. It is easy to conclude, “that will never happen to me,” but the reality is that those to whom it has happened most likely thought the same thing. Such thinking does not prevent unexpected death.

Preparation is the key to being ready for death. Death is not the end of existence. While the physical part of us dies the spiritual part of us continues to exist. Physical death is the separation of the soul from the physical body (2 Cor. 4:16-17; James 2:26). Preparation to face death with confidence requires receiving the forgiveness of sins through the blood of Jesus (Rev. 1:5; 1 Peter 1:18-19). To reach the blood of Jesus requires faith in Christ as the Son of God (John 8:24), repentance of sin (Acts 17:30), confession of faith in Christ (Rom. 10:9-10), and immersion in water into the death of Jesus where one spiritually contacts the cleansing blood of Jesus (Mark 16:16; Acts 22:16; Romans 6:3-4). One who completes these steps of obedience is forgiven and added by the Lord to His church (Acts 2:41, 47). Living faithfully for the Lord each day of one’s life results in readiness should death come. Dear reader, YOU know YOU will die. You don’t know when. Have you made the necessary preparation? May we help you do so? Please contact us.

Do you have a Bible question you would like for us to discuss in this column? Send your questions to Green Plain church of Christ, 3980 Murray Paris RD Hazel, KY 42049 or call 270-492-8206. Visit with us Sundays 10:00 am for Bible classes; 10:45 am for morning worship and 6:00 pm for evening worship. We meet each Wednesday at 7:00 pm for Bible study. Be prepared to receive a warm welcome when you visit us. Thanks for reading our article. May God bless you consistent with His will.