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THE SURE WORD by Jonnie Hutchison

YOUR LAST DAY OF LIFE

If you had only one day to live what would you do? Are there any changes that you would feel compelled to make in your life? Is there anything that you have put off that you would now feel it necessary to complete? Could you truthfully say with confidence that you are ready to die if this were your last day of life?

Most of us do not like to think about our own death. Most of us would like to delay that day as long as possible. Tremendous amounts of time and money are spent to do just that. However, death is an appointment that all of us will eventually keep. The Hebrew writer states it very clearly in the words, “and as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment” (Hebrews 9:27). Death is the natural occurrence in the existence of every living thing. When God made man, He made him a physical being who ages over time and then dies. The fact is that each of us face the possibility of our own death each day. The Bible teaches that we do not know what will happen tomorrow and that our life is like a vapor that appears for a little while and then quickly vanishes away (James 4:13-14). None of us are assured of tomorrow or even the rest of this day.

Each should be thinking about and making preparation for the day of death whether that day is coming quickly or is delayed. That is true because death is not the end of our existence. Man is a dual being consisting of both the “outward man” which is this physical body that is perishing and the “inward man” which is the spirit or soul, which is renewed each day (2 Corinthians 4:16). Physical death is the separation of the spiritual part of ourselves from this physical body (James 2:26). Following death and the judgment each of us will exist in either one of two eternal places of which Jesus spoke when He declared of those who had failed to make the proper preparation, “And these shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous (*those who made the proper preparation*) into eternal life” (Matthew 24:46).

Dear reader, if you are not ready for the day of your death we plead with you to make that preparation while you still have the opportunity. The initial steps necessary to making proper preparation include faith in Christ (John 8:24), repentance of sins (Acts 17:30), confessing faith in Christ (Romans 10:9-10) and being immersed in water into the death of Jesus to reach His precious blood for the cleansing of sins (Rom. 6:3-4; Acts 2:38; 22:16). One who completes these steps of obedience is added by the Lord to His church (Acts 2:47; Ephesians 1:22-23) spending the rest of the time God grants as a faithful servant of Jesus. Please do not let the last day of your life catch you unprepared.