

November 4, 2017

THE SURE WORD by Jonnie Hutchison

DON'T LET TIME GET AWAY

Harold G. Taylor writes, "Time is short. We live within the framework of clocks and calendars; seconds and minutes; days and weeks; months and years. The first twenty years are the longest. The rest of life is a fast runaway train. If life is kind, we now live 25,550 days in the halls of the living. If you are forty, you have 10,950 days left; if sixty-five, the count goes down to 1,825; if you are seventy-five, you are already on borrowed time. When you are but sixteen, you are in the springtime of youth; when sixty, it's already late autumn."

The book of Psalms tells me that I must "number my days" (Psalm 90:12). Barring fatal accidents, disease and the like, how many days do you have left on this earth? What are you doing with the limited time you have left? Time is so precious that the Bible declares that we each should be "redeeming the time because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:16). To "redeem" the time is to use it correctly for time, once it is used, is gone forever. Life consists of the passing of time and life is pictured in the Bible as a vapor of steam that appears for "a little while and then vanishes away" (James 4:13-14). None of us are assured of another day of life. Time for any of us could end at any moment. As you read these words someone somewhere is experiencing death. It could be me or it could be you. With the obvious brevity of life so vividly before us, how can anyone of us continue to indulge himself or herself in a wasteful useless life controlled by sin and the devil? To live one's life in accord with the adage "eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow we die" is not only an empty life but foolish as well. The only life that is truly profitable and will bring genuine and lasting happiness and hope beyond the grave is the life of a Christian. The person who makes that proper preparation for the day of his or her death may face death with confidence. The next great event in the existence of the dead is the judgment. "but as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27). One who has chosen to live as a faithful Christian may face both death and the judgment with boldness. "Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world" (1 John 4:17-18).

Yes, time is short. The opportunities for eternal preparation are quickly passing us by. Listen to this, "...Behold, NOW is the accepted TIME; behold NOW is the day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2). Dear reader, don't let time get away from you! Make preparation for the day of your death NOW while there is still time!