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THE SURE WORD by Jonnie Hutchison

“YOU’RE NOT GETTING ANY YOUNGER”

One thing that every human being has in common is that our lives are spent growing older. The so-called “fountain of youth” does not exist. Despite advances in medical treatments and technology, there has been no dramatic increase in the life-span of man. Psalms 90:10 reads, “The days of our lives are seventy years; And if by reason of strength they are eighty years, Yet their boast is only labor and sorrow; For it is soon cut off, and we fly away.” Our lives are brief at best and the brevity of our lives should impress upon any thinking person the necessity of considering what comes after death. Do we cease to exist at death? Is this life all there is? One who answers yes to these questions has not considered all the possibilities.

The Bible clearly teaches that man is more than just flesh, blood and bones. We each have an “outward man” but we also have an “inward man.” Inspiration declares, “Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our **outward man** is perishing, yet the **inward man** is being renewed day by day” (2 Corinthians 4:16). It is the outward man that is growing old. It is the outward man which will experience physical death. Yet, the “inward man” does not experience physical death. The inward man lives on after death. The book of James describes physical death as the separation of this inward or spiritual man from the outward or physical man. “For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also” (James 2:26). By inspiration of the Holy Spirit Solomon wrote, “Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, And the spirit will return to God who gave it” (Ecclesiastes 12:7). Death is an appointment that every person must keep and eventually comes to all who grow old.

Those who have reached their “golden years” will readily admit just how quickly life passes. We look back and ask, “Where did the time go?” It seems like just yesterday that we were enjoying our youth. Now, those days are gone forever. Yet, “we do not lose heart.” Why? Because “though out outward man is perishing, the inward man is being renewed day by day.” We are growing old on the outside, but not on the inside. We can continue to live as faithful servants of the Lord regardless of physical limitations that often come with age. If you are a faithful Christian rejoice in your hope of heaven. If you are not, then make the necessary changes in your life to prepare for the day of your death. Now is the time to make your preparation. Tomorrow may very well be too late. No one, regardless of age, has a lease on life. Death often comes when least expected. Dear reader, are you ready for it? After all, you’re not getting any younger.