

Life Is Short

By Ron Boatwright

This life is so short. Job says, "My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle" (Job 7:6). We cannot stop time or even slow it down. Job continues to say, "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).

We must live our short life pleasing to God so we can go to Heaven when this life is over. God's word says, "Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit'; 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. Instead you ought to say, 'If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that'" (James 4:13-15). This life is so short. It is temporary.

Many people put off becoming a Christian because they are too busy with their worldly pursuits. But cars wreck, planes crash, people die everyday of strokes and heart attacks, and without warning the vapor of life quickly disappears. "And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27). Everyday we live we are one day closer to death and eternity. We are not promised tomorrow. Tomorrow is only a hope.

People can hide their fear of dying and cover it up with the pursuit of "material success". "For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matthew 16:26). Our soul is priceless. Many people put off becoming a Christian, or those who become unfaithful delay their repentance until they can get everything just right before they obey the Lord. They seem to think they will live forever on this earth. In talking to people about their soul, many respond by saying, "I'm not ready yet". The problem is there is not much time left to get ready. They will soon run out of time. It will be too late then. We must get it right while we have time. There will be no second chances. One will not accidentally go to Heaven.

In less than one hundred years from now we will all be dead. We will either be with the many being tormented in Hell or with the few in the glory of Heaven (Matthew 7:13-14). We make the choice in this life as to which place we will be. Let's make the right choice.

Edifier

Evant church of Christ

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March 6, 2016



Attending church services regularly is like making a path through the forest: the more often you use it, the less obstruction you find in the way."

Sunday Worship:

Will Vann, Preacher

9:30 am Bible Study

863-899-0987

10:20 am Worship

Email: wvann@yahoo.com

12:30 pm Afternoon

www.evantchurchofchrist.org

Wednesday Night

7:pm

Closed Eyes and Truth -- and Shut Mouths

Some time ago a fine article was written based on unwillingness to see the truth. The story was told of a driver of a car who suddenly found that a traffic light was changing to red and he told his companion, "Oops! Close your eyes. We're going through." The author aptly quipped, "After all, as long as you close your eyes and refuse to look at the red light, then it's OK to run it. (Try telling a judge!)"

It is tragic that many close their eyes to the truth when it involves their spiritual condition. It is certainly equally as tragic that some will shut their mouths to preach needed truth. There is no difference in willful blindness and willfully silence. Refusing to preach on issues that threaten the spiritual welfare of people is sinful. It is plain dereliction of duty. Try telling the Judge of all the earth why you refused to see the truth -- and preach the truth.

Many years ago it was necessary to determine from Scripture whether local churches should finance the building and maintenance of human organizations such as Orphanages, Colleges, and similar human enterprises. Many closed their eyes and shut their mouths, refusing to either learn about or preach on the issue. The result is now history. We should be thankful for those valiant brethren who opened both eyes and mouth and dealt with the institutional defection. Many of us would not be where we are now if they had been blind and silent.

When brethren close their eyes to problems, specifically where members of the church have been inducted into and are active members of the Masonic Lodge, no one ought to close their eyes and shut their mouths. The light is no less red just because we close our eyes, **and shut our mouths**. When members are guilty of immoral behavior, and we close our eyes and shut our mouths, rather than deal scripturally with the situation, we are guilty of willful neglect. It is that sort of thing that leads churches astray.

Why would a gospel preacher would close his eyes and shut his mouth to diabolical devices that will harm the cause of Christ and cause people to be lost? Recently, a respected elder told me of a situation where the elders of a local church restricted their local preacher from preaching from the pulpit on such things as Christian's participation in Free Masonry. Others have been asked not to teach from the pulpit on marriage and divorce, immodest apparel or dancing. This is a sorry situation. No preacher is worth very much who either shuts his own mouth, or allows it to be shut by anyone when he ought to be speaking the truth to the salvation of souls.

For all such as close their eyes, we pray with Paul, "The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling..." (Eph. 1:18). And for those who shut their mouths, either voluntarily or otherwise, we pray with Paul, "...that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel" (Eph. 6:19). – DRS

Those to Serve

(B) Calvin Burks FV) Mike Mallett

(O) Jeffrey Burks (A) Kyle Stifflemire

1st prayer Vernon Houts 2nd prayer Doug Pruett

Announcements: Jack Wall Singing: Judd Wall

Prayer list: Mildred Lovell, Darrell Debo, Naomi Wall, Gene Payne, Lloyd Crownover, Ruby Jones, Evelyn Hill. Pray for our nation, our Troops and Law Enforcement



March 19th

**Let's all Hippity, Hoppity
out to the Houts'
for an Easter Egg hunt
and hot dog cook out.**

Hebrews 3:1-4 King James Version (KJV)

3 Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;

2 Who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in all his house.

3 For this man was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath builded the house hath more honour than the house.

4 For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God.



To

Koh Stapp March 12th

Dennis Sheldon March 30th

Dates to Remember

March 6th

Mission Sunday

March 5th –13th

Spring Break

March 13th

Daylight Savings Begins

March 19th

First day of Spring