

Prepare To Meet Your God

By Ron Boatwright

The Israelites were told to "Prepare to meet your God" (Amos 4:12). All people should be preparing to stand before God, because one day we all will. No one knows the day or hour he will die but, "And as it is appointed for man to die once, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27). Our appointments with death and judgment cannot be canceled. Every person who has ever lived will keep both appointments whether they want to or not. Death is not the end for anyone. We are not like the dog Rover, when he is dead he is dead all over. People are eternal beings and all our souls will live on eternally in either one of two places: Heaven or Hell. When we draw our last breath, our eternal fate is sealed.

After we die we will all stand before the Lord and be judged. "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men" (2 Corinthians 5:10-11). "So then each of us shall give account of himself to God" (Romans 14:12).

The vast majority of the world is living as though they think they will never stand before the Lord in judgment. They live as though they think there is no God. They give no thought about ever dying, but they will die because there is "a time to be born, and a time to die" (Ecclesiastes 3:2). "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat, both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness" (2 Peter 3:10-11). For the vast majority of people, "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God" (Hebrews 10:31). People, who are not prepared to meet God in judgment, do not realize how fearful this will be. But this will only be the beginning of their fear, which will last forever and ever.

Because the majority of people have not prepared to meet God, "There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth" (Matthew 13:42), when they are cast into "hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched, where their worm does not die" (Mark 9:43-44). This torment will go on forever. This is not a scare tactic, because Hell is real.

But what about the few who are prepared to meet God as they "Enter into the joy of your Lord" (Matthew 25:21)? In Heaven "God will wipe away every tear from their eyes, there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away" (Revelation 21:4). Let's be prepared to meet God so we can go to Heaven.

Edifier

Evant church of Christ

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Evant, TX 76525

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June 12, 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

Endure

I have heard it said, “no matter where you are in your life, you are either in the midst of a trial, coming out of a trial, or about to enter into one.” This is a somewhat fatalistic approach to life, but there is an element of truth in it. Life is an endurance race. Paul tells the Corinthian brethren, “Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things” (1 Cor. 9:24). Paul towards the end of his life, “being such a one as Paul, the aged” (Phile. 1:9), told Timothy, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith” (2 Tim. 4:7). We are in the race of our life, for our entire life!

Strong’s concordance defines ‘endure’ as, “I remain behind, I stand my ground, show endurance, I endure, bear up against, persevere.” Christ exhorts His disciples, “They will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name’s sake. And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved” (Mat. 24:9-12). He urges them to endure tribulation, betrayal, hatred, lovelessness, lawlessness, death everything (but the only things) this world can throw at you. If you can do this, you shall be saved! This is a reward after the trials of this life. A prize that outweighs even the worst that could be endured in this life to obtain it (2 Cor. 4:17). “And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown” (1 Cor. 9:25).

As is the case with any race, the victor does not receive the prize until the race is over and won. It is at the end of endurance when the crown of eternal life is placed on the victor’s head! “But the race is long, and the trials are arduous,” yes, but Christ reminds us that it can be done. “In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world” (Jn. 16:33). If we endure as He did, “The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together” (Rom. 8:16,17).

Will Vann

Those to Serve

(B) Vernon Houts FV) Mike Mallett

(O) Doug Pruet (A) Kyle Stifflemire

1st prayer Keith Stifflemire 2nd prayer Calvin Burks

Announcements: Jack Wall Singing: Judd Wall

Prayer List: Naomi Wall , Mildred Lovell , Gene Payne, Lloyd Crownover, Ruby Jones, Pray for our nation, our Troops and Law Enforcement

You should know that--

1. God is the giver of life (Acts 17:25)
2. God is the source of every good and perfect gift (James 1:17)
3. God has expressed His love toward us (John 3:16; Romans 5:8; 1 John 3:16)
4. Jesus died for your sins, was buried, and rose again the third day (1 Corinthians 15:1-4)
5. Jesus will wash you from your sins in His own blood (Revelation 1:5) when you are baptized (Acts 22:16)



To

Will & Autumn Vann

June 14th



To

Warren Miller June 15th

Naomi Wall June 23rd

Mike Lovell July 16

Keith Stifflemire July 22

Dates to Remember

June 14th

Flag Day

June 19th

Fathers Day

June 20th

First day of Summer

June 26th

Noon Fellowship

July 3rd

Mission Sunday