
Words of Truth

“You Have The Rest Of Your Life Ahead Of You”

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It is common for young people to hear this statement: “You have the rest of your life ahead of you” (i.e. <http://www.recoveryranch.com/articles/dont-let-trauma-ruin-your-life/>). Many find comfort in thinking about things to come in their lives. This is especially true after said individuals have experienced something bad in this life. The problem is, not all words of comfort and peace are true (Jeremiah 6:14, Jeremiah 8:11, Jeremiah 8:15, Ezekiel 13:10, and Ezekiel 13:16).

What does the rest of your life consist of? Even in the best life in this world, what do you really accomplish? If you have the best job, the biggest house, the most attractive mate, the most money, perfect physical health, etc.; what do you really have? When you leave this world, what will those things matter?

Consider this: *“And one of the company said unto him, Master, speak to my brother, that he divide the inheritance with me. And he said unto him, Man, who made me a judge or a divider over you? And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth. And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God”* (Luke 12:13-21).

It doesn't matter who you are, when you die you leave whatever you have in this world for others to take (Psalms 49:10). We brought nothing into this world and it is certain that we will take nothing into the life to come (I Timothy 6:7). Yet, people still want more things. Young people are taught to get an education (not saying that is wrong in itself) and to be “successful” in life. What does that mean? What is a successful life? Riches certainly won't save your soul (Proverbs 11:4). So, what is the goal for the “rest of your life”? What do you consider to be the “rest of your life”?

The Rest Of YOUR Life Is Still To Come

Whether you are eight years old or eighty years old, you are at the beginning of your existence. Unless Christ comes first, you will cease to exist in the flesh (II Samuel 14:14, Psalms 89:48, and Ecclesiastes 9:5). When your physical body dies, your soul will go on to one of two places in the hadean realm (Ecclesiastes 12:7 and Luke 16:19-31). When Christ returns, we will all be resurrected

and changed (I Corinthians 15:36-57). After we are changed we will spend eternity in either our reward or punishment (Matthew 25:31-46). When you think about those things that is when you are really thinking about the rest of your life. The question then is, what are you doing now to prepare for the rest of your life?

Being Ready For The Rest Of Your Life

When you realize that you will answer for everything you do in this life, you should be in a state of fear (II Corinthians 5:10-11). When Noah learned of the flood he moved with fear (Hebrews 11:7). We should serve God with reverence and godly fear (Hebrews 12:28-29). The problem is, the world around us doesn't promote thinking about eternal life or eternal damnation. The world around us encourages us to get lost (literally) in thinking about the life we have now. When the Lord comes, that attitude will leave most people unprepared to meet Him.

Consider the following parable that makes the point far better than I can: *"Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. And at mid night there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out. But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut. Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not. Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh"* (Matthew 25:1-13).

If the Lord returned today He'd expect to find you doing His will at that moment (Matthew 24:42-51). He doesn't want to find us living as though we have an eternity on this earth to prepare for Him. He teaches us that life is short (Psalms 90:10 and James 4:13-16). Our Lord teaches us to be ready for Him to come at any time (Luke 12:40 and I Thessalonians 5:1-8). Therefore, we should all be spending our days living as though the rest of our lives are about to start right now. That is, understanding that the rest of your life will either be in Heaven or in Hell.

Conclusion

Are you ready today, right now, for the rest of your life? Are you prepared? You cannot live your life with your head in the sand as though you will always have tomorrow. You cannot live your life now as though you will have fulfilled your purpose by reaching your earthly goals either. Your affections should be set on things above, not on things of the earth (Colossians 3:1-4). You should not allow yourself to get entangled with the busy things of this life either (II Timothy 2:3-4). If the rest of your life is, to you, merely what is to come in the flesh; your eternity is going to be miserable. Moreover, you are choosing to be blind to the reality of life beyond this world. If you haven't prepared, now is the time to do so. The rest of your life is still to come, therefore let this be your attitude: *"I made haste, and delayed not to keep thy commandments"* (Psalms 119:60).