

THE END OF ALL MEN

A GREAT EXPOSITION ON WHAT YOU ARE TO
EXPECT AND EXPERIENCE AFTER YOUR LIFE HERE
ON EARTH

(IF YOU ARE STILL ALIVE, THEN THIS IS A MUST READ FOR YOU)

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(UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT)

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THE END OF ALL MEN!

In times immemorial, so much has been said concerning the origin of man- Genesis 1:27 says “so God created man in his own image, in the image of God He created him, male and female He created them: And in Genesis 2:7, “..... the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living being”. These scriptures summarize how man (male and female) came into being; the woman was already in the man before God extracted her in Genesis 2:21-23. So, when we talk about ‘men’ we are referring to both male and female.

Also, we’ve learnt from the scriptures that life on earth is a pilgrimage i.e. we are just passing through – Gen. 3:19, I Peter 2:11, Eccl 3:2a, 8:8.

With this understanding, it becomes expedient we consider what the end would look like. Just as the graduation of a university student is more important than his matriculation, the day of a man’s exit from this planet is more important than his arrival at birth. The Bible says “heaven and earth will pass away” Matt. 24:35a, and since men are inhabiting the earth, it simply implies that all men’ll pass away too. That is, one day, all men’ll have to leave this earth, and this reality calls for a sober reflection, especially when one considers where men’s souls go after departure.

To this end, the Lord has decided to reveal what we are to expect hereafter, so that all men will prepare for the journey to eternity. If you’re still living, the following are the events you are to expect:

There are only two ways designed for men to leave this world – Death and Rapture. Hebrews 9:27 says “And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment”. Death is an inevitable gateway into eternity, and it comes through different ways. For instance, it may come through sickness as it was the case of Elisha in 2 Kings 13:14, it

may come as a result of old age, as it was the case of Job in Job 42:17, and it may come in the course of a battle as it was in the case of King Saul in I Sam 31:1-6; these are just to mention a few. Death strikes regardless of age; it takes infants, youths and the elderly alike. Also, it takes both men and women regardless of their anointing, status or educational background. It's a sure end for all men – Heb. 9:27. Now, the question is, when men die, where do they go? To answer this question, we need to classify men into two (2) groups. Group one represents the righteous (the saved, those whose sins have been forgiven by reason of their confessing Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour) while group two represents the unrighteous (the unsaved, those whose sins are yet to be forgiven by reason of their refusal to confess Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour).

When the people in group one die, their souls go to a place called Paradise while their bodies remain in the grave. Paradise is like a waiting room for the righteous dead before the judgment, when the redemption of their bodies would have taken place. For instance, after one of the thieves crucified with Jesus Christ requested to be remembered in His kingdom, he was granted permission to enter paradise with Him – Luke 23:42-43. Also, in Luke 16:19-22, in the story told by Jesus Christ, the righteous dead (Lazarus) was carried to the place of the righteous dead (according to The Living Bible translation) which is otherwise known as Abraham's bosom. The souls of the righteous dead are taken to paradise after death to be comforted and await the redemption of their bodies – I Cor. 15:42.

On the other hand, when the people in group two die; their souls go to a place called Hell or Hades, while their bodies remain in the grave. Hell is a place of torment, and it is a waiting room for the unrighteous dead before their judgment takes place (when their bodies would have come alive). Luke 16:19-26 gives an account of how a soul fares in hell. So, for now, all the righteous dead are in Paradise, while all the unrighteous dead are in Hell or Hades.

The second way designed for men to leave this earth is through Rapture; but only the righteous are permitted to go through it. Rapture, the taking-up of believers (saints) is an event all the living saints are awaiting. It hasn't happened yet, but it'll surely happen. It is described in I Thessalonians 4:16-17. "For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then, we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And, thus we shall always be with the Lord". And according to I Cor 15:50-54, the dead in Christ'll be given a new body with which they'll rise to meet the Lord while those still alive 'ld also be changed i.e be given an immortal body in a twinkling of an eye. This sudden translation and up-taking of the dead and living saints is referred to as "the rapture of the saints". Until this rapture takes place, people 'ld still be dying and their souls will be going to either paradise or hell.

Now, as to when this rapture is going to take place, no man knows the time not even Jesus Christ nor the angels in heaven, only the Father knows – Mt. 24:36, 44. No saint wants to miss this event because missing it'ld spell doom for such a believer. It'ld be like it was in the days of Noah – everyone was minding his business while Noah was gathering his family and animals into the ark. Suddenly, the flood came and swept off all those outside the ark. The key to being ready for Rapture is to be born again as well as engaging in sincere and genuine watchfulness – in prayers, fasting, and in every other aspect. Believers must not be caught unawares – I Thess 5:4, 6.

So, at rapture, the dead in Christ 'ld rise first and with their glorious bodies, they 'ld meet the Lord in the air after which the living saints would be transformed (given immortal bodies) and be caught up in the air to always be with the Lord.

After this rapture, certain events will unfold, the Holy Spirit would have been taken out of the earth, and grace would also have been raptured so that the man of sin, the Anti Christ could be revealed – 2 Thess. 2:6-7. The Holy Spirit has been the One holding him back, but at this time he 'ld be revealed and will make the world operate a unified government with himself as the head i.e he'll rule the whole world. At the early period of his reign, there'll be peace, and he 'ld perform great wonders, making the people of the earth believe he is really the Messiah, especially the Jews. He 'ld deceive many by reason of his ability to do miracles – Rev 13. After a while, he 'ld command everyone on earth to receive his mark – 666 – on their foreheads or right hands as a sign of acceptance of his government, and he won't allow any transaction – buying or selling, without the number (Rev. 13). At this point, the Christians who missed rapture would eventually realize this man is the Antichrist and would refuse to accept his mark. Twelve thousand (12,000) men from each tribe of Israel would be appointed by God, totalling 144,000 to evangelize the whole world preaching against accepting the Antichrist mark – Rev. 7:1-8; 14:1-13; but they 'ld be mercilessly killed. Also, those refusing to accept this mark 'ld go through the most painful period of their lives as a result of the torture the Antichrist's government will administer to them – Rev 13:7; Rev. 15-17. This is what the Bible refers to as ***“The Great Tribulation”*** – Matt. 24:21-22. It wouldn't be funny at all. To defend your faith in Jesus by refusing to accept the Antichrist's mark, you'll have to be martyred. It is going to be a period of untold anguish and lamentation. The experience then is not what you'll wish your greatest enemy, let alone partaking in it. The Bible says there's never a period in the history of mankind that is going to be as terrible as this, neither will there be any compared to it in the future (after it). It's indeed going to be a Great Tribulation period for the Christians who miss the rapture. However, if they hold on to the end without accepting the Antichrist's mark or worshipping his image, they'd still be redeemed. That is, they'll join the already raptured saints as Tribulation Saints – Rev 7:9-14. On the other hand, those who accept his mark or worship him are forever

doomed. Their eternity in the lake of fire is already secured – no remedy at all – Rev 14:9-11.

While these are taking place on earth, the Raptured saints together with the Resurrection Saints in the air would be judged and rewarded based on their works for the Lord. Their works 'ld be tested by fire and crowns 'ld be given – Rev 11:18. Also, they'll be joined with the Lord at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb – Rev 19:7-9.

On completion of the Great Tribulation on the earth, the angels of God would pour the seven bowls of God's wrath upon the earth – to torture everyone having the mark of the beast and worshipping his statue – Rev 16:1-21. After this, the Lamb of God – Jesus Christ, together with His army'll fight and conquer the Antichrist with his armies at Armageddon – Rev. 16:14, 16; 19:11-21. Next to this is the seizure of the devil for 1,000 years – though he'd be released for a while afterwards. At this time, the martyrs of Christ-those killed for refusing to receive the mark of the beast – would be rewarded, and together with the rapture and resurrection saints, they 'll reign with Christ on earth for a thousand years – Rev 20:1-4. Only those with Jesus 'ld be alive then; all others (the unrighteous ones) 'ld still be dead. The 1,000 years reign with Christ is referred to as the Millennial Reign, and it's meant only for those who partake in the first resurrection – the saints (Rev 20:5-6). At the end of the 1,000 years, Satan will be let out of his prison in order to go out and deceive the nations of the world and gather them together for battle. They'll surround God's people but fire from God in heaven will flash down on them and consume them. Then, the devil will be cast into the lake of fire where the Beast and False prophets were cast after the Armageddon battle – Rev. 19:20; 20:7-10.

At this time, the Great White Throne judgment 'ld commence where the unrighteous dead 'ld come alive and be judged according to their works, and their eternal fate sealed. According to Rev 20:11-15, all the unrighteous dead in the sea, ocean, in the grave etc 'ld be surrendered

and gathered at the throne of judgment. They'd be judged based on their works (deeds) – vs 13, and afterwards thrown into the Lake of Fire if their names are not found written in the Book of Life – this is called the second or eternal death; it is eternal damnation, forever banished from God. It is also at this time that both Death and Hell 'ld be thrown into the Lake of Fire. People in this lake are forever tormented – everlastingly. It is called the **Second Death**. This is the final end of all sinners.

At this time, the heaven and earth 'ld have passed away, and all things 'ld be made new – Rev 21:1. Then, the New Jerusalem would descend from God out of heaven, where all the saints will live forever with God – Rev. 21:2-4. The description of this new home of saints – the New Jerusalem is given in details in Rev 21:9-27 and 22:1-5.

For instance, no temple 'ld be seen in it, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb would be worshipped in it everywhere. Also, there'd not be need for sun or moon to light it, for they glory of God and of the Lamb'll illuminate it, and there 'ld not be night there – Rev 21:22-25. These are just to mention a few. The glory is simply splendid. You can't afford to miss it. However, verse 27 of Rev 21 emphasizes the fact that “Nothing evil will be permitted in it – no one immoral or dishonest but **ONLY THOSE WHOSE NAMES ARE WRITTEN IN THE LAMB'S BOOK OF LIFE (TLB)**”.

In this Holy City, the saints 'ld have access to the Water and Trees of Life, inheriting all things – Rev 22:1-5.

How would life look like then? Well, just as it was in the beginning before the fall of man. God'll assign duties to his saints and worship'd be rendered everywhere. Also, there'll not be anything like sorrow, weeping, hunger or death; even the animals'll become friendly. Just as the earth is spherical now, the New Jerusalem would be cube-like then – Rev. 21:15-16 (TLB). This is the eternal portion of all saints – those

whose names are found written in the Book of Life. May you be among us in Jesus' name.

Please take note, this message is only for the living, not for those who are already dead. For them, their fate is eternally sealed, but for you, you can still do something about where you intend to spend your eternity.

Now, you may want to ask, "while I'm still alive, what do I do to ensure I'm not lost forever?" You're to carefully follow these steps;

1. Secure Your Eternal Ticket

This is by asking God to forgive your sins and cleanse you by the precious blood of His dear Son Jesus Christ; after which you'll consciously confess Him (Jesus Christ) as your personal Lord and Saviour, believing in your heart that He was dead, and God raised Him back to life for your justification (Rom. 10:9-10). This is called salvation, without which you can't enter God's kingdom – Jh. 3:3.

2. Keep Your Garment Clean and Unspotted by the World

The moment you confess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour, you are given a new white robe, it is called the ***Righteousness of Saints***. It is given to you by God as a gift because you identified with His righteous Son, Jesus Christ. You may not see it physically, but in the spirit, that's what you are wearing. So, it is now your responsibility to link up with the Holy Spirit to ensure your garment doesn't get stained by the affairs of this world – lust, greed, hatred, etc as highlighted in Galatians 5:19-21 and I Jh 2:15-17. You're to run away from everything that looks like sin (I Thess 5:22). Jesus Christ must meet your garment white when He returns for you – Ephesians 5:26-27.

3. Fellowship Regularly with Other Believers (Those on Their Way to Heaven).

There are so many churches today and all of them claim to be the true church, but there is only one church Christ left on earth when He was going; it is called the Body of Christ; the Bride – and it comprises all whose sins have been forgiven. These may however belong to different denominations, but they are one church as defined by Christ – the Head of the Church. So, to grow into the fullness of Christ, prayerfully locate a local assembly where Jesus is being honoured as the Lord and where God is being worshipped in spirit and in truth. Join them, attend their weekly programmes, join any of their departments and work for your Master in order to attract rewards on the last day. But be so sure those you're fellowshiping with are heaven bound; that is the essence; don't join church politics or whatever you know God won't be party to. Be focused and consistent, going to church is meant for your growth – Heb. 10:25.

4. Pray Without Ceasing – I Thessalonians 5:17

Prayer is the means of communication between man and his Maker – God. Keep talking to God, ask for His help, tell Him your needs, thank Him for His answers and don't do anything without finding out from Him. He knows what you don't know. So secure his help always. As you pray, you'll receive strength to overcome the attacks of the devil and you'll be empowered to live a victorious Christian life. Watch and pray. Mt. 26:41; Phil. 4:6; I Peter 5:8.

5. Read Your Bible Always

The Bible is otherwise known as the word of God; and it contains all you need to know about this race. It is God's instruction manual for living, just as a manufacturer 'ld give an instruction manual for his products being purchased for use. 2 Tim 3:16-17 (TLB) says "The whole Bible was given to us by inspiration from God, and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives; it straightens us out and helps us do

what is right. It is God's way of making us well prepared at every point; fully equipped to do good to everyone". From these verses, it is obvious a Christian'll never know how to or how not to live without consulting the Bible. It is in the Bible we're told to pray without ceasing, pay our tithes, give to the poor, forgive our offenders, worship God alone, love our neighbours etc. You'll not know what to do in most cases unless you go into your Bible-by reading and studying it.

Aside this, Psalm 119:11 says the surest way to live a life free of sin is by hiding God's word in one's heart (paraphrased). This is talking about meditation – pondering over what you've read, thinking deeply about the discovered truths in the Bible until it becomes part of you and starts influencing your behaviour. This is the best way to grow as a Christian, because God's word is the only food your regenerated spirit needs to develop – Col 3:16; Ps. 119:105, 130; 2 Tim 2:15; Psalm 1:1-3.

6. Eagerly Expect Christ's Second Coming

In John 14:1-3, Jesus said He was going to prepare a place for us, and that when everything is ready, He would come and get us, so that we can always be with Him where He is (paraphrased).

Now, that's a solemn promise, and you can be sure He'd fulfill it – Num 23:19. Jesus Christ is coming back again, but no one knows when. That's why Mt. 24:42 (TLB) says "So be prepared, for you don't know what day your Lord is coming. Also see Matt 24:44 and 25:13.

Expecting Christ's unannounced return has a way of conditioning your attitude; you'll not want to miss your going with Him and as such will consciously stay away from sin, because that moment you decide to commit one little sin may be the exact moment rapture 'ld take place. Aside this, there is a reward for expecting

Him, it is called the Crown of righteousness – 2 Tim 4:8. He 'ld give you this if you're expecting Him.

7. Tell Others About Jesus

Jesus Christ at the point of His departure after His earthly ministry commanded all believers (Christians) to go and preach to all people, making disciples of them and teaching them to observe all He had commanded. Mt. 28:18-20. This is called the Great Commission. Christ must meet us doing this when he returns, that's what will make him judge us faithful.

Jesus Christ must be preached to sinners so that they too can have their sins forgiven. We are His ambassadors, representing His interest on the earth. You are saved to save others, and not doing this will only amount to sheer wickedness, since you know where all sinners will end up - the Lake of Fire. Learn to snatch people from hell. Please note this, you are the first Bible any sinner wants to read; don't misrepresent Jesus don't do what He won't do, don't attract shame to His name by the way you live. Avoid 'it doesn't matter' attitude, unhealthy jokes, pride and egoism, diplomatic malice and all the end time symptoms as listed in 2 Tim 3:1-9. As you keep your garments clean and spotless, may you be counted worthy of sharing in the glory of our Lord Jesus when He returns – Amen.

NB: PLEASE THIS MESSAGE IS VERY URGENT FOR THIS GENERATION, KINDLY MAKE MORE COPIES AND SHARE WITH OTHERS. GOD BLESS YOU.

For prayers and counseling or any form of enquiry,

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