

Bottom Lines (5 moments) of Living and Dying.

Even as in life and dying just like paying taxes, there are many moments in life and the Bible, but only 5 specific moment verses were found in the Bible: Numbers 16, Psalms 30, Isaiah 47, Ezra 9, and I Corinthians 15. Of course I Corinthians 15 is the best of all as “we shall not all die, but in a moment, in a twinkling of an eye we shall be changed.” And just because we by the grace of God have been allowed to live longer, and up to the Second Coming in some cases, we will in no way get in the way of those like Ann who have died already. The fact is that they are presently having a lot more “joy in the morning” than we are!

I. The 5 “Moments” of Life and Death from the Bible.

Moments that Make Life’s History

Introduction: Moments in the Bible are monumental events of life’s history, not simple the clicking off of seconds of the clock.

1. Psalm 30 (verse 5)
2. Ezra 9 (verse 8)
3. Isaiah 47 (verse 9)
4. Numbers 16 (Jude 14-16)
5. I Corinthians 15 (verses 15.16)

II. Bottom Lines of those Moments in the Bible.

Conclusion, the bottom lines of the 5 verses in the Bible on moments which can be summarized as the bottom line of I Corinthians 15:

“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.”

- a. I Corinthians 15 bottom line.

- (1) “always” abounding in the work of the Lord. Sorry but there is no special privileges for either the retired seniors or the growing, maturing youth. One might general call the special privileges of life; but not so with the heavenly Father.
- (2) Steadfastness starts instantly with the youthful profession of faith and runs all the way through retirement until the major change of the new earth, and we are not sure about that. I chose to think that we will be even busier on the new earth.
- (3) Immovable, like our Master and Savior we are to be like a Rock.
- (4) Always, always, always abounding in the work of the Lord Jesus Christ and for His kingdom service. Like Paul be able to say, “For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain “.
- (5) The opposite of “What shall it profit a man to gain the whole world and lose his own soul {and it might be added the instantaneous thrill of be changed in a spiritual body like the Ascended Christ)...the opposite is “knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.”

b. Ezra 9 Bottom Line.

About the Little Space of time for the Hebrew people and for us. You might call it a chunk of history or a moment of history. Grace has been shown by the LORD our God to America for about 200 years; grace has been shown to Israel to bring a remnant of them back from captivity after 70 years; and then back again about 1950 with a lot of turmoil from their neighbors around them, one might call it in the words of Ezra “a little reviving in our bondage” Unfortunately the theology and philosophy of Scofield and his devotees has presented a very non-biblical 3rd kind of salvation for the Jewish zealots with a 1000 years kingdom on earth (not the new earth) primarily for them.

“And now for a little space grace hath been shewed from the LORD our God, to leave us a remnant to escape, and to give us a nail in his holy place, that our God may lighten our eyes, and give us a little reviving in our bondage.” (Ezra 9:8)

- (1). A little space for national grace of God’s people.
- (2). A remnant of escape.
- (3). A peg or nail in His holy place, in other words barely hanging on.
- (4) That God may lighten our eyes, which with only a minor and non lasting revival did not happen in the Israel of Ezra’s day nor has happened in the Israel of today, nor by the way in the America today in spite of all the world wide propaganda in the US we hear from the Swaggarts, most of us realizing that this period of history will be dominated not by big revivals but by big falling aways and big apostasy.
- (5) The reviving now as in Ezra will be a LITTLE REVIVING.

c. Bottom line of Isaiah 47 for the world today, verse 10—

¹⁰ "For you have trusted in your wickedness;
You have said, 'No one sees me';
Your wisdom and your knowledge have ^(b)warped you;
And you have said in your heart,
'I am, and there is no one else besides me.'
¹¹ Therefore evil shall come upon you;
You shall not know from where it arises.
And trouble shall fall upon you;
You will not be able ^(c)to put it off.
And desolation shall come upon you suddenly,
Which you shall not know."

(1) Verse 10--

a. Trusted in wickedness.

"For you have trusted in your wickedness;

b. Trusted in darkness.

You have said, 'No one sees me';

c. Trusted in warped wisdom and knowledge.

Your wisdom and your knowledge have warped you;

d. Trusted in pride and ego.

And you have said in your heart,

'I am, and there is no one else besides me.'

11 Therefore evil shall come upon you;

(2) verse 11

11 Therefore evil shall come upon you;

a. You won't even know where it is coming from.

You shall not know from where it arises.

b. Trouble with fall on you and you will lose control that you will not be able to shake it off of you.

And trouble shall fall upon you;

You will not be able [c]to put it off.

c. Desolation is sudden, in a twinkling of an eye and a moment that has never been in your life's history.

And desolation shall come upon you suddenly,

Which you shall not know.

(3) verse 12-15

“Stand now with your enchantments

And the multitude of your sorceries,

In which you have labored from your youth —

Perhaps you will be able to profit,

Perhaps you will prevail.

13 You are wearied in the multitude of your counsels;

Let now the[d] astrologers, the stargazers,

And [e]the monthly prognosticators

Stand up and save you

From what shall come upon you.

14 Behold, they shall be as stubble,

The fire shall burn them;

They shall not deliver themselves

From the power of the flame;

It shall not be a coal to be warmed by,

Nor a fire to sit before!

15 Thus shall they be to you

With whom you have labored,

Your merchants from your youth;

They shall wander each one to his [f]quarter.

No one shall save you."

- d. The bottom line of Numbers 16 is with the book of Jude, the other place where the rebellion of Korah is mentioned.

Bottom line of Jude in two verses--

"14 Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, 15 to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."

16 These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage. 17 But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: 18 how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts. 19 These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit. (Jude 1:19 soulish or worldly)

- e. Bottom line of Psalm 30.

Psalms 30:5 "For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning." (KJV)

Forgotten or ignored by man, but the Bible often and seriously teaches the wrath or anger of God. Most think of God like a Santa Claus that will always bring good or gifts to us, or of Jesus meek and mild riding on a donkey, but at the Second Coming He comes in great power and glory.

In the equivalent Moments of Physics and Flight Dynamics: Force is the wrath of God or favor of God, distance is from night to morning, and stability is joy that comes in the morning.

The longest and greatest night of darkness that many of us experienced was when the greatest Christian any of us knew suffered with 11 months of dying in Hospice care; and kind of disciplined suffering that she experienced brought the greatest and most lasting JOY IN THE MORNING! Like Jesus on the cross Who cried "God, why have you forsaken me" out of the pain of the moment, even though He knew that God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself and Jesus knew very well that He was

dying for the sins of the world, so those who do not immediately and painlessly fall into the sleep of death, they suffer, we do not understand why but leave it, as we must, into the hands of our Loving Heavenly Father. Personally, I think, the Father had something special in mind for her, a nurse of 40 years, on the new earth after more training, which she is doing now and loves, for that position, a position that required knowing personally about suffering. Her and Jesus, two of the suffering servants, will be right there on the new earth to councils and consul and explain both the suffering and the JOY IN THE MORNING. Now, Ann, knows very well right now as she is having a ball, dancing like she always wanted to and no doubt in a circle with the two other kids we lost, and fixing a supper for mom, dad, mama, and many others like our Pastor Dr. R. G. Lee, and much better than us, that suffering is only for a night, compared to the eternity with God and Jesus.