



BROAD STREET

BANNER

January 30, 2019

BROAD STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

VOL. XXXIV NO. 4



From Where I Sit . . .

“How To Leave Life Victoriously”

Bookstores often feature books on “How To Live Life Victoriously.” Few deal with what is a much more important topic: “How To Leave Life Victoriously.” What a tragedy to spend our entire lives down here without making preparations for the great life beyond the vale of death. The truth is that we miss much of life even while we are living. We spend much time asleep, which is needful. Much time is spent on our jobs. Much of our lives might be spent in idle time doing nothing, or engaging in things that are not meaningful or fulfilling, but it would be a terrible tragedy in doing these things if we miss Heaven as well.

There are some basic facts that should be self-evident. One is that at the most, **LIFE IS SHORT**. James writes a sobering truth in **James 4:13-15 (KJV)** ¹³ **“Go to now, ye that say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: ¹⁴Whereas ye know not what *shall be* on the morrow. For what *is* your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. ¹⁵For that ye *ought* to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.”** It is equally true that **DEATH IS A CERTAINTY** – **Hebrews 9:27 (KJV)** ²⁷ **“And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.”**

What I want us to consider is that death does not have to be the end for God’s people. He’s not a “dealer in death.” He’s a “dealer in life,” and He sent Christ that we may have that life: **John 10:10 (KJV)** ¹⁰ **“The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.”** **John 11:25-26 (KJV)** ²⁵ **“Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: ²⁶And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?”**

Many are not prepared to die, and many are depending on inadequate means of preparation. Jesus said in **Matthew 7:22 (KJV)** ²² **“Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?”** The sad truth is stated by the Lord in this same passage, **Matthew 7:23 (KJV)** ²³ **“And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.”**

Elaborate eulogies carry no weight with God. Posthumous obedience by survivors on behalf of the dead is merely a fantasy of man that’s not taught in the Bible. We prepare diligently for courses and exams. Some of the same techniques can be applied to preparation for leaving life. We can know some things that will be considered when we stand before God in judgment. The question is “does knowing these things encourage us any better to be prepared?” Think about this question that we will have to give an answer for: **“What Did We Think Of Jesus And What Did We Do With Him?”** Jesus said in **Mark 8:38 (KJV)** ³⁸ **“Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”**

Are you making ready for your journey to eternity? Friends, it’s later than we like to think for each of us. If we’re ever going to get serious about the business of preparing for our journey, it needs to be now.

. . . Terry Broome