

THE BELLEVILLE MESSENGER

February 26

2023

What If Today Was Your Last Day On Earth?

Have you considered that today could be your last day alive here on this earth? You see, we never know when our soul may be required of us. For instance, our soul could be required of us this very night (Luke 12:20). Also, we have no idea when Christ will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation (Hebrews 9:28). For, the Scriptures inform us that He will appear again as a thief in the night (1 Thessalonians 5:2; 2 Peter 3:10) in which then both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. So, knowing that, I ask the following question to you, what if today was your last day on earth? Think about that, and please consider the following...

If Today Was Your Last Day On Earth, Would Those Who Know You Know How Much You Love Them?

It is important to note that the word “love” denotes “a strong affection for.” The Scriptures emphasize the need for us to love our spouses (Ephesians 5:25, 28, 33; Colossians 3:19; Titus 2:4). They emphasize the need for us to love our children (Proverbs 13:24; Titus 2:4). They emphasize the need for us to love our neighbors (i.e. thy fellow man) as thyself (Matthew 22:39; Romans 13:8-10). They emphasize the need for us to love our brethren (John 13:34-35; 1 Peter 1:22, 2:17, 4:8; 1 John 4:21), and they likewise emphasize the need for us to love our

enemies (Matthew 5:43-44). So, knowing that, I ask, if today was your last day on earth, would your family know how much you love them? Would your fellow man, including your brethren and your enemies know how much you love them? Would they?

If Today Was Your Last Day On Earth, Would Your Forgiveness Be Given To Those Who Are In Need of It?

Unfortunately, there are some who have the mentality that they will never forgive someone for what they have done toward them no matter what. However, may we all be ever mindful of these words of Jesus, “For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses (Matthew 6:14-15). Jesus also informed, “If your brother sins against you, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him. And if he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times in a day returns to you saying, ‘I repent,’ you shall forgive him (Luke 17:3-4). Therefore, let us all hold on to those words of Jesus, and may we all forgive those who need our forgiveness. So, I ask, if today was your last day on earth, would your forgiveness be given to those who are in need of it? Would it?

If Today Was Your Last Day On Earth, Would You Have Done Your Very Best?

There are many today who go through this journey of life on earth just doing the minimum they have to do to get by. Many, do not give a hundred percent to what they do, but rather they put little effort into whatever they do, and because of that, many will often confess regrets when they near the end of their journey here on earth. Therefore, may we never be one who does what our hands find to do half-heartedly, but rather may we always seek to do whatever we do to the very best of our ability giving a hundred and ten percent to all that we do. Notice these

words of wisdom, “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might; for there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going.” Remember that, and be one who does whatever you do heartily (Colossians 3:23). So, I ask, if today was your last day on earth, would you have done your very best? Would you have?

If Today Was Your Last Day On Earth, Would Your Heart Be Right With God?

Sadly, there are many today who are not right in the sight of God, and if today would happen to be their last day on earth, they would not be prepared. Therefore, it is very important for all of us to understand the need to be right with God (1 Chronicles 28:9; Ecclesiastes 12:13). So, I ask, if today was your last day on earth, would you have known God and obeyed the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Thessalonians 1:8-10)? Would you have kept the commandments of God (Ecclesiastes 12:13; 1 Corinthians 7:19)? Would you have obeyed God rather than men (Matthew 15:9; Acts 5:29)? Would you have abided in the doctrine of Christ (2 John 9)? Would you be prepared to give an account for the things which you have done (Ecclesiastes 12:14; 2 Corinthians 5:10)? Think about that my friend, and seriously ask yourself, if today was my last day on earth, would my heart be right with God?

Once more, today could be your last day on earth. However, even if today is not your last day on earth, keep in mind that there is going to come a day in which it will be your last day on earth (Hebrews 9:27-28). Therefore, may we all always be prepared for it to be our last day on earth. Knowing this, may we all love who needs loved, forgive who needs forgiven, do what needs doing, and may we all strive to be right in the sight of God.

✍ Brad Phillips

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Hear the word of God. (Romans 10:17)

Believe in Jesus Christ. (John 8:24)

Repent of your sins. (Acts 17:30)

Confess Jesus Christ. (Romans 10:9-10)

Be baptized for the remission of sins. (Acts 2:38)

Remain faithful unto death. (Revelation 2:10)

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth: to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.” (Romans 1:16)

Belleville church of Christ

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www.bellevillechurch.net

Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship	4:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

Evangelist

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