

What if Today is my Last Day on this Earth?

As of late, I hear myself confessing my own mortality rather frequently. While my eyesight is getting too poor to skillfully tie a knot in a fishing line, and my energy level seems to be waning, I am coming to grips with the fact that I will not be in this earth suit indefinitely. Perhaps though, living in the reality of my mortality is not a bad thing. No one likes to think about his or her own death, but the truth is that one day we will all depart from this life. How will it end? I am glad that I don't know, but certain that I want it to be as they say in the fairy tales, "a happy ending!"

"A good name is better than precious ointment, and the day of death than the day of one's birth; Better to go to the house of mourning Than to go to the house of feasting, For that is the end of all men; And the living will take it to heart." (Ecclesiastes 7:1-2 NKJV)

After all, we were placed on this earth temporarily, and to come to grips with that fact brings us into a clearer realization that today is all we have, or at least all that we have some control over. Jesus Himself felt His humanity when He sat down weary from His journey at Jacob's well in Samaria. But that didn't stop Him from doing His Father's work. Even His time on this earth was limited, but the fruit of that work was eternal. Because He knew that He was revitalized by doing that work.

"Then they went out of the city and came to Him. In the meantime His disciples urged Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." Therefore the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work." (John 4:30-34 NKJV)

Too often I get caught up in my agenda and the earthly agendas of my fellow human companions. To live in this world for the fruit of this world is not healthy nor is it what God intended for me. C.S. Lewis puts it this way;

"The Christian Way - The Christian says, Creatures are not born with desires unless satisfaction for those desires exists. A baby feels hunger: well there is such a thing as food. A duckling wants to swim: well, there is such a thing as water. Men feel sexual desire: well there is such a thing as sex. If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world."

Jesus lived in the light of His human mortality and desired His followers to do the same. This according to Him is the time of the harvest. It is our opportunity to bear fruit for eternity.

"Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together." (John 4:35-36 NKJV)

So today let's choose to let His will, not ours to be done!

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