

The brevity of mortal life shall irrefutably impress itself upon those who die unsaved. Their torment shall endure forever, while Christ's redeemed eternally enjoy His presence.

Are you focused on your enduring spiritual existence?

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SPIRITUAL
EXISTENCE
ENDURES

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Some believe this present physical life is tangible and robust, while spiritual existence is intangible or ethereal. Once, while discussing spiritual matters with my military superior, I tried to emphasize the eternal nature of our spiritual existence. He replied, "I believe a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." This saying has actually been used since at least the 17th century. John Bunyan's well known allegory, Pilgrim's Progress, published in 1678, includes a discussion between two characters. One of those characters used this same statement as justification for disregarding the importance of spiritual realities. The mindset seemed to be that physical life is real whereas spiritual realities may not be. Thus, they conclude, it's best to focus attention on that which they know to be real.

There's only one problem with this approach. Life in this mortal body is only real for a short time. My military superior died not too many years after making that statement. Even atheists admit that one reality that holds true for mankind is that they die. Scripture stated this truth long ago:

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"... it is appointed unto men once to die but,

after this the judgment..." (Hebrews 9:27)

"Whereas 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." (James 4:14)

Most of us know people who have died unexpectedly. Most, if not all, rose from their beds that morning with ambitious plans for their future.

When God created mankind, He created him special.

"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them." (Genesis 1:27)

However, early in mankind's history, Adam and Eve plunged the human race into sin and death by disobeying God. God immediately began to reveal His eternal plan of redemption for all who would repent and follow Him. This plan was never offered to fallen angels. He did this through the sacrificial death, burial, and resurrection of God His Son, Jesus, the Messiah, whom He loves.

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