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## PERMANENT ASSIGNMENT



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As a young military officer, my superiors asked me to develop plans for subsequent assignments. Part of this planning involved thinking about what I'd like my final assignment to be. That seemed difficult to me because my final assignment seemed so far in the future. Besides that, I was acutely aware that my knowledge of unseen future events in life was severely limited. Since then, I have retired from the Air Force. My wife and I are increasing in age and what is yet to come seems increasingly important as the days pass.

After earthly careers are concluded and retirement enjoyments have passed, there is still a permanent assignment that each person must face. Scripture states it like this:

"And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." (Hebrews 9:27-28)

Most people spend much time planning for the events of this life. Even among us old people,

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I've met few who like to think about what comes next. They'd prefer to make plans for some new business adventure, vacation, world tour, or even reconstructive surgery. The judgment following death, which is inescapable and permanent, is seldom part of the discussion.

Are the years flying by and leaving you unprepared for your permanent end? There are only two groups into which all people shall be placed. Their outcomes are very different. One group shall experience a wonderful outcome as expressed by the following Scripture.

"Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:" (Matthew 25:34)

The other group shall experience eternal horror.

"Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:" (Matthew 25:41)

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