

POOF!

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(editing by Kathy Boynton)

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Most folks want to live to a "ripe old age." Many would agree that living for 100 years would satisfy this goal. However, in the context of eternity, we are all like a brief puff of mist that appears for only a moment in time and then, "poof," we're gone! The Bible conveys this reality in the following words: "For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away" (James 4:14). Thus, even if you have a life full of pleasure and live to be 100, all of your pleasure will soon fade into the distant past as the endless eons follow. Some people believe that there is no consciousness after death and, because of this, express the thought "...let us eat and drink; for to morrow we die" (1 Corinthians 15:32).

Scripture, however explains that this theory of "oblivion" is a false theory because, "...it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: ..." (Hebrews 9:27). This judgment will separate all of mankind into two incredibly different destinies. Those who have, in faith, called upon Christ to save them from sin, will be told "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation

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of the world: ..." (Matthew 25:34). Most, however (Matthew 7:13-14), will be condemned with the words, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: ..." (Matthew 25:41).

Ever since man disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden, he has had a curse upon him. Each of us was born infested with sin and has earned nothing but the horrible second destiny described above. But there is Good news! God the Son, Jesus Christ, came to redeem His people from their sins (Matthew 1:21). He did this by dying as a substitute on the blood stained cross of Calvary. All whose hearts and minds God opens, to cry out to Him for forgiveness, shall be saved! (Romans 10:13).

After a trillion years of eternity, we will all be keenly aware that our life on earth was really only a "poof" in time. That lifetime of pleasure you so much desired will have, long ago, been rendered irrelevant by the intense reality of your endless destiny.

Where will you be after your "poof" has passed?

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