

For Our Information

Ricky Ragsdale is at home and has about 2 weeks before more chemo.

Thelma Echols is having trouble sleeping. Doctors are still adjusting her medications.

Phyllis Jackson is feeling better as she makes adjustments to deal with allergies.

Nettie Jackson is doing about the same.

Greg Groves is awake and breathing on his own. He has been moved to stepdown.

Joyce Venable is suffering with migraines and back ache

Gloria Hurst will have back surgery Monday at Baptist Hospital.

Keep your brothers & sisters in mind

Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about our work in the Lord's Kingdom.

Church of Christ

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tannerst.com

We seek only to serve God according to His Will!

A Few Study Helps

One study help that is sometimes overlooked can be the articles and written debates that were printed in various religious papers over the years. Especially if you are interested in getting a better handle on the issues that brought division in the past. Most of the prominent papers ran articles from a number of knowledgeable brethren on these topics as the issues were unfolding.

Most of these papers have been preserved in one form or another and are available for you to read and study. The easiest way for many of us might be to just search online for the name of the paper. Plain Talk, by Robert Turner and The Bible Banner/Gospel Guardian, from Foy E. Wallace Jr. are two that can be found at WordsFitlySpoken.org. Searching the Scriptures has a website, SearchingTheScriptures.com as does Truth Magazine, TruthMagazine.com.

Of course there are bound copies of many of these periodicals available and many preachers and elders may still have the old paper copies. As always though, keep the Bible as number one in study.

Seeking His Righteousness

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The End Of All Things Is At Hand

Kent Heaton

When Peter penned his first epistle, he exhorted the pilgrims to whom he wrote to consider how short life was and the reality of the coming of the Lord. In part he said, *"But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers. And above all things have fervent love for one another, for 'love will cover a multitude of sins.' Be hospitable to one another without grumbling"* (1Peter 4:7-9). When times are tough like they are now, good advice is worth more than the riches being lost daily. Peter's application of the end of all things



The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer.

1Peter 4:7



1512 Tanner St. Malvern, AR

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Sunday 10:20 am & 5:00 pm

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Sunday 9:30 AM

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suggests the urgency of making certain lives are ready to meet the Lord. This admonition is needful for every day of our lives because we do not know when death will be the unwelcome guest in our homes (**Hebrews 9:27**) nor when the Lord will return (**2Peter 3**).

There is a need for serious minded people. The cares and riches of this world tend to lead to frivolity and failure to properly put the mind in frame of the serious nature of life. We do not live in this life to secure a place in this life but rather we live with the conscious realization of the world to come. When the doctor tells the patient that life is short and death is certain an overwhelming gravity engulfs the heart with the realities of life. Peter's admonition is for all men to live each day with the serious reality of life. Death will come to all men if not in the coming of the Lord.

With this realization is the need for serious, watchful prayer. Why would Peter suggest the need of prayer during this time? One reason he explains later in 1Peter 5. *"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour"* (**1Peter 5:8**). Satan is very productive in helping people turn their eyes away from the end of times and act as if they would live a thousand years. The Lord wants us to see the end of time coming and Satan wants us to ignore it. Through prayer we must look through the eye of faith at the coming of the Lord.

Being watchful in our prayers is part of the armor of God. *"And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; praying*

Store In My Heart

John 8:24

Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.

Therefore points us to verse 21 where he told them "you will die in your sin." An understanding of His discussion with the Pharisees beginning from verse 12 is also helpful.

A verse rarely stands on its own. We must study their context even as we seek to carry them and their teaching with us every day.

Truly we will die sinners if we do not believe Jesus is the Son of God. To believe this we need to rise above our worldly thoughts and set our minds on what God has delivered through His inspired writers to guide us.

always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints" (**Ephesians 6:17-18**). Watchful people are prayerful people. Those who do not pray do not watch. Prayer helps us see the truth of death. Prayer directs our minds to the throne of the Father so that when He sends His Son to gather all saints home it will not be a surprise to those who were watching and praying (**Matthew 25:1-13; Mark 13:33; Luke 21:36**).

The final admonition in our text is the importance of showing love and compassion to one another. Fervent love is a deep affection and regard for brethren. The bond of love holds God's people together (**1Corinthians 13:13; 1Peter 1:22; Colossians 3:14**). The end of all things demands joining forces against Satan with the love of the Father. In our trying times we need each other for support. Fervent love and hospitality is the ointment of compassion on the wounds of our troubled day. We do not grumble nor murmur but exhort and encourage.

Are times tough? Be of sober mind, pray without ceasing, show love for one another and be filled with the spirit of benevolence *"and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus"* (**Philippians 4:7**).

(The "end of all things" is no further from each of us than the grave. We need to put our focus on being ready to meet God by serving Him now. This life and its accomplishments will not matter if we hear "Depart from me." on the judgement day. DLH)