

Pastor's Pen

A Vapor!

Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away. James 4:14

Have you ever wondered why life seems to fly by once you become an adult? One minute. We're trying to figure out what we will do for a career. Next thing you know. You're collecting Social Security. As Christians, we understand that life is but a vapor. Scripture is full of reminders of the brevity of life. Here are but a few.

"Yahweh, cause me to know my end And what is the extent of my days; Let me know how transient I am." Psalm 39:4

"Thus He remembered that they were but flesh, A wind that goes and does not return." Psalm 78:39

"Man who is born of a woman is few of days and full of trouble." Job 14:11

"As for the days of our life, they contain seventy years, Or if due to might, eighty years, Yet their pride is but labor and wickedness; For soon it is gone and we fly away." Psalm 90:10

These and other scriptures remind us that the mortal bodies that contain our souls must die in order to put on immortality. If the lord tarries, we will all die. But, praise be to God that we will not die the second death. Therefore, we can declare, *"So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory (I Cor. 15:53-55)?*

Do not live in fear of death because our Lord Jesus Christ defeated death once and for all. Our hope is in the promise of the One who died to appease the wrath of God.

"Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also. John 14: 1-3

Your shepherd,
Pastor Mark

Grace Gems

Easy? (by Newman Hall)

"He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son." Rev. 21:7

To be a true Christian is not so easy a thing as some suppose. It is not merely . . . true beliefs, an evangelical creed, a scriptural church, a comfortable sermon once or twice a week. It is not this which constitutes Christianity.

You who think religion so very easy a thing, be apprehensive lest, when too late, you find that you knew not what true religion meant.

Easy? A depraved being to trample upon his lusts? a proud being to lie prostrate with humility and self reproach? those who are "slow of heart, to believe," to receive the Gospel as little children?

Easy? To "crucify the flesh," "to deny ungodliness," "to cut off a right hand, and to pluck out a right eye?"

Easy? To be in the world, and yet not of the world; to come out from it, not by the seclusion of the cloister, but by holiness of life; to be diligent in its duties, yet not absorbed by them; appreciating its innocent delights, and yet not ensnared by them; beholding its attractions, and yet rising superior to them?

Easy? To live surrounded by objects which appeal to the sight, and yet to endure as seeing what is invisible?

Easy? To pray and see no answer to prayer, and still pray on; to fight this battle, and find fresh foes ever rising up, yet still to fight on; to be harassed with doubts and fears, and yet walk on in darkness, though we see no light, staying ourselves upon God?

Easy? To be preparing for a world we have never visited, in opposition to so much that is captivating in a world where we have always dwelt, whose beauties we have seen, whose music we have heard, whose pleasures we have experienced?

Easy? To resist that subtle foe who has cast down so many of the wise and the mighty?

Easy? When Jesus says it is a "strait gate," and that if we would enter we must "strive," bidding us "take up our cross daily, deny ourselves, and follow Him?"

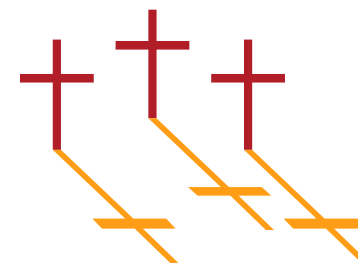
Ah! it is no soft flowery meadow, along which we may languidly stroll; but a rough, craggy cliff that we must climb. It is no smooth, placid stream, along which we may dreamily float, but a tempestuous ocean we must stem.

It is no easy lolling in a cushioned chariot, that bears us on without fatigue and peril. If we are to be saved, we must "overcome."

"He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son." Rev. 21:7

Quote of the Week

"It is the very joy of this earthly life to think that it will come to an end."
- Charles Spurgeon



Weekly Gatherings

Bible Classes

Old & New Testament Classes
Ladies Class
Young Adults Young Parents
Youth Surge
Sunday Morning @ 9:30AM

Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM Men's Bible Study
1st and 3rd Saturday
Women of Grace | 9AM
Wednesdays | 6:30PM AWANA

Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM
Please check church website
for start date and directions to each

Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team
and need to sign up, please contact the
team leader at the appropriate email
address on the back of this bulletin.

Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM
Youth Study & Surge!

Service Times

Sunday Services 8AM & 11:00AM
Sunday School 9:30AM
Children's Church @11:00AM

Giving from service on 09/17/2023

General Offering 10,542.41
Building Fund 2,505.16
Uganda Missions 200.00

Total.....\$13,247.57
Attendance 210
Online.....21

Build the Body Ministries

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org
AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org
Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org
Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org
Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org
Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org
Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org
Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org
Maintenance-maintenance@ghbcva.org
Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org
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Grace Harvest Baptist Church

Sept 24, 2023

Welcome