

# YOU NEVER KNOW!

*Boast not thyself of to morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth. Proverbs 27:1*

“Go to (come) now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: 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. For that ye *ought* to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.” (James 4:13-15)

This Bible study came about as a result of hearing the news that a just built, 5-day old pedestrian bridge on the campus of Florida International University collapsed, killing 6, and injuring many others. This should not have happened, but it did. You wonder what those people were thinking. The one's who looked in their rear view mirrors and saw the bridge collapse, and the ones who saw the bridge collapse on the cars just ahead of them.

Some probably thought, “Boy, did I luck out. That could have been me under there.” They'll think about it for a while, and then go back to their daily routines, never realizing that if it had been them, they would be burning in hell right now, unless they were truly saved. How many times in our life have we made plans, and those plans were changed unexpectedly? The six people that died that day had the ultimate change in their plans... death!

The Lord told a parable (story) in the book of Luke, saying, “The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow (store) my fruits? And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, *and* be merry. But God said unto him, *Thou* fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided (worked for)?” (Luke 12:16-20).

Yes, you never know what a day is going to bring. The Bible states that God, and only God, knows the end from the beginning (Isaiah 46:10), and that He appoints the boundaries of our lives: the day we are born, and the day we are going to die.

We know a brother, who had a cousin who appeared to be perfectly healthy. She went to bed one night and died in her sleep of a brain aneurism. Death was probably the furthest thing on her mind that night. We know she had the gospel preached to her, but whether she had accepted Jesus as her Lord and Saviour, that we don't know. If she didn't, then she died in her sins, and is in hell right now. And like the Bible says in Hebrews 2:3a, “How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?”

Again, you never know what a day is going to bring:

1. Do you think any of those 2,996 people who left to go to work at the Twin Towers in N.Y.C. on the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, ever thought that they would not be returning home again that day? Or that some of them would be jumping out of windows to a certain death, trying to escape the flames that were consuming those buildings?
2. What about the 55 people who died in the January 2016 blizzard called ‘Jonas’, which was also known as ‘Snowzilla’. Do you think those 55 people knew their lives were about to come to an end as the storm approached?
3. What about the 108 people who died in Houston, Texas when Hurricane Harvey hit on August 20, 2017? Do you think they knew they were going to die as they heard the reports of the approaching hurricane?
4. Or how about those 129 deaths that were caused by Hurricane Irma a week later, down in Florida and in the Caribbean. Do you think they thought they were going to die, even after they made preparations to survive the storm?
5. And do you think those hundreds and hundreds of people who perished from Hurricane Maria down in Puerto Rico the week after the Florida hurricane knew they were going to die as they saw the hurricane approaching? Do you think they thought that their lives were about to come to an end?
6. Or how about the 58 people who died when they attended a concert at the Route 91 Harvest Music Festival in Las Vegas, Nevada, on Sunday Oct. 1, 2017? Do you think they were thinking about dying that night as the concert started, and they were beginning to enjoy the music?

7. Do you think those 46 people who perished in the California wildfires back in October 2017 were thinking about death when they awoke that morning? (They were probably thinking about the upcoming holiday season which was rapidly approaching). Or how about the 20+ people who died in the Santa Barbara mudslides as a result of those fires? Do you think they were thinking about dying on that day when they were suddenly buried alive?
8. Do you think the 17 students and teachers knew they were going to be shot and killed at the hands of a crazy, disgruntled student from that school, when they went to Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Boca Raton, Florida, on Feb. 14, 2018?
9. Do you think the 2 men who died of package bombs that were delivered to their houses in March 2018 in Austin, Texas were thinking about death when they woke up that morning? When they saw the packages on their porches, death was probably the last thing they had on their minds that day.

Or the many, many other instances too numerous to mention in this study, where death came suddenly and unexpectedly. Jesus spoke in Matthew 24:36 that no one knows the day or the hour of His return. How much more so do we not know the day of the end of our own mortality?

Yes, you never know what is going to happen in your life from one day to the next. That is why the Bible says "Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon him while he is near" (Isaiah 55:6), because "behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2b). How many people leave for work in the morning and never return home because they were killed in a car accident? Or how many people die suddenly every day of a stroke or heart attack, which the Bible states would happen in the last days (Luke 21:26)? Or the many other instances you hear or read about almost every day - gang related shootings, school and work place shootings, drug overdoses, and the many natural disasters that have struck not just in America, but all over the world.

Salvation is the most serious decision you will ever have to make in your lifetime, and you only have two choices... you can repent of all your sins (Acts 17:30), give your heart to Jesus, and spend eternity with Him (John 10:28), or you can spend eternity with the devil and his angels (Matthew 25:41), burning in the lake of fire (Revelation 20:15).

Salvation is a free gift, bought and paid for with the holy, sinless, spotless blood of Jesus Christ (1 Peter 1:19) that was shed on the cross of Calvary (Luke 23:33). The Father loved us so much that He sent His only begotten Son, Jesus, to die in our place (John 3:16), so that if we have Jesus in our heart (Colossians 1:27b), we would not have to fear death, even if it came unexpectedly (Hebrews 2:14-15).

We hope that this Bible study will be a wake-up call to all those who read it. If you have heard the gospel preached to you, then make today the day that you take that free gift of salvation and get saved, because tomorrow may be too late. The Bible states in Hebrews 9:27, "and as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:" So don't let this happen to you, because you never know what a day is going to bring.

AMEN!