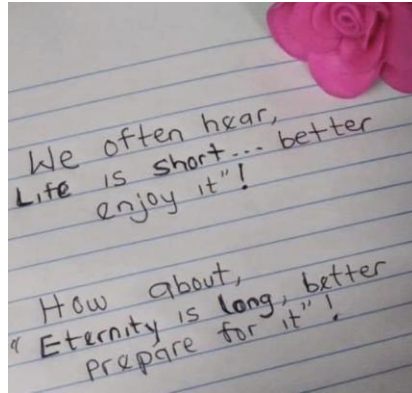


Living Today with Forever in Mind

By: David Burruss



Over the last few weeks, I've noticed a picture being shared all over Facebook. It simply says, we often hear, "Life is short, better enjoy it." How about, "Eternity is long, better prepare for it." It's a short quote but it hit me like a ton of bricks. Maybe you've seen it too. And the more I thought about it, the more I realized how true and powerful that message really is.

We've all heard the first part plenty of times: "Life is short, better enjoy it." And to be fair, there's truth in that. James 4:14 says, "For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away." We're not promised tomorrow. Our time here is brief and fragile.

But what we don't hear as often is the second part: "Eternity is long, better prepare for it." That's the part that matters most. Hebrews 9:27 puts it plainly: "And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment."

Life may be short, but eternity never ends. While we should enjoy the blessings of this life and make the most of each day, we can't afford to forget what comes next. We must live with eternity in mind.

Jesus said in Matthew 6:19-20, "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth... but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven." Why? Because the things we chase here, such as money, fame, comfort, don't last. But heaven is eternal.

2 Corinthians 5:10 reminds us, "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ..." That day is coming for each of us. There won't be any rescheduling. No excuses. No timeouts. No do-overs. Are we ready to give an account of how we've lived?

In Matthew 25, Jesus told a parable about ten virgins waiting for the bridegroom. Five were wise and prepared. Five were foolish and unprepared. When the bridegroom came, it was too late for the foolish to make things right. Jesus ended that lesson with these words: "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming" (Matthew 25:13).

So yes, life is short. Enjoy it. Be thankful for every sunrise, every smile, and every blessing God gives you. But more than that prepare your soul.

"Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life" (Revelation 2:10).

That's the reward waiting for those who live with eternity in mind. And the good news? Today is the perfect time to start preparing.