



The End Is Nearer

Ok folks, clear your calendars because a very important event is coming up for which you are going to want to be prepared. I'm not talking about Easter, Labor Day, the 4th of July, Thanksgiving or even Christmas. No, it's nobody's birthday either. However, I think you are going to want to be ready for this one because an event like this only occurs once every thousand years or so. Oh, you want to know what's going to happen that day? Scientists estimate that on that day, a meteor about 1/3 of a mile in diameter will come close enough to earth so that you can see it passing by overhead in the sky. It will not, however, collide with the earth (they think), but pass the earth about 22,500 miles away (still a near miss). So mark your calendars for Friday, April 13th, 2029 because that's the big day!

"Wait a minute!" you say, "That's twenty-four years in the future. Why should I get all worked up over that now?" Good question. Some may even be thinking "I don't even know that I will be alive on that day," indeed, some of us will not. Some of us may die of natural causes and others of us may die due to disease or accidents of one kind or another. It kind of puts things into perspective, doesn't it? All of a sudden the possibility of a meteor hitting the earth in 2029 doesn't seem nearly as urgent when we consider that we may

not even be around to see it pass. Indeed, we just do not know when our last day on earth will be.

Believe it or not, this has been man's condition for many years. James wrote regarding this very topic almost 2000 years ago. James 4:13-15 states, "Go to 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 makes it clear that tomorrow is not promised because our lives are fleeting. The appropriate attitude that we ought to have toward the future is "If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that." Notice that little phrase that we normally skip over when we look at this passage; "we shall live." James wasn't so much concerned about saying "If the Lord wills, we shall do one thing or another" as much as he was concerned about saying "If the Lord wills, we shall live." Indeed, the activities of our life are dependent upon our life itself. Will we live to see tomorrow? We just don't know for sure.

Another passage that comes to mind is Psalm 90 wherein the psalmist compares man, in his frailties, to the stamina and

power of God. "A thousand years" says the psalmist "are but as yesterday" to God and he looks upon them as we look upon the grass of the earth which flourishes in the morning but is cut down in the evening. In comparison to the thousands of years which God experiences as yesterday, our years are threescore and ten or maybe fourscore. By the end, all of our years are merely as "a tale that is told" and then "we fly away." What is the lesson that the psalmist draws from all of this? "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom" (Psalm 90:12). Our days are indeed numbered.

Should we get exercised about the year 2029, or even about the impending day of our death? Certainly we should prepare for death, but let's not worry about things that are out of our control. Jesus said in Matthew 6:34, "Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." It's sufficient for us to worry about today's affairs and not be preoccupied with things that will occur beyond our control in the future. Today is the day of salvation, no doubt (2 Corinthians 6:2). We should get right with God today if we haven't. In the mean time, I'm not marking my calendar for April 13th, 2029.

Kevin Cauley

Intended Use



“When it comes to our individual lives, do we find ourselves cluttering it up with so much ‘junk’...?”

Though we have continued to have some beautiful days, they have been starting out with a good hard frost because of our clear night skies. Such cold mornings mean before my wife and I head off to our respective offices we have to scrape the ice from the windows of our vehicles. Last night as we came home from the store, noticing we once again had very clear skies, I commented that we would be scraping windows in the morning. My wife then stated, “It’s too bad we don’t have one of those things that protects the car so we don’t have to scrape.” And I responded, “You mean a garage?”

What my wife was referring to was a plastic tarp that can be placed over the windshield of the car to shield it from the moisture that collects, freezes and turns to ice. In the morning it can be removed to reveal a clear, dry windshield, thus being spared the time it takes standing in the cold scraping the ice off. However, a garage in which to park a car at night is the best protection. We had

to laugh at my response because we do have a garage, but it is full of so much stuff there is no room to park either of our two vehicles.

Perhaps you have received one of those “Only In America” lists via e-mail. One of the statements on such a list refers to the idea that where else would you find people parking an expensive vehicle on the street or in the driveway while locking up all their “junk” in a garage? How many things do we seem to get backwards? The truth is our garage is not serving the PURPOSE for which it was built!

When it comes to our individual lives, do we find ourselves cluttering it up with so much “junk” there is difficulty in finding suitable space for that which is of real value? Just like a house or garage where there are many things stored away which vary greatly in value and usefulness, so it can be with our lives.

Paul noted, “(20) Now in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver but also of wood and clay, some for

honorable use, some for dishonorable. (21) Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, SET APART AS HOLY, USEFUL TO THE MASTER OF THE HOUSE, READY FOR EVERY GOOD WORK.” (2 Timothy 2:20-21 ESV)

It is important for us to take a close look at our lives and see where there is the necessity of some “house” cleaning. We need to move out the “junk” so that we may truly live our lives for the HOLY PURPOSES for which God created and called us. As we acknowledge that our lives are set on the foundation of the truth of Jesus Christ, let us keep in mind the godly PURPOSES which are to be associated with our day to day activities. May we become more and more a VESSEL FOR HONORABLE USE in the hands of God as we allow Him to be the Master of our lives.

Have a great day BEING PUT TO HOLY USE!

Carl Hanson



Bible Studies for the week of February 20th, 2005

- AM Sermon..... “When Jesus Comes”
- Scripture Reading.....Matthew 25:1-13
- PM Sermon..... “Watchman, what of the night?”
- Scripture Reading..... Isaiah 21:11, 12
- Sunday Class The Book of Hebrews
- Wednesday Class.....Lessons from the Cross

Kevin's Korner

While I did not make a new year's resolution to get into shape or walk or do any physical exercise whatsoever, I do recognize the need to do such and so, with that in mind, I have joined John and Jerry in their daily walk at the Berryville Community Center. I don't know how long I will be able to continue to do this, but I am going to walk, at least, for a while. I guess it really is John's fault, as are so many things (wink, grin). This past Tuesday, though, I resumed my volunteer work at the community center and John twisted my arm hard enough to start walking with him. Really, all I needed was a gentle nudge, but you know John. So here I am on day four with every intention of being at the community center at 1:00 PM each day to walk with Jerry and John.

I don't suppose that I would have started doing it, however, if I had-

n't had that little nudge, which leads us to a great spiritual principle as well. Hebrews 3:13 states, "But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin." Sometimes a nudge is all we need. Look around you and see if there is anyone that you can give a nudge to today to do that which is right and stand up for that which is good and decent. Remind your spouse, children, parents, sibling, whoever, that today is a good day to do that which is right. I tell my kids each morning as they leave the car to go to school the same thing that my mother used to say to me many years ago, "Be kind, sweet, good, loving, pay attention, do your work, and I love you." Sometimes that's all it takes to keep us going through the day.

With that in mind, let's remember some great things that we have

coming up in our work here at Berryville. Jake King will be here with us March 6th—8th to conduct a Spring gospel meeting. We have flyers in the foyer that have all of the information on them. Please take a few and hand them out to your friends and family. Jake has some great lessons lined up for us on the second chapter of Titus. I'm really looking forward to it.

And, believe it or not, we need to start ramping up for our annual Friends and Family day. I know it's only February, but come March, that event will only be about three months away and that is a lot sooner than you think. When you invite your friends and family to our gospel meeting, you might just mention to them that our annual friends and family day is coming up as well. May God bless us in our work here as we seek to do His will in our lives and for the lives of others.



"Remind your spouse, children, parents, sibling, whoever, that today is a good day to do that which is right!"

Records for the week of February 13th, 2004

Sunday Bible Class	58
Sunday AM Worship.....	68
Sunday PM Worship.....	56
Wednesday Night Study.....	46
Contribution.....	\$1633.10
Budget.....	\$1778.13



Praises, Prayers, and Proclamations

Announcements

- We are thankful to God for this new Lord's Day. It is the day we honor His Son and the Love that He has shown us through Him. Let us worship in spirit and in truth!
- Please remember the following in prayer: Jessica Anderson, Donna Henderson, Chelsea Williams.
- Don't forget our shut-ins: Daisy Farmer, Curtis and Opal Hull, and Edith Mischler.
- Our gospel meeting with Jake King begins March 6th. There are flyers in the foyer. Please take a few and invite your friends and family.
- Our monthly potluck is today! If you are visiting with us, you are more than welcome to stay and enjoy a first class meal prepared by the ladies of our congregation.
- The Robert's family wishes to express their gratitude for everyone who helped after Art's passing.
- We have new Truth for Today commentaries in our foyer. They are \$27.00.
- Our weekly Bible study at the nursing home will be Thursday at 2:00 PM. All are welcome.
- Our pantry item is: Canned Spinach.



Welcome!

Family Times for Worship and Study

Sunday Morning Bible Class:	9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship:	10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Worship:	6:00 PM
Ladies Bible Class:	10:30 AM
Wed. Evening Bible Class:	7:00 PM

Serving Each Other

	February 20th, 2005	February 27th, 2005
Sunday Morning		
Songs:	Bill Fort	Ken Smith
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Clay Bozarth	Bob Phillips
Scripture Reading:	Brent Moore	Brandon Foster
Lord's Table	Glenn Quigley	Leon Duncan
	Brent Stevens	Glenn Williams
(assist)	Perry Foster	Brent Moore
	Ervin Hand	Jack Gentry
Closing Prayer	Rusty Windle	Jerry Roller
Sunday Evening		
Songs:	Glenn Williams	Clay Bozarth
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Bob Phillips	Dan Hand
Scripture Reading:	Dale Pinkley	John Gass
Lord's Table	Leon Duncan	Dale Pinkley
	Brent Moore	George Eddings
Closing Prayer	Ray Duncan	Brent Moore
Wednesday		
Songs:	Rusty Windle	Glenn Quigley
Opening Prayer:	Bob Moore	Dale Pinkley
Invitation:	Bruce Foster	Kevin Cauley
Closing Prayer:	Brandon Foster	Ray Duncan

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