

THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)

# Time Flies

OUR FAMILY NEWS

**Pray:** Josiah, Wayne and Cathy, Helen Spicer, Peggy, All health care providers and especially for Scott and his family.

**Traveling/Working:** Slope workers. Tom and Deb, Chris and Christine, Paul and Alice

**Friday Class:** There will not be a Friday evening class this coming Friday January 1, 2021.

**Directory:** Please sign on to our website and check the accuracy of the data in the online directory. You can update your entry yourself or call Bill and he will do it for you.

**Radio Programs:** Listen to "Searching the Scriptures", our weekly radio program and our "One Minute for God" series which airs three times a day six days a week on KMBQ 99.7.

**Today's Scripture: James 4:14 (KJV)** "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."

**Wisdom for Today: Ecclesiastes 12:13 (KJV)** "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this *is* the whole *duty* of man."

Attendance Last Sunday 59: Our Record: 107

For more detail, please go to the web site.

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God's Plan of Salvation

Hear..... Romans 10:17  
 Believe..... Mark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6  
 Repent..... Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10  
 Confess..... Romans 10:9-10, Matthew 10:32-33  
 Be Baptized .....Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16  
 Arise & Walk in Newness of Life ..... Romans 6:4

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

CONTACT INFORMATION

**MEETING TIMES**  
Sunday:  
 Bible Classes: 10AM  
 AM Worship: 11AM  
 PM Worship: 5PM  
Wednesday:  
 Bible Study: 7PM

**OFFICE HOURS**  
 Tue./Thur. Call or Ck Web

**COME JOIN US!**  
 The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:  
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Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

## Time in Transition

Another year has past. Most Americans made New Years Resolutions, ... again. The most common resolutions for 2021 are expected to be; <sup>1)</sup> Get in shape, loose weight, <sup>2)</sup> Eat healthier and eat less, <sup>3)</sup> Stop procrastinating, <sup>4)</sup> Meet new people, <sup>5)</sup> Improve finances, and <sup>6)</sup> Watch less TV and read more books. Most of these will be broken, or forgotten shortly after they are made. Research indicates that 60% of gym memberships made in January are never used and the rest are abandoned by mid February. This time next year another year will have passed and people will make and break the same resolutions.

The thing we need to consider is that all these resolutions deal with material things. While they are all notable in themselves, they don't address the most important thing to us. Not a single one deal with our spiritual health. While getting in shape and losing weight is an action that will benefit our health, it will only help us for several years. The same with all the rest. It is good to eat healthier, to stop procrastinating, meet new people, improve our finances and to read more. But none of these things, even if you keep your resolution, will have any impact for us past a few decades.

James tells us that our lives here are not really all that long. **James 4:13-14 (KJV)** *"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."* It seems like only yesterday that Peggy and I got married, that I graduated from college and Seth and John were born. I remember, when I was in my 20's and just getting started with my career, that it seemed like 70 was an eternity away. Now, at 71, looking back on the years I realize just how short that time really is.

In the overall scheme of things, our lives are so transient that they are nothing more than the mist that forms when we breath out on a cold morning, here for only an instant, then gone forever. In the brief time that we are here, it doesn't really matter how many resolutions we make, ...and break, that deal with our physical lives, and material existence. What matters is our spiritual health and eternal destinies. Even if we were to live to 100, that time is still a brief instant compared to the eternity that awaits all of us. One day soon we will all die, unless Jesus returns first, and all that we have worked for will belong to another. And the hard work we put into our lives will amount to nothing more than a memory. Solomon understood this when he wrote; *"Vanity of vanities," says the Preacher; "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity." What profit has a man from all his labor In which he toils under the sun? One generation passes away, and another generation comes; But the earth abides forever."* **Ecclesiastes 1:2-4 (NKJV)** This is one thing that we should remember as we pass through the years. When you die, the hard work you put into your projects will fall to another and you can not know what direction they will take all the things that you

## Sermon by: Bill Beebe; Article by: Bill Beebe

considered so important.

Most of us know what Solomon says about our lives, **Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 (KJV)** *"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil."* Since the wisest man to have lived, not counting Jesus Christ, tells us after learning and searching wisdom for all his life, Solomon says all is vanity and that the only thing that we have a duty to do is to "Fear God and keep his commandments..." So if you do make New Years Resolutions, you may want to make resolutions that are spiritual in nature. Consider these: <sup>1)</sup>Exercise my spiritual life by leading at least one personal bible study, <sup>2)</sup>Study my bible for at least 30 minutes a day, <sup>3)</sup>Conduct a family bible study, <sup>4)</sup>Attempt to have a 100% record of attendance at the meetings of the Church, <sup>5)</sup>Participate in the activities of the congregation by volunteering to teach, clean, and do other work that the Elders may identify as needed.

Remember that your time here is short, and that everyone will either die or meet Jesus when He returns. So it makes sense to make the most of it while you have the opportunity. But, remember to make the most of it in a way that will count. You can spend years working on your body to get it in a condition that others would envy. You can spend years working hard, saving money and developing a robust portfolio. You can choose to be a vegetarian or you can spend the years of your life eating the finest grass fed beef and organic vegetables. But in a very short period of time, you will realize that your body cannot do what it used to. And that hefty portfolio and those savings accounts will not prevent death. Then the money will go to others who will enjoy spending it more than you enjoyed saving it. That vegetarian, or organic food lifestyle will not delay death that long. Before you know it, you will be facing Jesus, and the physical body, the money and the healthy lifestyle will not count for anything.

What will count though is what have you done spiritually. Did you hear the gospel, the good news of Jesus and His resurrection. Did you believe what you heard and did you confess that belief to others. Did you repent of your sins, were you baptized by immersion in water to wash away your sins and call on the Lord and thereby being added to the church, the only church whose members will enter heaven? Time is flying away, each day you live is one day less than you have to live. It may seem to be slowly passing into the night, but in actuality it is quickly moving closer and closer to the time you will die or Jesus will return. And the only thing that will matter then is; are you ready to account for the way you spent the precious hours and days that you were given?