

# If Tomorrow Never Comes!

By Mike Riley

Using the Phillips Translation, Js 4:14 reads: “How do you know what will happen tomorrow? What, after all, is your life? It is like a puff of smoke, visible for a little while and then dissolving into thin air.” With these thoughts in mind, let’s think about the following:

“What ifs” — often foolish and detrimental but sometimes valuable. For example, “What if tomorrow never comes?” Fanciful, you say? Our text shows otherwise! (2 Pet 3:8-14). From this text, one thing is certain — life is uncertain!

But some things are certain! (cf. Heb 9:27; Matt 25:32; Rev 20:11-12). It is no wonder that Peter when he looked at the uncertainty of life, went on to ask what manner of persons we ought to be (2 Pet 3:11)! If tomorrow never comes, what manner of things do I want to be written in the book of life? Do I want it written that I.....

## Was In Christ?

Many spend their whole life striving to be in the best clothing, house, and car .... but what will these matter a hundred years from now? What will matter is whether I am in Christ (Eph 1:3; Eph 5:23). But how? We must let the Judge answer (Rom 6:1-4; Gal. 3:26-27).

## Was A Servant Of God?

Matt 20:20-28 — Again, any other way is a failure. Being “in Christ” brings responsibilities as a servant (Rom 6:17; Tit 2:11-14; 2 Tim 4:6-8; Rev 2:10). We might ask, “what is a servant?” — let the Judge answer (Matt 25:23; 1 Sam2:35).

## Was An Example To Others?

If my son/daughter/grandchild/spouse .... follows me, then according to Bible teaching, my example will lead them to heaven or hell. Whether older like Paul (1 Cor 11:1) or young like Timothy (1 Tim 4:12), we can each give others the gift of a good example. What kind of example will be written that I have been in .... becoming a child of God? Worshipping? Living?

## Made A Difference?

We’re not speaking of worldly accomplishments but making a difference for eternity! Making a real difference can come in many ways, such as (1) Influencing your child, spouse, or anyone else to obey the Gospel; (2) Allowing the light of God in you to push the darkness back in a world filled with darkness (Matt 5:16); (3) Living to glorify God amid a self-serving world. Such things make an eternal difference!

## Conclusion

If tomorrow never comes (and indeed it may not), who do I want to be like?

- 1) The rich man who is suffering and bemoaning the fate of others? (Luke 16:22-25) Or
- 2) Lazarus, comforted in Abraham’s bosom? (Luke 16:23)

**The choice is mine (and yours!).**



# STERLINGTON

## Church of Christ



P.O. Box 82  
1095 Highway 2  
Sterlington, Louisiana 71280  
[www.sterlingtoncoc.com](http://www.sterlingtoncoc.com)

Sunday Morning Bible Classes - 9:30 AM  
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 AM  
Sunday Evening Worship - 5:00 PM  
Wednesday Evening Classes - 6:00 PM.

12/4/22

# Welcome Visitors

If you are seeking a church home, we hope that you will consider joining with us. We are a growing congregation, dedicated to worshipping in truth and spirit. Please fill out the Visitor's Card and place it in the collection plate!

## Elders:

Todd Chapman  
Paul Simpson

## Deacons:

Wayne Fowler David Garris  
Billy Granger Buddy Hollis

## Preacher:

Don Delukie

# Those to Serve

## Today

**Announcements-** Paul Simpson **Lord's Table-** Todd Chapman  
**Opening prayer-** David Reppond **Closing Prayer-** Ronnie Hayes

## December 11th

**Announcements-** Travis Rogers **Lord's Table-** Lyle Russel  
**Opening prayer-** Charles Fricke **Closing Prayer-** Matthew Fricke

# Announcements

—**Question & Answer Series: Tonight** will be our next Question and Answer Series. Please submit your questions via the church email address SCOC2006@att.net or to Don.

—**Children's Home Collection:** Our kids classes are collecting items for the Children's Home in Paragould, AR. Collection boxes are by the nursery. The list of needed items is in the foyer.



## Children's Christmas Program

**December 10th, (this Saturday) at 2 PM**  
our children will be performing a Christmas Program here at the building.

**Everyone is invited!**

# Please Pray For:

Lazelle Flowers, Wendell Jackson, Ronnie White, Lilybeth Weatherford, Mae Fricke, Edwin Lowery, Brock Dalrymple, Kelli Fatheree, Bettye Flowers, Olive Buckley, Linda Garris, Sharon White-Ross, Gail Sewell, Shelia McMannus, Jeremy Granger.

**Bereaved:** Families of Youlandra Lowery, Woefud Conatser, GW Harris, Bennie Freeman.

# Continue to Pray For:

James Johnson, Shirley Goodwin, Bobby Barker, Bobby Simmons, Max Aabel. Roosevelt Rogers, Tricia Muse, Donna Head, Debra Mike, Virginia Royal, Elizabeth Hollis, Terrance Dawson, Jamie Ross, Charlie McDaniel Jr.



## James Johnson's new address

Ouachita Healthcare Center  
Attn: James Johnson  
Room 427  
7950 Millhaven Road  
Monroe, LA 71203

Cards of encouragement and/or visits would be greatly appreciated!



## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### December birthdays

3 - Gary Guice  
5 - Joanie Franklin  
7 - Emma Morgan  
14 - Wayne Fowler  
15 - Jonah Scharf  
22 - Brad Farrington  
24 - Louvenia Dickson  
26 - Matt Scharf  
27 - Rick Cook  
30 - Dwain Flowers

### December anniversaries

3 - Gary and Lisa Guice  
5 - Dan and Ethel Ross  
10 - Rick and Sandy Van Loon  
18 - Gary and Sharon Harris  
27 - Leo and Shirley Goodwin  
28 - Tommy and Joanie Franklin

