


IMMORTALY ARRAYED

Michael Pickford

Different occasions call for different type of dress, and we want to be suited for the occasion, so we have “Gym clothes,” “work clothes,” “school clothes,” “bed clothes,” and of course our “Sunday best.” Paupers dream of being arrayed like kings. But these earthly garments will grow old, fade away, and eventually burn up. The same is true of our physical bodies. Sounds sad, but there’s good news...

“For we who are in this tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life.”

-2 Corinthians 5:4

The “Tent” in this verse refers to our body. Our physical bodies are nothing more than heaps of dying clay. They are subject to pain, suffering, sickness, and death. But there is a garment suited for eternal life, and if we obey the Gospel and serve the Lord faithfully till death, we will be “Further clothed” with bodies suited for heaven; bodies that will know no sickness, pain, suffering, or death (Acts 22:16; Revelation 2:10). What a grand thought, to be immortally arrayed! 

Welcome to our services and thank you for visiting. If you have any questions about our beliefs or practices, please don’t hesitate to ask.

God has not only commanded us to worship Him, but has also told us how, in His word. **The elements of our services, as prescribed by God’s word, are as follows:**

- **SINGING:** Ephesians 5:18,19; Colossians 3:16
- **PREACHING/TEACHING:** Acts 2:42; Eph. 4:11,12
- **PRAYING:** Acts 2:42; Acts 12:5
- **LORD’S SUPPER:** 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Acts 20:7
- **GIVING:** 1 Corinthians 16:1,2; 2 Corinthians 9:6,7



COME WORSHIP WITH US!

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY...9:00
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.....10:00
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP.....6:00
WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES....7:00

- www.defendthegospel.com
- Weekly Article: Rutherford Reader
- 3rd Sunday Singing Practice: 5 pm
- 4th Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- 5th Sunday Men’s Training Class, 4:30 pm. Prayer Service, 6 pm
- Men’s Business Meeting. 1st Sunday evenings following services.



SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

Southside church of Christ, 1167 South Lowry
Smyrna, TN 37167, Phone (615) 459-7854
“They...searched the scriptures daily...” –Acts 17:11

Volume 11, Number 43

November 08, 2015


“AND HE DIED”

Michael Pickford

Death is a common thing. Read the newspapers and you’ll find the obituary page filled with notices of those who have passed away. The headlines often speak of one’s death. We are sometimes closely touched by death with the loss of a friend or loved one. We all have an appointment with death (Hebrews 9:27). Genesis chapter five is often referred to as the Graveyard chapter of the Bible. Eight times in this chapter we find the phrase, “And he died.” As unpleasant as it may be, let’s talk about death...

The Explanation of Death. The world offers different definitions of death. Parents often struggle trying to explain death to their young children, especially when a grandparent or other loved one dies. Death is not annihilation. One does not cease to exist when he dies. Rather, his soul returns to God to be dealt with justly (Ecclesiastes 12:7). Death is explained properly and biblically with the word, “Separation.” James wrote, “For as the body without the spirit is dead...” (James 2:26). So death is a separation of the body and the spirit (soul).

The Entrance of Death. In the beginning God did not create man to die, but to always have access to the tree of life and live forever. Death entered the world as a result of the sin of Adam and Eve. God promised that in the day they ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, they would die (Genesis 2:17). Adam and Eve eventually disobeyed God and ate of that tree, and as promised, they died, first spiritually, then physically, as God banned them from any access to the tree of life (Genesis 3:20-24).

The Escape from Death. Again, we all have an appointment with death. The only exception will be those who are still living when the Lord returns. At this time the faithful will be changed, their physical bodies will be transformed into spiritual bodies fit for eternal life in heaven (1 Corinthians 15:50-54). There is a sense in which everyone can escape death, that is, the second death, where the soul is eternally separated from God. Jesus promised, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in me shall never die” (John 11:25-26). Obey the Lord and you are promised eternal life in heaven. (Hebrews 5:8-9; Mark 16:16). 

Evangelist & Editor: Michael Pickford, 615-471-1612, mpickford3@comcast.net

www.defendthegospel.com

FAMILY TROUBLES = CHURCH TROUBLES

Mike Thomas

If you want to help the church grow, love your family and meet your responsibilities to them. It may win more souls to God and enhance the atmosphere of the church as well. Conversely, if you want to bring heartache into the lives of elders and brethren, ignore your obligations to your family. The trouble it brings will place a weight around their necks that only prayer and perseverance can make manageable. "He who troubles his own house will inherit the wind"... and hurt a lot of other people along the way.

What church has not had to respond to marriage troubles that lead to divorce? What eldership has not had to wrestle with family members who won't get along? What congregation has not felt the heartache of seeing one of their young people go the way of the world? Sin hurts family members, both domestically and spiritually. So when husbands won't love their wives, or wives won't respect their husbands, or parents won't spend time with their children, or children aren't taught to respect God, or siblings won't forgive one another, trouble is coming for everyone involved...including the church. Brethren will be asked to compromise God's will on divorce because of the emotional turmoil within a Christian's marriage. Elders will be expected to make an exception to withdrawal because of their relationship with the family of the erring. Brethren will be asked to take sides in a family conflict to show loyalty. This must not be case for the Lord and His people. Our allegiance is always to God first (Matt. 10:37-39; Acts 5:29) and then to His righteous people. The church may have a small part in helping people get along and do the right thing (Phil. 4:2-3), but the brunt of responsibility is on the members of the family. They each must meet the obligations God expects of them: wives submit to your husbands (Col. 3:18), husbands love your wives and do not be bitter toward them (v. 19), children obey your parents (v. 20), fathers do not provoke your children to wrath (v. 21). Forgive one another as family! (v. 13)

When you act like a faithful Christian as a mate, child, parent, sibling, and in-law, you will not only bring peace into your home, you will also save the church a lot of heartache and trouble. -

You Matter!

A young man got into his car to go pick up his date, only to find that the car wouldn't start. Upon investigating, he found that the needle point had dropped out of its place in the valve. A one inch gadget, shaken out of its place, was blocking the gasoline vent. Because of it, a 235 horse-power engine couldn't move the car. Sometimes we feel insignificant, irrelevant! But God reminds us that individually we are loved, and that each of us as individuals are essential to the Lord's work (1 Corinthians 12:12-31). Feeling insignificant when considering the heavens, David wondered how God could be mindful of him. But He was, and He is mindful of you.-

SERMON NOTES

Search the scriptures daily to see if these things are so.

Title: _____

**STUDY
DAILY!
Acts
17:11**

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Johnny Blair
Reading: Matthew 8:1-4
- Song Leader.....Tony Jenkins
- Opening Prayer.....Michael Pickford
- Lord's Table:
 - Lead.....John Nelson
 - Serve.....Michael Pickford
 - Serve.....Lynn Buttrey
- Closing Prayer.....Kenny Todd

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Kenny Johnson
- Lord's Table.....John Nelson

WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Michael Pickford
- Invitation.....Kenny Todd

Thank You For Serving!

GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

There is only one true saving plan of Salvation outlined in Scripture. No substitutes will do. Have you really been saved? Get out your Bible and study the plan below.

- Hear The Gospel: Romans 10:17
- Believe: Mark 16:16; John 8:24
- Repent of Sin: Acts 2:38; 17:30
- Confess Faith: Romans 10:9, 10
- Be Baptized: Mark 16:16;
Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21
- Remain Faithful: Rev. 2:10

Obey Today!

***Home Bible Studies
Available Upon Request!***