

Just 30 Seconds to Live

© 2022 Wayne J Vasilenko / Selah Life Ministries

www.selahlife.net

Pretend that you just found out you had just 30 seconds to live.

What just went through your mind when I challenged you with that scenario? What did you think about... who did you think about, a loved one, perhaps a spouse or a child? Did you say to yourself, "Wait... just 30 seconds?" Regardless of who or what came to your mind, the clock continued to tick! Think about how many seconds it took to process the opening statement much less the fact that there was less than 30 seconds left to live before you even finished *reading* the opening statement! Scary isn't it... yet many people die *instantly* for various reasons every day. ***Selah (pause... dwell on that for a moment)*** I am not trying to ruin anyone's day with morbid thoughts but the fact is that everyone will die at some point, and even if you attempt suicide, none of us knows with absolute certainty when death will occur. I recall a young girl who put a 12- gauge shotgun under her chin and pulled the trigger... she survived! She has since changed her mind about wanting to end her life and she continues to live on, she is blind, and horribly disfigured but living on nevertheless after obtaining a face transplant. The point is that no one knows exactly when his or her life on earth will end. The sad part is that the majority of people seem to think that they do! Even sadder is the fact that most people think that Life on Earth is all there is... but what if it is not... what if physical death is not "the end?"

Through the years, I have talked with many people that are adamant that there is no "afterlife," but even science struggles with that hypotheses. What if there is an afterlife as described in the Bible... what if it is true! The Atheist will discount this question; after all, they believe there is no god, therefore, no afterlife. How many true Atheists are there in the world; I submit that most people these days are in my opinion, really Agnostic, not Atheist. What is the difference between Atheist and Agnostic? To put it in simple terms, the Atheist completely discounts the existence of god, while the Agnostic believes that god cannot be proved to exist, but stop short of *absolute* denial of god's existence. In essence the agnostic leaves the "door open to the possibility of god," but insists on definitive physical proof. Regardless of where you stand; from a Biblical standpoint there is indeed an afterlife, in fact, that is "ultimately" the main topic of the Bible! So again the question remains, what if the Bible is true concerning an "afterlife?" This is why I brought up the 30 seconds to live scenario at the beginning of this article. If the Bible is correct, as I believe it is, the decision we all have to make concerning our position or status in the afterlife; can be made only while we are still alive on the earth! This is what the Bible teaches.

Many people, especially younger adults, feel that death is something they will worry about when they are older. However, when I was in High School, the girl I was dating lost her best friend. She was killed instantly in a car accident! Another one of my best friends through grade school and high school; he was decapitated in a car accident the year after we graduated! Both of these young people did not get even one second to think about it what was happening to them. One second they were here – the next second they were dead! The question everyone has to face is this... "Are you absolutely sure concerning your thoughts or beliefs concerning an afterlife?" You may answer yes to that question if you are atheistic, but there is an old saying... "There are no Atheists in a Foxhole." Ask anyone who has ever experienced combat in the military how many times, in the heat of combat, they heard fellow soldiers crying out to a god they previously said did not exist, begging that he would spare their life. The truth is that we all have an inherent knowledge of God, it is put there by God Himself! This includes everyone reading this.

Romans 1:20 (NKJV)

²⁰ **For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse...**

That gentle nudge you are feeling in your gut right now is further evidence the Bible is true and that God is drawing you to Himself. So what if you had only 30 seconds to live... **Hebrews 9:27 (NKJV)** ²⁷ **And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment...** What if there really is a judgment, how would you stand in judgment before God? Be honest... did something stir in you when you read my opening statement? If so, take the time to read the first three chapters of the Gospel of John. There you will learn how much God loves you and what He did to guarantee you a wonderful and joyous afterlife. Today is the day of salvation... you may not see tomorrow!