

Another Chance!

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Take advantage of the opportunity God gives!

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins He is just...
1 Corinthians 2:9 Eye hath not seen
2 Corinthians 5:8 absent from the body
2 Corinthians 6:2 In an acceptable time I
have heard you
Colossians 3:2 love things above
Colossians 3:3 we appear with him in glory
Mark 1:15 Jesus will return; repent—believe
John 17:3 This is life eternal—to know God...
Matt. 7:12 treat others as you want to be...
Job 16:22 I go the way I came & not return...

How often we say—*If I had another chance, I would have done things differently; If I had a second chance, I would have treated them much better; If I had to do it over again, I would make better choices!*

God does give us another chance—
AV **1 John 1:9** “*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*”

But the issue is: Are we taking *advantage* of another chance that God gives; Are we *acting* and *talking* differently now that we have been given another opportunity?

The most important thing is knowing what is on the other side of this life! What happens when this world ends? We have to *know* what is after this brief life—and God *told* us:

AV **1 Corinthians 2:9** “*Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him;*” **Isaiah 64:4.**

If we have committed our life to God; If we are committed to follow the instructions of Jesus in our everyday situations, and if we desire to obey the Word of God concerning all things—we *can* know what is awaiting us on the other side.

AV **2 Corinthians 5:8** “*We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.*”

It is difficult to *visualize* eternity—no time; no watching the clock; no deadlines; no final seconds of playoff games!

Eternity is just up ahead and preparing to stand before Jesus unashamed of our conduct, our words, our choices, and our treatment of those around us eclipses everything else.

Concerning the present—we know that God has been *patient* with us—*many* times, yet we have often ignored His Word and done things we should *not* have done; we have treated people in an unkind way; We have been angry for no just cause! We need the reminder: God gives us *Another Chance!*

Jesus gave another chance—He said
AV **Mark 1:15** “*The kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.*”

God will someday and suddenly—give the command for His Son to return—*then* no more opportunities to repent; no more second chances!

Knowing what is on the other side—and knowing that we will be *there* throughout the endless ages of eternity should have us think about our conduct, our decisions, our choices,

and our comments to family members or friends—would God approve?

It was said: *If we could get someone to really think about eternity for five minutes, they would lose no time in surrendering their life to God and accepting the Lord Jesus as their Savior!*

That could be true—and that is why the devil has us *think* about anything *but* eternity.

He has most people so involved in a multitude of interests and activities that eternity is never taken seriously—*just let me live the way I want to*—is the prevailing thought.

Most people focus on education, jobs, family, vacations, retirement, insurance, financial investments, or other temporary things.

Generally, people avoid thinking about *eternity* and never consider *where* that might be for them.

If you asked someone: *After this life, how important will it be that you earned a lot of money? How important is it that you bought the sports car you always wanted; What benefit is that house in the suburbs to you now?*

The only thing that *is* important to *everyone* is: *Knowing* God and *trusting* Him in faith for everything in this life—knowing our sins are *forgiven* because we repented of them and placed them at the foot of the Cross of Jesus by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

The only important thing is that we *allowed* God to teach us what we need to know to be ready to meet His Son; That we really *trusted* in Him—because we really *love* the One who loved *us* enough to give His life on the Cross to pay our sin debt **John 3:16!**

The only thing that matters is where we *are* on the other side—and the only way we can be sure it is the *right* place, is that our heart is *right* with God, and that our *attitudes* are right toward everyone else because His Holy Spirit is in control them.

AV John 17:3 “*This is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.*”

The only thing that matters is that we *know* what God will *do* for us—that is why we *trust* Him in faith for everything!

If we do not take advantage of the opportunity God gives us here, there is no changing the result once we are in eternity.

AV Colossians 3:2 “*Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.*”

But Satan has people to set their affections on things of *this* life, and not ever *thinking* about things *above*—where everyone will *want* to be!

AV Colossians 3:3 “*For ye are dead,*” or the self-life must be dead—as it is crucified *with* Christ.

Once we have *confessed* and *repented* of our sins “*Our life is hid with Christ in God.*” How important is it that—4 “*When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.*”

Most people do *not* think about eternity nor consider how *long* it *is*—but at some point, everyone will *have* to, because everyone will pass to the other side—to *one* of *two* and *both* are *forever*!

AV Job 16:22 “*When a few years are come, then I shall go the way whence I shall not return.*”

This life is a *journey* to the next life. We must know what is next because it is coming.

Today is another chance to *get* right with God—and another chance to *make* things right with anyone we offended.

Like: *I’m sorry for the way I’ve treated you; I was wrong. With God’s help, things will be different now.*

I now know how important it is to read and heed AV Matthew 7:12 “*All things whatsoever ye*

would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them.”

Where do we want to spend eternity? God is *loving, merciful, and patient*—and He is *waiting* to show us what we need to *know*!

Are we *asking* Him to show us? Are we *asking* Him to have us *ready* to meet His Son? Today is the *day* we have to repent of our mistakes.

NKJV 2 Corinthians 6:1 “*We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain.*”

2 For He says: “*In an acceptable time I have heard you*”—but are we *confessing* to Him so He *can* hear us?

Are we *thanking* God and *asking* for His help to change what *must* be changed? Can we *treat* people as if we truly *loved* them? Eternity is at stake!

It doesn’t matter who we are—pauper or president, we will all be leaving this planet at some point.

If we have the *right* information and do the *right* thing *with* it, we will find ourselves at the *right* destination forever!

If we have the *wrong* information and do the *wrong* thing *with* it, we will find ourselves at the *wrong* destination—forever!

Today is the chance given to commit our life to God anew; to confess and forsake wrong ways or attitudes we *hold* on to far too long; and to learn under His teaching every day—how to meet everything, every person, and every situation in a scriptural way.

We can tell our children: *I really care where you spend eternity!* If we look them in the eyes and *say* that and *mean* that—God can enable our words to touch their heart.

Many care about others in a *temporal* sense, but not many care in an *eternal* sense.

When we show someone that we *care* about their eternal well-being, they are more willing to listen to scriptural advice.

We can *make* a friend, and we can *be* a friend. If we want to see them in Heaven, then *living* the Truth *in love* Ephesians 4:15 can make that happen.

Christ-like attitudes and treating people in a kind and considerate way—at work, playing sports, during school, at church, and anytime we interact with others—can have much impact because the way we act is so *visible* that it speaks *volumes* of truth.

Setting a right example for others to *see* and *follow* is far more important than anything else we could be involved with.

Jesus did *His* part two thousand years ago—now we do *our* part—*live* His Truth in real time. There is never a time that we do *not* live that Truth.

God is giving us *another chance*—what are we doing with it? What we *do* with the information we *have* is of major importance!

It is vitally important because our attitude toward God, His Word, and the people around us involves where we will spend the rest of eternity.

Is it *the strait gate with the saints; or the wide road with the sinners!*

Everyone now has to choose!



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