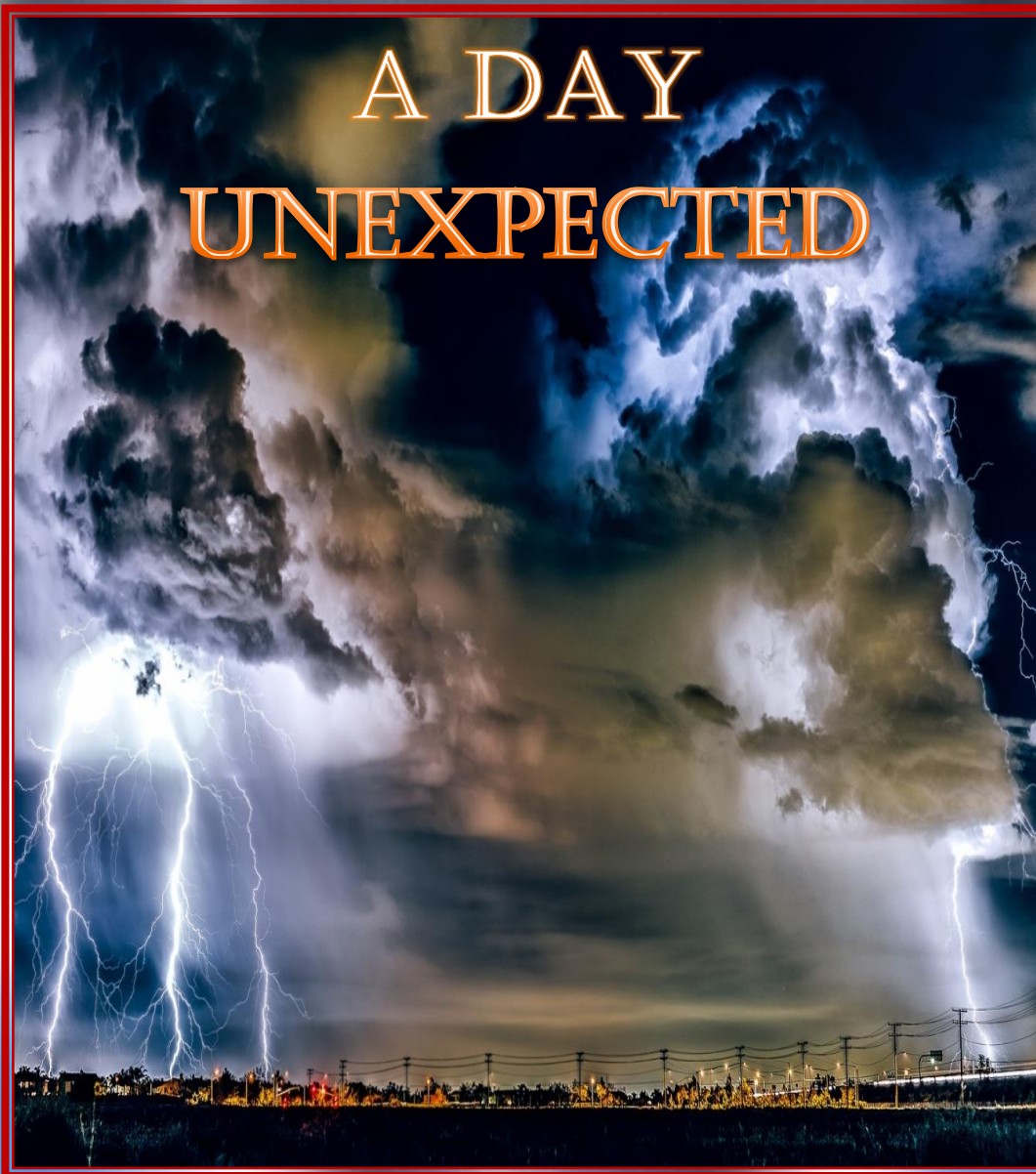


A DAY UNEXPECTED



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A DAY UNEXPECTED

By E.A. Cooley

It's about ten o'clock am in a small town on a beautiful sunny morning with clear blue skies, the birds are singing, the children are playing and folks are going about their everyday business tending to daily chores and errands... As they interact with one another visiting, shopping and working, the morning passes and before long lunchtime has come and gone.

Along about middle afternoon the beautiful sunny day gives way to clouds rolling in which start to blanket the sky (not uncommon). Before long they begin to turn dark building thunderheads (also not uncommon) but worth keeping an eye on, soon the sky ripples with flashes of lightning as rumbles of thunder are heard and big drops of rain begin falling.

The small community runs for cover from the rain as the skies grow ever darker while televisions, radios and cell phones begin sounding the alarm of a severe thunderstorm in the area while the skies grow darker still! Lightning stabs the darkness with deafening claps of thunder startling everyone! Glances of fear and words of concern are exchanged and soon large hail begins smashing into the town as the weather service issues a tornado warning!

Upon hearing this, everyone scrambles to find shelter or the safest part of their homes in which to ride out the storm and before long, tornado sirens begin to wail while terrified families and friends and even strangers huddle together and begin to pray. Then comes the sound (like a freight train according to survivors) increasing in volume and energy as it spins its way into the small town, its dark funnel dancing maliciously with destructive intent. Roaring like a demon it collides with the town and begins to tear it to pieces!



Debris flies thru the town, cars and trucks are flipped and tossed through the air like toys as power transformers explode! Trees are up-rooted and carried away, windows shatter and roofs are torn away as homes and businesses are ripped apart! Many lives are brought to a horrific end as they are pulled screaming into the malevolent vortex! For six minutes howling with demonic glee the tornado rampages through the

community sparing very little and then just outside of town, the dark funnel begins to lift ever so slowly returning to the clouds from which it was spawned.

Soon after the clouds begin to break up allowing shafts of sunlight to stream through and illuminate portions of the town, spotlighting the terrible work of destruction the tornado has left behind. The scene is greeted with stunned silence by those residents who have managed to make their way out of the wreckage, the silence is broken only by the sound of crying, screams of pain and pleas for help.

The devastation is complete, the town is in ruins, loved ones have been lost, many more have been injured and everyone has lost almost everything that made life normal... Their only comfort, it could have been worse but because they listened to the warnings and prepared the majority of the residents were spared.

As the community crawls out of the rubble and are greeted with the totality of the damage and try to comprehend the full extent of the loss they've suffered, they begin to help one another while in the distance can be heard the sound of emergency sirens as first responders struggle to make their way into what is left of the little town to provide aid and comfort to the victims.

Little by little the sun burns off what is left of the clouds and before long the day becomes bright and sunny with blue skies once again testifying to the aftermath of "A Day Unexpected!"

For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, peace and safety; then sudden destruction comes upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. 1 Thessalonians 5:2-3

For the residents of the town in the story the day started as many do all over the world, soon however it brought tragic consequences for the small town. What started out as a bright sunny day in a peaceful, happy and safe community quickly turned into a day of destruction, darkness and death! Although people were aware that a tornado could happen, few ever thought it would happen to them. But it did! Unexpectedly with little warning lives of peace and safety were thrown into chaos and changed forever!

You may say it only a story but for the thousands of people who have survived a day like this I believe they would confirm the general narrative of the story. But regardless of the fact it is only a story it is told in order to illustrate how quickly the unthinkable can happen and why we should heed the signs of the times which serve as a warning of prophesied events soon to come.

Jesus said: When it is evening, ye say, it will be fair weather: for the sky is red. And in the morning, it will be foul weather today: for the sky is red and threatening. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times? Matthew 16:2-3

**Will you heed the warnings?
Will you prepare yourself and those you love?
WILL YOU BE READY?**

Prophecy tells us that in the "Last Days" "Normal Days" will turn into days of darkness, disaster, disease and death for communities of people and nations worldwide!

So if you take a moment to consider how an unexpected event, such your “Personal End Time” relates to your eternal destiny it is urgent that you take a few moments to consider the following questions...

1. Are you a Good Person?
2. Do you believe you have done enough good deeds to earn your way into Heaven?
3. Have you always conducted yourself in a forthright and considerate manner when dealing with others throughout your life?
4. Have you been charitable, loving and kind everyday possible?

If you answered yes (or pretty much) to all those questions then congratulations you are pretty much like most of us. Doing the best we can to be the best person we can be! So within the framework of society and its laws you can pretty much for the most part call yourself a good person! However regarding eternal consequences based on Gods law how do we measure up?

Well to be sure... Let’s check Gods Laws. **The Ten Commandments.**



1. **You’ve Never told a Lie, Right?** Because that would make you a Liar!
2. **Never Stolen anything (no matter how small), Right?** Because that would make you a Thief!
3. **You’ve Never used Gods name as a Curse word, Right?** Because that would make you a Blasphemer!
4. **Never Lusted after anyone, Right?** Because that would make you a Adulterer! (*Jesus said lusting after someone is the same as doing it*)
5. **Never Hated anyone, Right?** Because that would make you a Murderer! (*Jesus said hating someone in your heart is the same as murder*)

How are you doing? We have covered 5 of the 10 commandments, if you answered “Yes I Did” to even one of them you are guilty of sin. I am sure that if you are honest with yourself you are guilty of more than one! But so are the rest of us, every single one of us! None of us measure up!

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: Romans 3:23 & 3:10 Then we read this verse... **For the wages of sin is death! Romans 6:23 (a)**



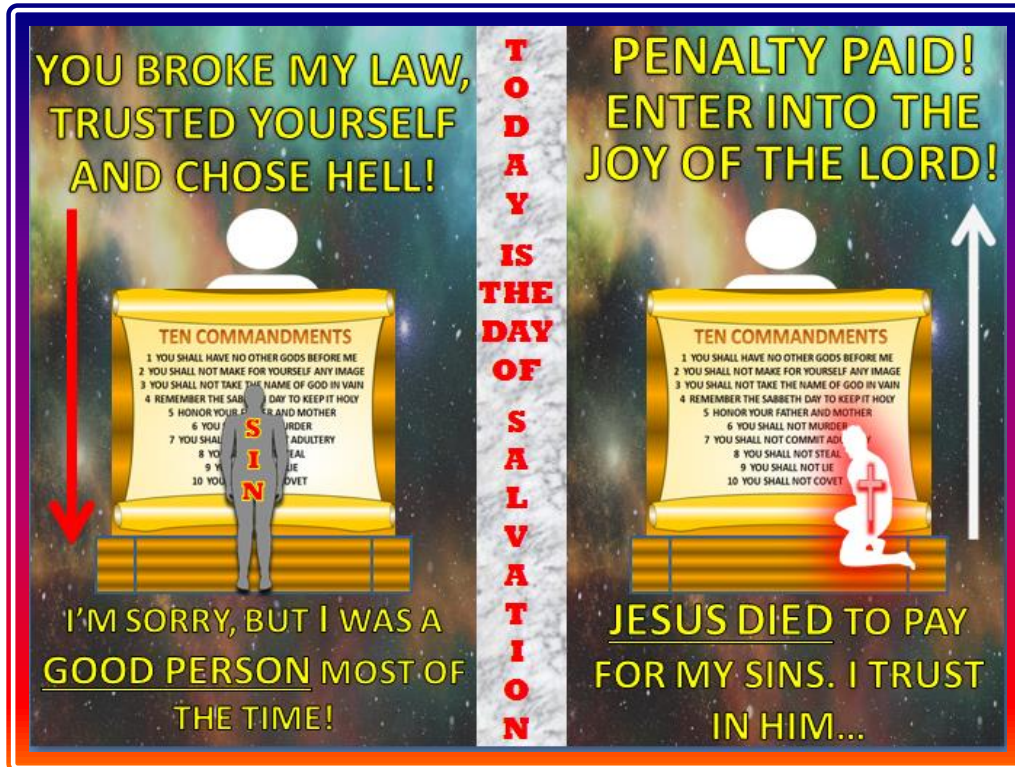
So if all have sinned then what hope is there? How can anyone be saved? Remember the “Blessed Hope” we read about earlier in this message? Well, the last part of that last verse we just read speaks to the Mercy of God and finishes **Romans 6:23 (a)** with this... **but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 6:23 (B)** Please read the following verse of promise...

If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. Romans 10:9-10

All you have to do is humble yourself (*swallow your pride*), admit you are a sinner, confess and repent (*be sorry for your sins and turn away from them*) then accept God’s gift by putting your trust and faith in Jesus Christ as your Savior who sacrificed Himself on the cross to pay for your sins.

You I and everyone we know will one day find ourselves standing in front of the God of the universe and we will give an account of ourselves!

When your day arrives, what will you say?



A Personal Note

Please allow me to share a personal thought with you if I may regarding my motivation for writing “A Day Unexpected” which would be you dear reader, please understand that this message is an act of love towards you and all who will take the time to read it. It is written to everyone everywhere regardless of status, station, culture, race or religion. Herein I have simply testified to what I believe to be the only hope for our world and the eternal destiny of every single one of us! Please be assured that every message I share is done with the purest of intentions for which I seek no gain or glory but only that Gods will be done in the lives all whom it touches! For the Bible says...

Blessed is the man that trusts in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is. *Jeremiah 17:7*

What a friend we have in Jesus

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Your tomorrow is not guaranteed - today is the day of salvation!

Read the Bible daily and apply what you read. A good place to start is the Gospel of John.

Bible Verses of Life - John 14:6, John 3:17, Romans 3:23, Romans 3:10, Ecclesiastes 12:14, Romans 5:8, John 3:16, Romans 6:23, Romans 10:9-10, , 2nd Samuel 22:31, John 14:6, James 4:14 and Hebrews 9:27.