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a multitude of thoughts

"why are you cast down, o my soul? and why are you disquieted within me? hope in God; for i shall yet praise Him, the help of my countenance and my God." psalms 42:11

a new month is upon us and i can't help but have my mind cluttered with the many thoughts accompanying it. it's kind of like a house cleaning that's way over due. time can be our enemy or our friend. however we manage to use it, it is definitely running out. as i watched so many precious saints making their journey home, i know my own expiration date in this life is closing in as well.

what would you do if you knew you only had so many allotted days left; perhaps even hours? scripture tells us to "number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." psalms 90:12 numbering our days seems to make us vigilant instead of wasteful, as so many are nowadays, marching blissfully into the gas chambers - into "their" constructed destruction. then the panic and screaming begins.

setting aside the willfully ignorant ("but if anyone is ignorant, let him be ignorant." 1cor 14:38), what would you determine to be the best use of your, now precious time? one might well think of the books they hadn't read, places they hadn't visited or even deeds they hadn't done. sort of a bucket list.

but all of this is still centering on the "i;" on the temporal. if we are to use our allotted time well, it would be to make those deposits that follow us where we go; the ones where, "where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal."  
matt 6:20

as you watched them count down, you might be excited or fearful. i remember billy graham saying, "i'm not afraid of death; just the dying." yes, it seems like so many have a painful and lingering death, and saints don't seem to be immune from it. i can't say my sentiments wander far from billy's.

but let us reflect over our life - it's worth and regrets. has my existence made this place better or worse? have i done anything to make it or someone's life better. we might well ask whether we will be missed or if anyone will even know we're gone?

it is too late to change what has been done but not too late to change what might be. therefore, one also may ask, "what should be done with the remaining days to make them count?" will we fill them with regret as well, or is there still time to make a change?  
nicodemus asked, "how can a man be born when he is old?" john 3:4 he can't, but he can be born again.  
you see, God is a back-of-the-book reader.

so what is the substance of what i am saying. i guess king solomon summed it all up best. "let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all." eccl 12:13  
essentially it means the greatest commandments issued

by Jesus. "Jesus said to him, 'you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' this is the first and great commandment. and the second is like it: 'you shall love your neighbor as yourself.' on these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." matt 22:37-40

whatever you determine to fill your allotted time with, know that it is limited and subject to termination at any moment. will you be like the rich man, satisfied with self, saying: "'soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.'" but God said to him, 'fool! this night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?' so is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." luke 12:19-21

my thoughts keep centering on those i fear will be caught unaware and left behind; either through denial or subverted faith. the fool has said in his heart there is no God and is doomed already. the one who has given credence to subverted faith has perverted the gospel to be pleasing to the world. either way, they are staring at damnation only true faith can avert.

there are so many seeking these days. i can tell because the traffic to our website has doubled in recent days. i want to be a voice reaching out with an answer; with THE answer - Jesus Christ. He is "the way, the truth, and the life. no one comes to the Father except through Me." john 14:6

so what is the crux of the matter? "therefore, whether

you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." 1 cor 10:31

Jesus gave peter the command to tend His flock three times. it must have been His heart's desire. may it be our's as well. may this new month be a new beginning as well. God bless all. maranatha!