

September 19, 2021

Scott's Thoughts



Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit"— 14 yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your

life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. James 4:13–14 (ESV)

Sunday, September 12, 2021, was a day that started just like most Sundays do for me. We had our morning service followed by a potluck lunch and afterwards Ava and I went home. Shortly after we arrived, the phone rang, it was not good news. A dear friend and member of the church had lost her battle with Covid-19. She was a pure delight to be around and one of the sweetest people I have ever known.

Monday evening, I was watching television when the phone rang. The caller-ID told me it was a good friend of mine that I speak with frequently. Again, it was terrible news. His five-year-old grandson had been killed in a tragic accident. I'm supposed to know what to say in these situations yet, I find myself fumbling for words. It would be easier if I didn't know and love the people involved.

We could get philosophical about death but by the time we have reached our seventies death is not an abstract thought, it is a fact of life that visits us all too often. Each time death rears its ugly head we are deeply hurt. We may secretly feel thankful it is not a family member, spouse,

child, or grandchild because we know just how fragile life is and how quickly it can be taken away.

About now, you are thinking what a horrible article! So, let's shift gears. Along with all the preparations for a funeral I am also preparing for a wedding. As far as I know no one involved with the wedding has any death they are having to deal with at this wonderful time in their lives. They have planned this wedding for a very long time. They've planned the venue, the wedding ceremony, decorations, invitations, and much more. But for me, this is the celebration of two young adults beginning a life together that, I pray, will last at least as long as mine and Ava's has.

I think back to our beginning as we worked our way through getting to know each other while also getting to know each other's families and customs. One day, if this newly wedded couple work at it, they will wake up and realize that now that they have children and grandchildren, that the infant love of fifty years ago has grown into an indescribable love that every married couple should experience. When I think of the years of joy that lie ahead for this young couple, I take joy in their future success, and I find peace in my heart.

And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he said to me, "These are the true words of God." Revelation 19:9 (ESV)

Thanks for listening and keep on shining.

—Scott