ONE DAY THE NEXT DAY WILL BE THE DAY HE COMES

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INTRODUCTION

Gospel concert Labor Day weekend, spiritual retreat for me

Some songs stick in my head, stay for weeks and months

2 songs really struck me in a special way, want to share with you

stick in your heart as well
 One today, next in 2 weeks
 Both by same group – Down East Boys

I. IMPACT OF HIS COMING ON OUR FUTURE

A. THE TRUTH OF IT

One day the next day will be the day He comes.....
So SIMPLE

But SO TRUE we often forget it So busy in life, etc., don't think about it "BLESSED HOPE" for us Persecuted believers more in touch with this

Us here caught up in 'life' and juggling everything often don't think about it

PROMINENT TRUTH IN GOD'S WORD!

1 Thess 4:13-18 Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope. 14 We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. 15 According to the Lord's own word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage each other with these words.

ME NEW BELIEVER much talk, focus on rapture, Jesus coming back for us I first became familiar with this passage 45 years ago

In the Army, start of Viet Nam war – looked for His return any day!

Threat of war, separation, death overwhelmed me

I thought about it and spoke about it often CONVINCED this world couldn't go more than a few months at the most!

But time went on and He didn't return

Then out of Army, life easier, not think about it as much

Especially when years go by and not return

RECENTLY TRUTH OF IT coming alive in me again -older, most of my life behind me, not ahead

-near death of my father

LONG for a way to avoid going through old age & death – father and me

Maybe not have to! - maybe Jesus return first

Great thought – GLORIOUS HOPE!

TRANSITION

NOT JUST ESCAPE, though Jesus' return far more than that!

B. THE HOPE FROM IT

SIN, SUFFERING, AGE, PAIN, SORROW GONE FOREVER WITH GOD IN HEAVEN FOREVER more and more of a reality

We saw that in recent series on Jesus death and resurrection as well

Came, died – ascended Next thing – COME AGAIN

Told the disciples:

John 14:1-5 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. 2 In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. 4 You know the way to the place where I am going."

Last sermon, about ascension

Acts 1:10-11 They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. 11 "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

TRUTH of His coming reassuring, peace, HOPE (assurance)

TRANSITION

But song impacted me about more than just FUTURE assurance, event

Listen again and see what else God says to you through it:

II. IMPACT OF HIS COMING ON OUR PRESENT

A. WHAT WE WOULD DO TODAY

What else does that song convey besides what awaits us in the future?

ME impacted, implications for TODAY
IF HE COMES TOMORROW, WHAT SHOULD I
BE DOING TODAY?

If I knew tomorrow was the day, what would I do today?

This MIGHT be the day before, am I doing/living as I should? WHAT SHOULD I DO TODAY IF I KNEW HE WAS COMING FOR ME TOMORROW?

WHAT WOULD <u>YOU</u> DO TODAY IF <u>YOU</u> KNEW HE WAS COMING FOR YOU TOMORROW?

Walk in isle, everyone share, give mike if needed

GET RIGHT WITH GOD

Confess sin, get victory over it Remove anything between me and God Recommit to relationship with Him

SPEND QUALITY TIME WITH GOD

Spend time with Him - pray, read Bible

GET RIGHT WITH OTHERS

Make up with any where things not right, as much as is up to us to do

Reconnect with those not talked to in a long time

SPEND QUALITY TIME WITH OTHERS

Reassure those closest to us that we love, appreciate them

Tell those who don't know Jesus about Him

B. WHAT WE WOULDN'T DO TODAY

WHAT <u>WOULDN'T</u> YOU DO TODAY? Walk in isle, everyone share, give mike if needed

WHAT WE WOULDN'T DO

Wash kitchen floor
Work on stock portfolio
Watch hours of TV
Slip into that sin that seems to trap us
Hang out at the mall

Why not? Those things wrong?

NO – but not top priorities!!!

(do you see where I'm going with this?)

C. WHAT WE SHOULD DO TODAY

-if CAN do it if Jesus comes, then why not now? Why put off?

NOT sell everything and live on mt top

BUT keep the most important things first
It is doable, just face it and do it
Procrastination one of Satan's best weapons
WRONG PRIORTIES keep us from being ready
whenever He comes

Wouldn't it be GREAT to be able to say we wouldn't do anything different today
Everything in order, everything ready for Him to come!!

IT CAN BE THAT WAY for us

He WILL come one day

If not come before we die, then know will die one

Another song:

I'm closer to where I'm going than where I've been

True of me

Al L of you even really young – not quaranteed life

ALL of you, even really young – not guaranteed life Rapture or die any time

CONCLUSION

-going to India, closer time comes more in touch with them, all ready

Think about it more, more anxious to get there
Closer we get to heaven more ready, in touch
Not just when get older
But each day one day closer to DAY HE COMES
One day the next day will be the day He comes!