

# THE FRAGILITY OF LIFE

By Pastor Greg Hooker

*“Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away” (James 4:14).*

It has been my experience that most people go about their lives without considering the fragility of their existence. They go about their daily routines with very little care in the world; never once considering the minute by minute hazards that pose lethal and deadly entrapments.

For example, a careless teen is speeding down the highway texting his girlfriend when a deer rambles across the media. The distracted young man swerves, loses control and plunges headlong down an embankment to be prematurely ushered into eternity. A life cut short in the blink of an eye.

Then again, there is the young man loading skids of produce on a big rig, just trying to make a living for his wife and newly born daughter. His mind wanders – though just for an instant. The tires of the heavy fork truck approaches too close to the edge of the loading dock. Within a split second the heavy machinery tumbles over and crushes him beneath its unforgiving load. The angel of death escorts his soul before the presence of the Lord.

Once more, a school bus headed to Six Flags in Georgia is hit head-on by an intoxicated motorist. The driver of the bus is ejected through the windshield and dies before he hits the pavement. The unmanned bus strikes a guard rail, flips over three times and seven of its occupants go to meet their Maker. Life is as a vapor, it appears for a moment in time and then it's gone.

The examples given above were fictitious, nevertheless; they bear striking resemblances to the daily headlines we see in our local newspapers. We simply don't take the time to realize how fleeting life can be. It's like a shadow, a puff of smoke in the wind, a mist dispelled by the rays of the sun. One minute you're laughing and playing, but the next; paramedics are frantically trying to re-start your heart.

Each tick of the clock brings us closer to our last breath, our last heartbeat. Eternity draws nearer with the passing of each day. The pertinent question is: Are you ready for what's ahead? Have you prepared your soul for that certain occasion? Your life is as *“a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away”*.

Dear Lord, open our hearts and minds to the overwhelming truth that life is short, Heaven is sweet and Hell is hot. Help us to live each day as if it were our last, for it may very well be.

If you have not made preparations for eternity, then now is the time to discard any and all excuses. The Bible says, *“Now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation.”* Jesus said of Himself, *“I am the way, the truth and the life. No man cometh unto the father except through me.”*

If there is someone reading this message that lacks a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, I hope you will simply bow your head and by faith, ask Jesus to come into your heart, forgive you of your sins, and make Him the Lord and Savior of your life. I guarantee God will hear and answer your simply prayer – He promised this in His Word.