

**And what do you benefit if you gain the whole
world and lose your own Soul?**



Eternity Is Here

Do You Have Soul Insurance™?

Shirley Wallace Reaves, MDiv.

Copyright © 2021, Shirley Wallace Reaves, MDiv.

All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A.

No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording or any information storage and retrieval system now known or to be invented, without permission in writing from the publisher, except by a reviewer who wishes to quote brief passages in connection with a review written for inclusion in a magazine, newspaper or broadcast.

Quantity Purchases:

Companies, professional groups, clubs, and other organizations may qualify for special terms when ordering quantities of this title.

For information, email info@ebooks2go.net, or call (847) 598-1150 ext. 4141.

www.ebooks2go.net

Published in the United States by eBooks2go, Inc. 1827 Walden Office Square, Suite 260, Schaumburg, IL 60173

ISBN: 978-1-5457-5383-5

ePUB ISBN: 978-1-5457-5384-2

Mobi ISBN: 978-1-5457-5385-9

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication



Dedication

Introduction: A Word from the Author

Part I

- Chapter 1 Life Is Temporary:
Don't Get Too Comfortable
- Chapter 2 Do You Have Soul Insurance?
- Chapter 3 Death Is A Part of Life
- Chapter 4 The Human Condition
- Chapter 5 Spiritual Gifts Are from God
- Chapter 6 Hell Is A Real Place
- Chapter 7 There Is No Racism in Heaven

Part II

- Chapter 8 Heaven Is A Real Place
- Chapter 9 Material Things: Can't Take Them With You
- Chapter 10 The Paradigm Shift Is Still Shifting
- Chapter 11 Pastors, Ministry, and Church Folk
- Chapter 12 Take Care of the Holes in Your Soul
- Chapter 13 How To Get Soul Insurance

Chapter 14 Love is “the who” of Who God Is

A Final Word from the Author

Sources Cited





Chapter 1

Life Is Temporary: Don't Get Too Comfortable

One day, you will die- no ifs, ands, or buts about it. The critical question to answer is, are you prepared and ready for death? You have heard it said before, time and time again, and you may have even said these three words before yourself: Life. Is. Short. God did not create you to live forever, but He does promise long life to you and your children if you obey His Commandments. One of those Commandments for long life is this, “Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise), so that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth.” [Ephesians 6:3|NIV](#).

Life begins and ends so fast! The saying that life is “a mist, a fast runner, and a wisp of smoke” is a true analogy. The Bible declares, “Yet you do not know [the least thing] about what may happen tomorrow. What is the nature of your life? You are [really] but a wisp of vapor (a puff of smoke, a mist) that is visible for a little while and then disappears [into thin air].” [James 4:14|AMPC](#). This Scripture highlights all the more reasons to love more, be kind, do good in the world, and encourage one another. Especially in these unprecedented times, we find ourselves living in.

While living your everyday life, you, like most people, are more focused each day on what you see on earth rather than what you don't see. Scripture tells us, “... for the things which are seen *are* temporal, but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.” [2 Corinthians 4:18|NKJV](#). The biggest mystery in life is you not knowing when your life will end. God

loves you! He has made way for you to go to Heaven because He wants you to arrive in Heaven to live forever with Him. However, to accomplish this eternal goal, you must do your part to prepare to go to Heaven while you are still living here on earth.

The Brevity of Life

The Bible states, “For we were born but yesterday and know nothing. Our days on earth are as fleeting as a shadow.” [Job 8:9|NLT](#). There are three truths about life: First, compared to Eternity, life is very brief. Second, this world is only a temporary place of residency. Third, death is a part of life. You won’t be here long, so don’t get too attached to this world. This earth is not your permanent home, nor is it the ultimate destination for your Soul. Therefore, it does not matter how wealthy or poor you are, how much of a Big Shot you are, or how important you may think you are. Death will come for you when it’s your time to go.

The most important question you will ever answer is this: If your life were to end today, can you honestly say you are ready for Eternity? Do you know with 100% assurance and within the sheer fabric of your being, you will go to Heaven, and not Hell? How sad it would be to have lived your entire life, never knowing God had a much better and higher plan for you than this earthly life. He has the “forever after” already created for you, which is Eternal Life.

God Controls the Timing of Death

Some people don’t believe in life after death. Many believe there is no such thing as an afterlife or Eternity. Of course, everyone is free to believe as they choose. But even if you don’t believe in Eternity, keep reading! You may be surprised and experience an epiphany or paradigm shift to change your entire belief system. You have purchased this book to understand Eternity. I applaud you! So, listen up. The Bible states: “Friends, this world is not your home, don’t make yourselves cozy in it. Don’t indulge your ego at the expense of your Soul.” [1 Peter 2:11|TMB](#).

Most people don’t like to talk about death or discuss what happens to our Souls when we die, but death is a part of life. And so is Eternity, whether you believe in it or not. Not thinking about or not having an intelligent conversation or discussion about death and Salvation is simply a Devil trick. He knows the less you know, the better chances he has of

stealing another Soul away from God. God forewarned us of this when He decreed, “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.” [Hosea 4:6|NKJV](#).

If you will always remember, God created your life here on earth as a “temporary appointment,” the thought of life being a “permanent appointment” will lose its grip on you. As Believers, we are preparing for something much greater and much better than life on earth! Scripture offers this very hope, “The things we see now are here today, gone tomorrow. But the things we can’t see now will last forever.” [2 Corinthians 4:18|MSG](#). We cannot see God or Heaven in the here and now. But God has given Believers the wonderful opportunity to know the One who made a way for our Souls to go to Heaven. The One is Jesus Christ because of His Salvific Work on the Cross. God is so amazingly Awesome! He created your Soul, which never dies, and He has assigned each human being an appointed time to be born and a time to die. There is no human being living who knows when their time for living is up. So, enjoy each day of your life.

When the Parousia (Second Coming of Christ) occurs, and Jesus returns, “The dead in Christ” will be raised and given immortal bodies, “fashioned like unto his glorious body.” [1 Thessalonians 4:16|1 Corinthians 15:54|Philippians 3:21](#). Oh, what a happy day of rejoicing it will be. This fact should be encouraging and comforting to Believers who have lost loved ones in death. It is imperative to make sure your Soul is Saved, and all your living loved ones are Saved. Later in a chapter to follow, I will share a strategic process with you, which will help you inquire and ensure your loved ones are Saved.

Hell is a real place, created by God for a reason. God needed a place for Satan, evil demons, and unrepentant sinners to go. You need to know and understand this about God: God hates sin but loves you, the Sinner. It doesn’t matter what sins you currently commit or may have committed in the past. God’s very nature is pure love and forgiveness. He will forgive your sins. But! You must take the first step and ask Him for forgiveness. Satan’s primary goal is to prevent you from getting into Heaven by any means necessary- he knows your time is short.

Therefore, you need to have the same drive, passion, and determination to get into Heaven as you do to get into colleges and universities,

fraternities, sororities, private organizations, specialized careers, or anything else you consider necessary in your life. And keep this in mind, the devil works through people – he uses them to accomplish his evil goals. Yes, you read it right, Satan uses people to do his evil and dirty work. And God uses people to do His good and holy work. I love you enough to let you know these things- if you don't already know. God loves you, but Satan hates you and wants you to come to Hell to be destroyed with him in the Eternal Lake of Fire.

Trust God: He Knows What He Is Doing

Brace yourself for what I am about to share with you next. Here it goes – since this world is not your permanent home, you may from time to time, experience difficulty, suffering, sorrow, and rejection in this world- some more than others. I never said, nor will I ever say that life is fair because it isn't. Just remember, it is alright to suffer for the sake of your Faith in Jesus Christ. He is the Real Deal! God has made a comforting promise to all Believers, “And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.” [1 Peter 5:10|ESV](#). The suffering you experience while here on earth will pale in comparison to the Glory of Eternity in Heaven. And, just because you are Saved and blessed with the Gift of Salvation does not mean as a Believer, you will not suffer. The key is to trust God in the midst of your pain and suffering, no matter what, because God knows what He is doing.

Are you okay with trusting God in His infinite wisdom? When you enter into a relationship with the Lord; He will help keep your Soul on the right path to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven. The Psalmist says, “You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.” [Psalm 16:11|WEB](#). Is it worth compromising your Soul's Salvation to be a world pleaser? Or, selling your Soul to the devil for temporary monetary gain on earth to impress people? There is nothing in Hell or on earth worth selling your Soul for and thereby compromising your Salvation.

God allows unfulfilled prayer requests to keep us humble and unattached to this world. I can honestly look back over my own life and thank God for not answering some of the prayers I prayed- Whew! As Believers, we must have strong faith and trust in God. God is Omniscient and knows what is best for us, even when we think we know what's best. I believe in keeping it real, and if you and I were completely honest with ourselves, we would have to admit we've all probably gotten into situations where God was the only One who could rescue us. Am I right about it? Take a moment to reflect on those times and be grateful God brought you out and got you through. Every morning, as the earth spins, the sun rises in the east and set in the west, like clockwork. God knows what He's doing. Trust Him. God sees not just the big picture but the entire movie. Think about it. He sits high and looks low. When life gets tough, just remember you are not home yet. This earthly life is temporary. Don't get comfortable.

To be strong in your faith-walk on this journey called life, requires strength. God has given you the necessary tools to build and develop your faith, spiritual confidence, and resilience: prayer, worship, the Bible, and the opportunity to enter into a relationship with His Son, Jesus Christ. Why? Because Jesus is a relationship, not a religion. Most people's biggest problem is this: They only pray and call on the Name of Jesus when they get into a bind and need a way out of a mess. Often, it is a mess they have created. I am not saying or suggesting there's anything wrong with seeking God's Face during those times.

Instead, what I am saying is, God would be even more pleased if you chased Him daily in prayer and worship during the good times and not "only" when you have a problem or during the bad times in life. God, in His infinite wisdom and Omnipotence, can undoubtedly help you. God wants to be in a relationship with you. And when prayer becomes a lifestyle because you made it a priority in your life, there will rarely be a need to use it as an emergency exit or "get outta' jail card." No matter what you may be going through today- hold your head up, keep going, keep your Faith, and don't dare give up. Stay positive! Speak life over your situations, and stay away from negativity. Always remain prayerful and watch God bring you through, victoriously!

Life Has Numerous Tests

While on the road to Eternity, no one is exempted from hard times or going through difficult situations. It does not matter how handsome, wealthy, poor, beautiful, or how well educated you are- everyone goes through. You need to trust God even when you can't feel or sense His Presence in your life. Let us not forget the most potent Faith Scripture in the Bible: "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." [Hebrews 11:1|NKJV](#). If you think about life as a series of tests, this will help you create a better strategy for passing your tests. Once you get this epiphany, you will pass your tests more efficiently and effectively without wasting a lot of time retaking the same test over and over again. Your goal should be to get an A+ on all your life's tests. You will pass many tests the first time around, but many you will fail- learn from them. Allow the failures to be lessons in your life and a reminder never to repeat the same mistake.

After you take the test more than once, you should pass it. And even if you don't, God will continue to allow you to keep retaking the same test until one day you pass it. I implore you not to be a "professional student" when it comes to passing life's trials. At some point, you should want to graduate from your situation. Life is too fluid and fragile to keep taking the same old tests over and over again. Most importantly, learn how to obey God the first time. You know right from wrong. Do it! God has given you Divine wisdom and spiritual instinct. Yes, the human body is flesh. We cater to it 99.5% of the time to fulfill our physical needs daily. However, as human beings, we also have a spiritual side, as well. The greatest challenge we as humans face is learning to discipline our spiritual side. You must stop overriding your spiritual instinct (that gut feeling) with what your flesh wants to do, especially when you know the right thing to do. Choosing to do what is right will save you a lot of pain and heartache in the long run.

I am on the sidelines cheering for you, hoping and praying things in life work out for your good. According to God's promise in His Word, which declares, "And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for

them.” **Romans 8:28|NLT**. What a beautiful promise from the Lord. Even if you are going through a rough patch in life or had terrible things happen to you in life, God can take what was meant to ruin you and turn it into something useful to elevate you. Do you believe God still sends or allows tests in your life the way He did in the Bible two thousand years ago? If you answered “yes,” you are correct! Allow me to encourage you not to repeat the experience of the Children of Israel.

Around and Around Test

The Israelites spent 40 long years wandering around and around in the wilderness. They ate quail and manna that God divinely provided. Yet, the Israelites could not comprehend God's ways, although they experienced His provision every day while in the wilderness. You will find the full account in [Numbers 13:1-33](#). The Children of Israel were eventually led into the Promised Land by Joshua. Could they have arrived at their destination sooner? Of course, they spent too much of their time whining, complaining, and being disobedient to God. God declared, "Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said, it is a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways." [Psalms 95:10|KJV](#). Does this story sound like anything happening in your life today? God told the Israelites, "You have circled this mountain long enough. Now turn north." [Deuteronomy 2:3|NASB](#).

Does your life sometimes remind you of the Israelites when you're going through hard times or circumstances? What about when you feel stuck in the same place, going around and around the same life issues? Yes, it happens to us all from time to time- it's called life, and it's okay. Having a loving family, friends, and devoted church members to pray for you during those tough times is a true blessing. Or, you may decide to seek professional counseling. On the other hand, at some point, you will need to learn how to pray for yourself because God wants to hear directly from you! If you have struggled in the area of prayer, don't worry. I will share later a few prayer principles and keys that will help you to unlock communication with God and understand more about prayer.

King David's Test

Another example in the Bible of tests sent by God is the story of King David. King David, known in the Book of Samuel as a young shepherd, gained notoriety as a musician, and later killed Goliath. King David also failed tests from God many times. Nevertheless, King David was a man after God's own heart. And this is how God felt about King David: "After removing Saul, he made David their king. God testified concerning Him: "I

have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want Him to do.” Acts 13:22|NKJV. You will probably never make as many mistakes as King David. If you are not familiar with this story, it is a great read and witness to God’s grace and mercy. You can find the full story in 2 Samuel 11, 12|1 Kings 1, 2.

Here’s a part of the story as it happened in Scripture: “One evening, David got up from his bed and walked around on the palace’s roof. From the roof, he saw a woman bathing. The woman was gorgeous, and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, “She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite.” 2 Samuel 11:2|NIV. From that moment on, David plotted to have Bathsheba’s husband, Uriah, killed so he could sleep with her. She later became one of the wives of King David. Allow this story in Scripture to affirm God is loving, caring, and forgiving. And no matter what sin or evil you do or have done; God will forgive you when you repent of your sins and change your sinful behavior. God is Holy!

God forgave David for this sinful deed and many others, yet God still referred to David as a man after His own heart. God called David a man after His own heart. David knew how to get into the Lord’s Presence and earnestly pray and ask for God’s forgiveness. More importantly, after asking God to forgive him, David repented and changed his ways. God requires no more or no less of you. True repentance always brings about a change in one’s actions and behavior. If God did it for David, He would do the same in your life.

As human beings, we are surrounded daily by sin. We are all a work in progress, and we are all flawed. There is no one perfect or righteous. It is important to remember not to judge David or anyone else. The Bible says, “There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away; they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one. Their throats are open graves, their tongues practice deceit. The poison of vipers is on their lips. Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness. Their feet are swift to shed blood; ruin and misery mark their ways, and the way of

peace they do not know. There is no fear of God before their eyes.” **Romans 3: 11-18|NIV.**

So, the next time you are tempted to gossip or be a nosey “busy body,” you may want to remember that verse. In God’s eyes, you are no better than anyone else. He sees your flaws and sins before Him daily. What gives you the right to criticize or stand in judgement of someone else when you have your own sins and imperfections? We are all sinners saved by God’s amazing grace, and we all sin and fall short of His glory every day. The Word of God declares, “All of us have sinned and fallen short of God’s glory.” **Romans 3:23|CEV.**

Aside from being a man after God’s own heart, David was a Worshipper. God loves Worshipers. It is the reason God created you - to worship Him. But here’s the sad truth – most people don’t worship God. Not worshipping is what makes us instant hypocrites. Why? Because we expect God to do what we ask Him to do in our prayer requests. Yet, we are not willing to do what pleases Him. When you spend time alone with God in prayer, reading His Word, and worshipping Him in Spirit and Truth- this pleases God. Because! “God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” **John 4:24|NKJV.** God wants you to have a personal relationship with Him and not just pray to Him when you need something. He wants you to worship and pray to Him because of who He is, the “Most High” God.

I am not sure how much longer God will allow the world He created to continue to place Him last on its priority list. He wants to be the number one priority, as He should be because He is God. He created the world and everything in it. Did you know God is jealous and will have no other “little ‘g’ god” before Him? If there is one thing, I understand about God based on His ways and actions in the Bible is this: When God has had enough of the people’s excessive sinning, He has a way of getting their attention with plagues, wars, famines, floods, viruses, etc. Is God trying to get the world’s attention again with the outbreak of the coronavirus?

We are currently living with a deadly virus that has claimed and continues to claim hundreds and thousands of lives in death, in America and around the world. The coronavirus or COVID-19 is a virus affecting and

attacking people's immune system worldwide. It continues to turn the World as we know it upside down with a variant virus also on the horizon. Nevertheless, there is hope with the arrival of the new vaccine. But our hope and trust must always be in the Lord Jesus Christ because He is the One who controls life and death.

God is a God of Justice. He is also the epitome of love. Make no mistake about it; God also has a wrath and judgment side, as well. He will not continue to be ignored by the very human beings He created to worship, love, and honor Him. And how should we love God? Jesus has given us instructions about how we should love God: "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your Soul, and all your mind." [Matthew 22:37|NLT](#). This Scripture is between you and God. Your love for God and how you feel about your Creator is in the privacy of your own heart. You decide if you are "doing" [Matthew 22:37](#) or not. No one else has to know- That is between you and God. However, I am not ashamed of the Gospel, and I have no problem telling the world I love the Lord. He has been too good to me. He saved my Soul, and I'm glad about it.

As Believers, we must continue to stand strong and firm in our faith and not allow critics and the World to shake our faith. Atheists and non-Believers say God does not exist. They say Christians live in La-La-Land. The critics and non-believers will learn the truth one day, but it will be too late. The Bible tells us, "For the Lord, Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus, we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words." [1 Thessalonians 4:16-18|NKJV](#).

Allow these verses to help you stand firm against what the naysayers and critics have to say or think about you and your Faith. Why not love God enough to be obedient and seek His Divine Will for your life? He knows what's best for you, not the critics- pay no attention to them or their negativity. These verses are also confirmation not to get too comfortable living here on this temporary earth because you will die one day. Eternity is

where you will live forever, and it is your choice to choose either Heaven or Hell.

The Stuff of Life: Jealousy, Lies, Hate, Trials, and Storms

In between life on earth and life in Eternity, there are things or “stuff” you must go through and endure before enjoying your final peace and rest in Eternity. You should never get so comfortable living on earth that you allow yourself to have no morals or do things to harm yourself and other people. One of the most dangerous things you should avoid in this life is jealousy. Jealousy is a disease and a spiritual sickness of insecure people. Be thankful if you do not have to live your life with this awful mental and emotional illness. I can only imagine how miserable the lives of jealous people must be. No one told them what God has for them is for them, and no one else can have it.

Therefore, there is no need to envy what others have. Besides, I guess no one informed the jealous person God created us with different gifts, talents, skills, and abilities. Many people have lost their lives in death and had their lives completely altered forever due to someone walking around with jealousy’s untreated mental illness. Moreover, jealousy is also a spiritual sickness requiring spiritual deliverance and healing to overcome. And yes, the disease of envy can be in your own family, deeply disguised. Unfortunately, members within your own family can be the worst haters and lie spreaders. The lies people tell may alter your life, but never your destiny. This thought brings me back to the story of Joseph and his jealous brothers. I love the biblical story about Joseph because, like so many other stories in the Bible, it is a perfect example of what happens in your life when you must deal with jealous people.

The Story of Joseph is in the **37th Chapter of the Book of Genesis**. If you are not familiar with this story, it will be worthwhile to read it in more detail. Here is a brief biblical synopsis of Joseph’s story: “Joseph was his father’s favorite son, and he gave him a robe of many colors made for him by his father. Joseph started having dreams of his brothers, and even the moon and the stars, bowing before him. He told his brothers about his vision, and they became jealous of Joseph and began to plan and plot against

him. Sometimes, it's best not to share your dreams or vision too soon. The brothers threw Joseph into a pit, then sold him into slavery to Ishmaelites traveling in a caravan. The latter took him to Egypt, where they sold him to Potiphar, the Pharaoh's guard captain. Read this next part carefully because Scripture decrees, "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us." **Romans 8:31|NIV**.

In the story of Joseph, his blood brothers were simply jealous haters. What you will also see at the end of Joseph's story - he passed his test. As devastating as Joseph's trial was, in terms of what his brothers did to Him because of their jealousy, the way he handled his situation is the epitome of forgiveness and takes it to a whole new level. Not to mention, Potiphar's wife lied to him about Joseph trying to seduce her. Joseph refused to have sex with her, but she lied anyway, which caused Joseph to be put away in prison.

You've Just Finished your Free Sample

Enjoyed the preview?

Buy: <http://www.ebooks2go.com>