Remember that George is teaching a series on evangelism on Sunday evenings.

## Think on These Things philippians 4:8

## God's Plan of Salvation

Hear Romans 10:17
Believe Mark 16:16, Hebrews II:I-6
Repent Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10
Confess Romans 10:9-10, Matt 10:32-33
Be Baptized Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16
Arise and Walk in Newness of Life Romans 6:4
Remain Faithful Matt 24:13, Rev 2:10, James I:I2
"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

## Contact Information

Meeting Times
Sunday
Bible Classes 10AM
AM Worship 11AM
PM Worship 5PM
Wednesday
Bible Study 7PM
Office Hours
Call or Ck Web

Come join us!
The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:

206 I N. Merciful Circle Wasilla, Ak 99654
(907) 373-5773

Visit our website at: www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Attendance last Sunday: 66
For more information check our website at www.churchofchristwasilla.com

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## Each Breath We Take:

By: Bill Beebe
In 2021, approximately $3,458,697$ deaths occurred in the United States. This means that about every 9 seconds someone in the US dies. When I was younger I felt invincible, but the statistics tell an entirely different story. The facts are as follows:

| Age Class | Number of Deaths | Deaths per Time |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| All | $3,458,697$ | 9.11 seconds |
| $15-24$ | 38,234 | 13.75 minutes |
| $25-34$ | 82,039 | 6.41 minutes |
| $35-44$ | 124,577 | 4.22 minutes |
| $45-54$ | 215,531 | 2.44 minutes |
| $55-64$ | 477,107 | 1.10 minutes |
| $65-74$ | 726,125 | 43.61 seconds |
| $75-84$ | 828,317 | 38.07 seconds |
| 85 and Over | 939,942 | 33.55 seconds |

None of us know when we will die, but we will all pass through that door unless Jesus returns first. Today few of us can realistically expect to live to 100 years, and most will not live past 90 . The longer we live, the more we recognize that life is, in fact highly transient. James, being guided by the Holy Ghost, clearly stated this; "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 (KJV).

Each breath we take is one less that we will have. If we live for another 10 years or another 70 years, we all have a finite time here in this existence. Who knows if you have another breath, another 38 seconds, or another 14 minutes. But what is certain is that, unless Jesus returns first, we will all die. What happens after that last breath is only known for sure by Christians. We can be certain that we will just pass from one plain of existence here on earth to another. Jesus gave us a clear view of what will happen immediately after we take that last breath. "There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day: And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores, And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and

Lazarus in his bosom." Luke 16:19-23 (KJV). When we pass into the next phase of our existence, we will either be with Abraham and all those who are with him then in paradise, or in torment with the rich man. There is no third alternative. Then at some point, God will end time and judgement will occur. Those in paradise will move into Heaven and those in torment into Hell.

While we cannot know the time of our death, the statistics should remind each of us that our life is precarious and the next second is never promised. What we can do though is to make our "calling and election" sure. Peter tells us how to do just that; "And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." 2 Peter 1:5-11 (KJV)

So, regardless of our age, each of us should be aware that death is just around the corner. Don't fall into the trap of thinking that since you are only in high school or college, that you have many more years of life ahead of you. And don't fall victim to the false claims of science that there is nothing beyond this life, so you can live as you want. The Bible has been proven repeatedly to be true. From the prophecies that it contains, to the science that it teaches it has never been proven to be simply a book of fables as some claim. Because of this, it is likely to be true when it speaks of life, death and what happens next. Contrary to what Stephen Hawkins, a famous atheist and scientist said about his own looming death, "I regard the brain as a computer which will stop working when its components fail...There is no heaven or afterlife for broken down computers; that is a fairy story for people afraid of the dark." Instead of fairy stories for those afraid of the dark, eternal life and heaven are a comfort for those who look forward to the light that awaits us. Don't wait until it is too late to prepare for this light, only to find yourself in torment waiting for the eternal darkness of Hell when that last breath is taken.

