



WITH ETERNITY IN MIND

Most of us live our lives measured by clocks, calendars, deadlines, and seasons. We plan for retirement, vacations, milestones, and emergencies. We prepare for what we believe is coming next. Yet Scripture reminds us that there is **one appointment every person will keep**, and no calendar records the date.

The Bible says that God has placed **eternity in the human heart**. Even when we try to ignore it, drown it out, or postpone it, eternity keeps knocking. It shows up in our questions, our fears, our ambitions, and our hunger for meaning. We were never created to live only for the moment—we were created to live **with eternity in mind**.

"Rising to the call" does not always mean doing more—it often means **thinking differently**. It means allowing God to disrupt our priorities, challenge our assumptions, and confront the way we steward what He has placed in our hands. And eventually, rising to the call brings every one of us face to face with a sobering question: **Is the way I am living today preparing me for eternity—or postponing it?**

- He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, He has put Eternity into Man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end (**ECCLESIASTES 3:11, ESV**).
- For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is Eternal Life through Christ Jesus our Lord (**ROMANS 6:23, NLT**).
- And as it is appointed for Men to die once, but after this the Judgment (**HEBREWS 9:27, NKJV**).
- For what will it profit a Man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? ³⁷ Or what will a Man give in exchange for his soul? (**MARK 8:36-37, NKJV**)
- Yet true Godliness with contentment is itself great wealth. ⁷ After all, we brought nothing with us when we came into the world, and we can't take anything with us when we leave it. ⁸ So if we have enough food and clothing, let us be content. ⁹ But people who long to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many foolish and harmful desires that plunge them into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows (**1 TIMOTHY 6:6-10, NLT**).
- **WHY DID JESUS LOVE TALKING ABOUT MONEY?**
 - **BECAUSE WEALTH IS ONE OF THE GREATEST COMPETITORS TO GOD**
 - **BECAUSE MONEY CREATES TENSION**
 - **BECAUSE TENSION IS THE CATALYST FOR TRANSFORMATION**
- And He told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ¹⁷ He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.' ¹⁸ "Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. ¹⁹ And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink, and be merry.'" ²⁰ "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be

demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?"

21 "This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God" (LUKE 12:16-21, NIV).

- **MISTAKES WE CANNOT AFFORD TO MAKE:**

- **HE BECAME THE CENTER OF HIS OWN UNIVERSE. EVERYTHING WAS ABOUT HIMSELF.**
- **HE DID NOT ANSWER THE CALL TO STEWARDSHIP.**
- **HE KNEW WHAT HE HAD, BUT HE DID NOT KNOW WHY.**
- **HE ACCUMULATED MORE THINGS AT THE EXPENSE OF LESS OF GOD.**
- **HE ASSUMED HE HAD TIME TO PREPARE FOR ETERNITY.**

RISE TO THE CALL:

- **SEE YOUR LIFE FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF ETERNITY**
- **MY GENEROSITY PLAN:**
 - **HOW WILL I INVEST GOD'S TIME, GOD'S GIFT IN ME, GOD'S MONEY SO IT WILL MAKE AN ETERNAL DIFFERENCE?**
- So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is Eternal (2 CORINTHIANS 4:18, NIV).
 - **The tragedy of the rich man in Jesus' parable was not that he had much—it was that he planned for everything except eternity. He measured success by storage, comfort, and security, but God measured it by stewardship, obedience, and eternal readiness. In one night, all his careful planning was exposed as temporary, and his soul stood unprepared.**

Scripture reminds us that what we see is temporary, but what we cannot see is eternal. One day, every title, possession, and achievement will lose its value—but what was done for God and for others will remain. The question is not *how much* we have, but *how faithfully* we have invested what was entrusted to us.

Rising to the call means choosing to live today considering forever. It means being rich toward God, generous with what He has given, and intentional with the time we still have. Eternity is not waiting for us to arrive—it is shaping us right now.

So let us fix our eyes on what is unseen, steward our lives with purpose, and respond to God's call with obedience—so that when eternity begins, we will not hear the words "You fool," but "Well done, good and faithful servant."