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AN APPOINTED TIME

Today is November 22, 2023. On November 22, 1963, sixty years ago today, John F. Kennedy was assassinated. He was the 35th President of the United States. Regardless of your political views, it was still a tragedy. The man that supposedly shot him, Lee Harvey Oswald was also assassinated, so the truth of all this tragedy may never be known.

We remember events and we often are saddened by the loss of those we care about. We might even be going through the loss right now of a loved one and it doesn't make sense to us. Why would God allow these things to happen? Why is one's life cut short and another's not? Most never want to deal with the reality of death because it hurts and reopens wounds.

Isaiah 57:1 says, ***"The righteous perisheth, and no man layeth it to heart: and merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come."*** Some are taken home to the Lord because they would not make it through the evil that would come in their lives. Perhaps it would cause them to lose their faith. Regardless of the reason, God takes them home.

Several years ago, after the death of an infant (a grandchild of one of our church members), the Lord spoke to me and told me about appointed times. In Hebrews 9:27 it says, ***"And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment."*** This was speaking of Jesus being judged for and dying for our sin. He didn't die one day early or one day late. It was his appointed time. But there is more to this verse than this.

There is an appointment with death for each of us. From the moment we take our first breath it is inevitable that the appointed day will come. The Lord spoke to me and told me that it may be at a day old or at a hundred years old. We just need to be ready for it when it comes. As for infants, they are innocent and immediately are with the Lord if it is their appointed time.

Are you ready for that appointed time? Every day there are those that meet their appointed time and aren't ready. Some are Christians but will never make it through the day. Others will die without Christ and meet a fate that will separate them from God for eternity, lost without hope.

We can't be certain when that appointed time will come, but we need to be ready for it and help others be ready also. It is our job as Christians to be light in the darkness so that we lead people to Christ so when that appointed time comes to them, we can be assured that they will step into eternity and the presence of God because they received salvation.

Make the most of every day that God gives you my friend, because we are not guaranteed tomorrow. Be light in the darkness and help some soul find their way to God while they still can.

