

SCRIPTURE READING

James 4

13 Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit”;

14 whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.

The background features several flowing, ribbon-like shapes in shades of red, orange, and yellow, set against a white background. The ribbons have a slight gradient and a soft, ethereal quality, creating a sense of movement and depth. The text is centered in the middle of the frame.

IF THIS WERE MY LAST SERMON

***IF THIS WERE MY LAST SERMON, I WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU TO
REMEMBER HOW UNCERTAIN AND BRIEF LIFE REALLY IS.***



UNCERTAIN & BRIEF LIFE

- Life is as a shadow, a vapor, and as grass of the field.
- **1 Peter 1:24** because “All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away,
- **Eccl. 7:2** Better to go to the house of mourning Than to go to the house of feasting, For that is the end of all men; And the living will take it to heart.
- We need to realize that this world is not our home.
- **Matthew 6:19** “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; **20** but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

***IF THIS WERE MY LAST SERMON, I WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU TO
REMEMBER THE VALUE OF OUR SOULS.***



VALUE OF OUR SOULS

- **Matthew 16:26** For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?
- The soul or spirit which is in our bodies is that part which is made in the image of God.
- **Genesis 2:7** And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.
- **John 6:63** It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing...
- **Eccl 12:7** Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, And the spirit will return to God who gave it.



VALUE OF OUR SOULS

- Let me encourage you to seek God with all your hearts that you might be in heaven.
- Fearing God and keeping His commandments is what is truly important in life.
- Determine in your own mind that you will be a godly, spiritually minded person, and pursue it with all of your being.
- Center your heart on God. Give Him your greatest.
- Remember, God has made a place of eternal punishment for all who do not fear Him.

VALUE OF OUR SOULS



VALUE OF OUR SOULS

- **Luke 12:4** “And I say to you, My friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. **5** But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him!

***IF THIS WERE MY LAST SERMON, I WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU TO
REMEMBER THAT JESUS IS THE ANSWER FOR ALL THINGS.***



REMEMBER JESUS IS THE ANSWER

- **1 Corinthians 15:54** So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.” **55** “O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?” **56** The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. **57** But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. **58** Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

REMEMBER JESUS IS THE ANSWER

- **Revelation 3:21** To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.
- **1 John 3:2** Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. **3** And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

***IF THIS WERE MY LAST SERMON, I WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU TO
REMEMBER THAT WE ALL ARE APPROACHING THE DAY OF JUDGMENT.***



REMEMBER WE ARE APPROACHING JUDGEMENT

- **Hebrews 9:27** And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,
- **2 Corinthians 5:9** Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. **10** For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.
- Everything that we have ever thought, said, or done will be brought into the judgment.
- **Romans 2:16** in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

REMEMBER WE ARE APPROACHING JUDGEMENT

- **Matthew 12:36** But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. **37** For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”
- The best way to prepare for the judgment is to make friends with the Judge.
- **John 15:13** Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. **14** You are My friends if you do whatever I command you.



PREPARE TO MEET GOD

- Strive diligently to go to heaven.
- Remain faithful
- And when it comes time for you to leave this world, go to God in all humility, relying solely on His mercy and goodness.
- Don't give up! Don't give in! Don't give out!