

August, 2014

Dear Families of Gilead Bible Church,



Sudden death. It's an event that no one wants or expects, but it's an event that happens. Last month, 298 people experienced *sudden death* when their airplane crashed in the Ukraine. I am sure that none of the passengers expected it. Each of them were either talking, sleeping, resting, playing with children, working, eating or just sitting, when they all faced *sudden death*.

Sudden death, but sudden presence in paradise with Jesus. When Jesus was on the cross, one of the criminals said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom (Luke 23:42)." This criminal knew the outcome of his being on the cross. Jesus assured him: "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise (Luke 23:43)." We can also have the same assurance. When mankind faced the inevitability of death when the first person Adam sinned, God already had a salvation plan in mind: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16)." Today, you can partake of God's salvation plan and have the same hope as the criminal on the cross.

Sudden death to end evil. It happened to Ananias and his wife Sapphira, because they sold a piece of property, but kept back part of the money for themselves. They brought the rest and put it at the apostles' feet. But they lied to the Holy Spirit and kept for themselves some of the money they received for the land. They experienced *sudden death to end evil*. For those who are in Christ, 'his spirit will be saved on the day of the Lord (1 Corinthians 5:5)."

Sudden death to be spared from evil. Often when someone is in Christ experience *sudden death*, there is much pondering of the rationale of such an event. The promise written in Isaiah 57:1-2 is this, "The righteous perish, and no one takes it to heart; the devout are taken away, and no one understands that the righteous are taken away to be spared from evil. Those who walk uprightly enter into peace; they find rest as they lie in death."

God Bless,

Pastor and Helen Moy

2014年八月

親愛的基列主內弟兄姊妹，

突然死亡。這是沒有人想要或預期的事件，但這種事情是會發生的。上個月，當飛機在烏克蘭墜毀時，有298人突然死亡

。我相信沒有一個乘客會預期這事會發生在他們身上。當他們面臨突然死亡時，有些人正在說話，睡覺，休息，與孩子玩耍，工作，吃飯或只是坐著。

突然死亡，卻突然與耶穌同在天堂。當耶穌在十字架上，其中一犯人說，“耶穌啊，你得國降臨的時候，求你記念我！（路加福音23:42）。”這個犯人知道他在十字架上的結果。耶穌向他保證：“我實在告訴你，今日你要同我在樂園裏了（路加福音23:43）。”我們也可以有同樣的保證。當始祖亞當犯了罪，人類便面臨死亡的必然性，但神已經有了一個救贖的計劃，“神愛世人，甚至將他的獨生子賜給他們，叫一切信他的，不致滅亡，反得永生（約翰福音3:16）。”

今天，你可以領受神的救恩計劃，並享有那在十字架上犯人相同的希望。

突然死亡，結束罪惡。它發生在亞拿尼亞和他的妻子撒非喇身上，因為他們賣了田產，把賣了田產價銀私自留下幾分。其餘的幾分拿來放在使徒腳前。他們欺哄聖靈，把田地的價銀私自留下幾分。他們經歷突然死亡來結束罪惡。對於那些在基督裡的人，“使他的靈魂在主耶穌的日子可以得救。（哥林多前書5:5）。”

突然死亡，得免邪惡。通常，當在主裏的人經歷突然死亡，對這種事件是有其基本的理由。在以賽亞書57:12的應許是這樣寫的，“義人死亡，無人放在心上；虔誠人被收去，無人思念。這義人被收去是免了將來的禍患；他們得享平安。素行正直的，各人在墳裡安歇。”

願主祝福你們，

梅牧師及師母

