

Text: Psalms 90:1-6,10,12      Matthew 5:3-16

Title: Thank God For Every Remembrance.

Dear Friends, we have come together today for three very important reasons.

(1 ) First, we have come to express our mutual appreciation for the life of James Bumpass. Death depreciates life, and all too often our friends and loved ones are soon forgotten. Therefore, it is fitting, as ~~a company~~ <sup>FAMILY</sup> ~~and~~ friends, to gather and to pay honest tribute, genuine appreciation, and to think upon James good qualities.

OBITUARIES

And as we think about James let's remember the words of the Apostle Paul: "WHATEVER IS TRUE, WHATEVER IS HONORABLE, WHATEVER IS GRACIOUS, IF THERE IS ANY EXCELLENCE, IF THERE IS ANYTHING WORTHY OF PRAISE, THINK ABOUT THESE THINGS."...Just so, we lift to God our gratitude for every remembrance of James  
Peopke Shaw      Depta Sims

(2 ) We have come here, secondly, to unify and convey our sympathetic understanding to the bereaved family.

Death is a separator that drops a curtain of silence between loved ones and friends. But today we are drawn together in this ~~company~~ <sup>service</sup> to express our sympathy, to give strength and comfort and to make it known that we remember with loving concern.

(LIST THE FAMILY MEMBERS)

And to you the family, we who would be your friends, would like to share in your sorrow...

And is this not what friends are for? To enter into, and to share the sorrow of those we love. So, we extend our love to the family. May it bring the family comfort. Often I have heard folks say, "We could not have gone through it without the support of our friends."

My greatest joy on earth shall be,  
To find at the turning of every road,  
The strong hand of a comrade kind,  
To help me onward with my load.  
But since I have no gold to give  
And only love can make amends,  
My daily prayer in life shall be,  
God make me worthy of my friends.

However, when human strength comes to an end, you are never alone, for there is still the presence of Almighty God. And it was Jesus who said, "MY peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you, not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

(3 ) And so, we come to re-affirm our faith in the promises of God. For life does not end at the grave. This is the great affirmation of the Christian faith. "In my Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you to myself; that where I am, there you maybe also."

And Paul wrote, "Thanks be unto our saviour Jesus Christ who brought life and immortality to light."

*/// Poem*

So, you see, death is not what we have thought it to be at all. It is closing the door to earth and opening the door to heaven. It is putting off an old suit and dressing in a beautiful new garment. Death is going to sleep on a cold, wintry night and waking to find the sun always shining.

*OMG* You know, that must have been a great moment for \_\_\_\_\_. The moment when ~~she~~ meet Jesus face to face. And you know what I believe were the first words that Jesus said to her: WELL DONE THY GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT. ENTER NOW INTO THE JOY OF THE LORD.

*and*

And I for one, am looking forward to that day when I shall meet <sup>my</sup> ~~him~~ face to face.

So, with Christ's peace in our hearts and Christ's hope in our souls, we say good-by to \_\_\_\_\_. But not farewell. For we shall see <sup>him</sup> ~~her~~ again one day at the feet of Jesus where the sunshine of His love forever shines and <sup>where</sup> ~~where~~ we shall forever rejoice in the Lord.

Sleep on, beloved, sleep, and take thy rest,  
Lay down thy ~~head~~ <sup>head</sup> upon thy Saviour's breast;  
We love thee well, but Jesus Loves thee best--  
Good-night! My Beloved, Good-night!

Calm is thy chamber as an infant's sleep;  
But thou shalt wake no more to toil and weep;  
Thine is a perfect rest secure and deep,  
Good-night! My beloved, Good-night!

Until the Easter glory lights the skies,  
Until the dead in Jesus shall arise,  
And He shall come, but not in lowly guise...  
Good-night! My beloved! Good-night!

Until made beautiful by Love Divine,  
Thou, in the likeness of thy lord shalt shine,  
And He shall bring that golden crown of thine...  
Good-night! My Beloved! Good-night!

Only "Good-night" beloved - not farewell  
A little while and all His saints shall dwell  
In Hallowed union indivisible...  
Good-night! My Beloved! Good-night!

*(over)*

*and*  
PRAYER

Now May The God of Peace  
make you perfect in every good work  
to do his will - through Jesus  
Christ; to whom be glory for  
ever and ever - Amen