

### 5 MINUTES AFTER

It may be in a moment, or after months of waiting, but soon I shall stand before my Lord - perhaps this year. Then in an instant all things will appear in new perspective.

Suddenly the things I thought important - tomorrow's task, the plans the dinner at my church, my success or failure in pleasing those around me - these will matter not at all. And the things to which I gave but little thought - the word about Christ to the man next door, the moment (how short it was) of earnest prayer for the Lord's work in far-off lands, the confessing and forsaking of that secret sin - will stand as real and enduring.

Five minutes after I'm in heaven I'll be overwhelmed by the truths I've known but somehow never grasped. I'll realize then that it's what I am in Christ that comes first with God, and that when I am right with Him, I do the things which please Him.

I'll sense that it was not just how much I gave that mattered, but how I gave - and how much I withheld. In heaven I'll wish with all my heart that I could reclaim a thousandth part of the time I've let slip through my fingers, that I could call back those countless conversations which could have glorified my Lord . . . but didn't.

Five minutes after I'm in heaven, I believe I'll wish with all my heart that I had risen more faithfully to read the Word of God and wait on Him in prayer - that I might have known Him while still on earth as He wanted me to know Him.

A thousand thoughts will press upon me, and though overwhelmed by the grace which admits me to my heavenly home, I'll wonder at my aimless earthly life. I'll wish . . . if one may wish in heaven - but it will be too late.

Heaven is real and hell is real, and eternity is but a breath away. Soon we shall be in the presence of the Lord we claim to serve. why should we live as though salvation were a dream - as though we did not know?

"To him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." There may yet be a little time. God help us to live now in the light of a real tomorrow!

-By Wayne Christianson in

Moody Monthly. Used by permission.

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#### JUST THINK

Of stepping on shore,  
And finding it heaven;  
Of taking hold of a hand,  
And finding it God's hand;  
Of breathing new air,  
And finding it celestial air;  
Of feeling invigorated,  
And finding it immortality;  
Of passing from storm and  
tempest to an unbroken calm;  
Of waking up ---  
And finding it Home.  
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