



# Words Of Inspiration

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How well do you like surprises? For some, there is the joy of being remembered when unexpected. For others, there is the embarrassment of being caught off guard. Surprises are met with mixed emotions depending on the person and the occasion.

For example, are you surprised at how fast summer has passed you by? Are you surprised that old age is creeping up on you? Have you been surprised like one fella I know who went to work and was completely blind-sided by the notification that his job was terminated and he was no longer employed? And doctor visits can produce surprises that are not always favorable. Maybe you're like the lady who hates surprises and lets her husband know so that he doesn't cross that line and get surprised himself in return.

Yet not all surprises are purposed, and life in itself is naturally full of surprises – and we learn to take them in stride.

But there is one surprise that I am not willing to overlook, and it has to do with where one will spend eternity. God has provided a means of redemption for all mankind and confirmed it with the death, burial and resurrection of His Son Jesus Christ. This historical event is irrefutable and attested to in Scripture (*1 Corinthians 15:1-8*). This is why Jesus said, *"I am the way, the truth and the life, no man comes to the Father but by Me"* (*John 14:6*), and why the invitation is to all that *"whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved"* (*Romans 10:13*).

It is not my desire to see anyone surprised when they step into eternity. The two choices are clear according to the gospel of Matthew, Chapter 7 verses 13 and 14.

You and I can endure most any surprise that confronts us in this life. But to be surprised at the moment that counts the most is the most horrific and eternal surprise of all.

Recently, I was pleasantly surprised by the gift of a beautiful young Irish Terrier, which has brought both testings and joys to my life.

But I'll not be surprised in eternity because of God's eternal promise which states, *"God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him, shall not perish, but have eternal life"* (*John 3:16*).

I trust that these few thoughts will assist you in examining and evaluating your relationship with the living God of heaven so that your future is one of eternal joy and not a tragic surprise.

Respectfully,  
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