A VAPOR

Whereas ye know not what *shall be* on the morrow. For what *is* your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. James 4:14 (KJV)

When Kathie and I go to the mountains I like to get up early and just listen and watch as everything and everyone come to life. The place where we often stay overlooks the Log Cabin restaurant in Gatlinburg. I have watched from our balcony as the first customers walked down the street to enter its doors. Years ago we stayed in a place called the Highlands much further up the mountain. We looked down on a portion of Gatlinburg and out across the gorgeous mountain peaks and it was breath-taking. One particular morning has stuck in my mind for all these years. I had risen early and from our balcony had watched the city as it began stir. The only problem was that it was not very visible because of the early morning fog. This cloud of fog appeared to be sitting on the town with no intention of moving. I could hear trucks, probably vendors or garbage trucks cranking and moving around but I could not see them for the cloud. Under normal conditions I could see the tram as it started from Gatlinburg and could watch it as it progressed up the mountain side but this particular morning little of that was visible because of the cloud. Well I had my blanket and I sat back and waited for things to change. And change came. I fell asleep. When I awoke about thirty minutes later I was cold so I stood up and looked back down the mountain. The cloud was gone. I do not mean it had moved. It had gone. The sun had risen above the mountains and the fog had evaporated.

What is your life? It is even a vapor. The Bible doesn’t say it is as or like a vapor but it is a vapor. We are only here for a little while. Our investments do not need to be in this life but in eternal life. One of the definitions for vapor is something unsubstantial or transitory. This life is always fleeting. It is going away all the time and there is nothing we can do about it. I look at my life, one day I am thinking I will never turn sixteen years old where I can get my driver’s license and the next thing I wake up and I’m sixty. What happened? I realized my life is a vapor.

What can I do? I can hide my life in the life that is more than a vapor, the life of Christ. He refers to himself as the one that was, that is, and is to come, the Almighty. I will give my life to him and live in Him. I can also lay my treasures up in heaven where life is not a vapor. Whosoever believeth in him shall not perish but have eternal life. We put way too much stock in this life that quickly passes away. Let us invest everything in the life that has no death, no wasting away and no evaporation.

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram