

The End is Near?

A gospel reflection from Brian Wigger, Pastoral Associate

This Sunday we celebrate the 33rd Sunday in ordinary time. And next Sunday we will conclude the Liturgical Year (B) with our celebration of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. Since we are near the end of our Church's calendar, it is not surprising that this weekend we are being invited to reflect on the Eschaton. Eschaton refers to the Last Things such as death, end time, judgment, heaven, hell, purgatory, new heaven, and a new earth.

At the end of our lives, perhaps God is going to ask us to give an account of how we live our lives. We are but pilgrims here on earth and heaven is a reward for those who remain faithful till the end. Our journey here on earth is a journey in joyful hope and anticipation for the coming of Christ. In the end of each of our lives we will give an account to God.

The *Spring Church of God* once published the following poem which I think is apropos for the scriptures we are about to hear this weekend.

God won't ask the square footage of your house. He will ask how many people you helped who didn't have a house.

God won't ask how many fancy clothes you had in your closet. He will ask how many of those clothes you gave away to those who didn't have any.

God won't ask how many material possessions you had. He will ask whether those material possessions dictated your life.

God won't ask what your highest salary was. He will ask if you trampled over any people to obtain that salary.

God won't ask how much overtime you worked. He will ask if you worked overtime for your family.

God won't ask how many promotions you received. He will ask what you did to promote others.

God won't ask what your job title was. He will ask if you performed your job to the best of your ability.

God won't ask what your parents did to help you. He will ask what you did to help your parents.

God won't ask what you did to help yourself. He will ask what you did to help others.