

Life Lessons

“Final Words”

Solomon wrote: *“He that walks with the wise shall be wise”* (Prov. 13:20).

As we live so we will die! These are neither morbid nor macabre words, they are, however true. Often the final words of the well known and the not-so-well-known reveal this fact.

George Morrison – the most well known and the most effective pastor of Scotland in the first quarter of the twentieth century – as he lay dying said, *“It’s an ever open door, never closed to anyone. It’s open for me now and I’m going through!”*

J. D. Jones – one of the most prominent pastors of the first half of the twentieth century – put these words on his tombstone, *“Simply to Thy cross I cling.”*

Paul Butler – a man of gigantic character and humble spirit, my father-in-law, stared with warm countenance into the upper corner of his hospital room and said moments before he died, *“Paul Butler is my name, I’m so glad to meet you sir!”*

Helen Lewis – the wife, mother, and lady of God, to whom I owe my life – took my letter of appreciation received just hours before she died and with ebbing strength told her daughter, *“Put it in my purse.”* There it was to be kept with her children’s and husband’s pictures, her baptismal and marriage certificates as the record of what mattered in her life.

As we reflect on these brothers and this sister in Christ respectively, **what can we learn about their lives? What can we learn to apply in our lives?**

- **Christ’s Cross is the bedrock foundation of life.**
- **Live for and rush to the embrace of Christ.**
- **Each day long to meet Jesus and your last moment will be glorious!**
- **Living to give back to God the people He gives to us is life's highest calling and greatest joy.**

If this was the last week of your life and your whole life were to be reduced to one final sentence, what would you want it to say? For me, it would only be three words, *“Learn to love!”* Does anything need to change for your final words to be a real exclamation point in the hearts and lives of others? If so...

GET TO IT!