

*Last Looks,
Last Thoughts,
Last Words*

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All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise noted, are from the King James Version. Italics for emphasis are ours.

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INTRODUCTION

Last looks, last thoughts, and last words. Have you ever stopped to think of the importance of a look? It's quite important how people look at you and how you look at them. The Bible clearly teaches that our countenance reveals much, if we are sincere. Looks—they are very important. How we look at each other is very important.

Then, of course, last thoughts are always very important—remembering opportunities we have had with God and with people.

Think of the last words spoken when somebody is leaving for a period of time. The last words spoken when someone is going into eternity are always unbelievably precious.

So we would like to address this subject: Last looks, last thoughts, and last words.

Across our nation and across the world there are all kinds of sufferings—sufferings that have many descriptions: sufferings of starvation, pri-

vation, leprosy. Sufferings of guilt, torment, disease, and all kinds of afflictions. And then, of course, in the world today we have all kinds of bitterness, hatred, resentment, jealousy, envy, and strife. These are kinds of mental and emotional sufferings.

If you should take all the physical suffering and all the mental suffering in all the world today and in every single age of human history, if you put them all together so that you could see them all at once, they would not compare to the suffering that I am talking about in this message: Last looks, last thoughts, and last words.

Chapter One

A HEART VISION: LAST LOOKS

“Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

“Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

“And then I will profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

“Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

“And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not; for it was founded upon a rock.

“And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

“And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it” (Matthew 7:20-27).

“And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever” (Revelation 20:10).

I was riding alone in a car when the Spirit of God began to speak in what I would call a “heart vision.” It was regulated by the Word of God in truth, and it came entirely from the Scriptures.

All of a sudden, I found that I had to stop the car. It was like a record was playing, and I wanted to hear that record. I was so captivated by the drama that I was absolutely overcome in total stillness and quietness, in absolute subjection to God.

This is what the Lord showed me in that heart vision.

Coming Before the Throne

The first thing I saw was the suffering of humanity such as I have never seen it before. The Lord gave me a concept of the physical and mental torments experienced by people in remote parts of the world and all over America. But then He showed me that all these sufferings would not even remotely begin to add up to what He wanted to reveal.

I saw a throne. And on that throne was Jesus Christ. I suppose the thing that completely overwhelmed me at first was the description of Jesus Christ, which was according to the Scriptures. In Revelation 1:13, He had a garment that came way down and covered His entire body. He had a golden girdle, which really looked like armor, but it was in the form of a girdle around His tremendous, beautiful robe.

The hair on His head was white as snow. His eyes were piercing, with the most beautiful fire that you could ever see. His feet were brass that had been in the fire, purified and absolutely shining with beautiful, beautiful glory. His face was shining as the sun, revealing His purity and perfection. His right hand was stretched out, and in it were seven stars.

Out of His mouth proceeded a two-edged sword, which speaks of the Word of God and the two sides of it, fitting the scene perfectly (Hebrews 4:12; Revelation 1:16).

To look at Jesus Christ in this heart vision completely took my breath. I checked out the reference God gave me in Revelation 1:12-20, and I discovered that it was accurate and perfect according to the Scriptures. I hadn't read those verses for many, many months.

The Great Grandstand

He stood and He was at His throne. Behind Him were masses of people in grandstands. The grandstands were suspended, resting upon nothing. They were made of gold, silver, brass, and beautiful iron. The combination of colors was absolutely out of this world. The grandstands were something that cannot be articulated in human phraseology.

I saw the cloud of witnesses (Hebrews 12:1); the spirits of just men made perfect (Hebrews 12:23). And I saw every single born-again believer gathered in the grandstands, and they were all at the Throne. There was a line between them and the people whom they were facing.

Standing in Silence

Jesus Christ looked beautiful to the people in the grandstands, yet the grandstands were full of tension. The silence was so unique, so different. It almost seemed as if my heart would stop beating. I was not conscious of the other cars on the road or anything, just my heart's vision.

I looked at some of the people in the grandstands. I expected them to be smiling but they were not. One by one, they were weeping, and it looked very strange. They were beautiful. They did not have bodies of flesh and blood. They had glorified bodies that were so much like His. But there was something more significant in the fiery, glorified expression of His deity.

All of a sudden, I saw heaven and earth flee away, and then I knew that God was saying that the earth and heaven will flee away (2 Peter 3:13, Isaiah 66:22, and Revelation 20:11). It will flee away so there can be a new heaven and a new earth. Heaven and earth fled away, and there we were: suspended in eternity. Not time, not space, but eternity.

As I got that picture, I felt as if I were there on the scene. I was there as a witness, because this scene will happen, and it will be like this.

Chapter Two

UNSPEAKABLE SORROW: LAST THOUGHTS

This heart vision went on beyond time and “now” into the “Eternal Is”—God’s description, which is strictly spiritual. This vision was the eternal mind of God revealing eternity that always “is”, from the standpoint of our existence in Him. We abide in I AM (Exodus 3:14), in the Eternal Is of God.

Next, I saw the multitudes—literally masses of untold billions standing in front and to the side. Everyone in the grandstands could see them as if they had a close-up view, as if each one was right before their eyes. And the multitudes in front of the grandstands stood, but there was no place found for them on the platform. The multitudes had no place there, for this Great White Throne Judgment was for the unsaved people who have never been washed in the Blood of Jesus Christ, as described in Reve-

lation 20:10-15.

None Could Look upon Him

Those who were brought before the Throne tried to look at Jesus' eyes, but they could not. They could not even glance at Him. His eyes were filled with fire and His body was so perfect, they could not look upon Him. Even when they turned to look, they could not do it because the brightness of His glory would instantly consume them. It was as if the multitudes were passing through the air, and one by one they kept coming back to a position where they would be standing before God.

The Lord Jesus did not look to the grandstands. He looked at the multitudes, and one by one they came up to Him. We could see perfectly every person who came before His judgment seat, because time and space did not create any problems with our vision. We were not limited as we are in our human bodies.

One by one, Jesus Christ began to read off the different things an individual had done for works, good and bad. And many times in this vision in my heart I saw pastors and different ones going before God. I heard a pastor speak back to Him and say, "I prophesied in Thy

Name and I have done many works!" But God could not look upon that pastor. The pastor was pleading, but then he only heard the voice of Jesus Christ piercing his soul, saying, "I have never known you. Depart from Me."

Someone in the grandstands would cry out, "Oh, no!" It was a loud yell that was so deep in its intensity that the person could not even say another word. It was overwhelming to behold the deep and intense feeling of suspense that came into the grandstands and the silence of the multitudes.

Those Who Never Knew Him

I suppose the worst thing I saw in that vision was church members who did not take Jesus Christ seriously. These were those who made professions with their heads but never really received Jesus Christ in their hearts. They were just interested in spiritual things. They lived their lives strictly in the self-consciousness of their independent Adam nature, and they never really came through for God with real, genuine Holy Spirit conversions.

I saw them among the multitudes, and I remember so plainly that I couldn't see inches ahead of me because of seeing church members

across our nation, and in our state, and even in our midst. I cried, “Oh, God! No!” The grandstands were alive with these cries as some of those church members came before God, lost and undone. The people in the grandstands who knew them and loved them would cry out and say, “No! No! No!!!”

But God would not respond. He only looked at the individuals who couldn’t look at Him.

I heard some voices pleading, but every time I heard Jesus say, “I am sorry, I have never known you.” When He said it, the hearts of the subjects and their expressions cannot be explained in human words.

Accountability

Another terrible scene included teenagers—some of them from our own church—who went through the motions. They came here to church with their parents and were brought up in this ministry. I saw some of them standing before God in absolute horror and terror. They were going to be separated from their families—separated forever from the Body of Christ. They were going to be separated because the reality, truth, life, and honesty of the Word of God and Christ had discovered them and what was really

going on inside of them during the services. What was really inside during their lives at home was now being revealed in unbelief. They never really got saved.

I said, "God! Not our teenagers! No!"

But God never answered.

And some in the audience and the corporate body that were saved groaned, screamed and cried, "God, give them another chance!" Of course, God could not answer that prayer in any way, shape, or manner.

I think the worst thing about the heart vision was when Jesus Christ said to some of the teenagers, "I am sorry, I never really knew you. You lusted in your automobiles, you were sinful, and whosoever lives in lust can never enter the Kingdom of Heaven. You never really got right. You were never born again. You did those things consistently, and you never really truly had an experience of a new birth with Me.

"Your mind was elsewhere. I pleaded with you many times, I loved you, and I sent people who loved you. I had the message plain and clear, and I sent love, grace, and mercy over and over again."

No Place to Hide

For every time that a person heard the message of love, God will show it to him in that final Judgment. None will have any excuse, and there will be no place for them to hide. There will be no bedrooms, parked cars, loved ones, parents, or church members to run to. Reality is there. And all the significance of truth, integrity, and honesty will be revealed in one colossal consummation of human history. You will be what you are, and what you are will be revealed before everyone. God will reveal it just exactly as it is!

That is what I saw.

They tried to hide in a lie, Isaiah said (Isaiah 28:15), but there was no lie to hide them, because the enlightened countenance of the glorified Master was there.

I saw parents there. I saw adults there. I saw people there of every description, from every walk of life—people who dishonored the Corporate Body, who dishonored Jesus Christ, who dishonored the Holy Spirit. They knew that they had no hiding place, and there was no excuse for them now.

Rationalization was gone. Empiricism was gone. What they thought was gone. The inde-

pendent and intellectual concept was gone. They had to face what God says, what really is—and there is no escape. No escape! And I knew this was for real.

Occasionally, someone in the multitude would look to the grandstands, and the moment he would look with his last look, the person in the grandstands would stand and say, “I am sorry because I was a poor testimony. I was a stumbling block. Honestly, I am sorry.” The person would respond with his last look, a death look, in absolute confusion and anger and hatred and bitterness such as you have never seen before. He would like to kill the one in the grandstand, but he couldn’t. And the person in the grandstand had to stand there knowing he was going to heaven forever and also knowing the other one was going to hell.

I looked at those last looks, and I considered their last thoughts, and I thought I was going to faint. It made me so very weak. Oh, those last looks and last thoughts.

Chapter Three

THE FINAL JUDGMENT: LAST WORDS

I remember one person who said, "I lived just three houses from you, and you never once showed me Jesus Christ."

From the grandstand, that person said, "I am sorry."

"It doesn't do any good to be sorry. It's over!" said the one standing in judgment.

In the heat of that scene, I began to understand the importance of visitation, the necessity for us to go forth as Jesus told us to do.

I remember seeing a girl looking at a preacher who preached the Gospel and its basics and she said, "You never preached about judgment, you never preached about hell. Why didn't you tell me there is a place like this? Why didn't you?" The preacher hung his head and looked as if he wanted to die a million times.

Then I said, "Lord thank you for making me

a true preacher and for giving me the anointing to tell it the way it is. Oh, God!"

I raised my hand in the car and said, "God help me to preach it always the way it is—always the way it is, at any cost."

In one scene, I saw a boy who had grown up with his father who was ugly and angry at home and not a good testimony. The father professed love, but in reality he didn't express love, though he was saved. The boy grew up and rejected Christ because of his father's testimony of trouble and anger in the home. I saw the father in the grandstands, and the boy, grown to the age of accountability, was going to hell.

"Lord, why are you showing me this scene?" I asked. And the Lord said, "Because it is happening in your congregation."

The boy said, "It's your fault. You didn't get along; you didn't live the life; you didn't honor Jesus Christ. Therefore, I hated the One you stood for, because in the home you led a double life. You were not faithful to God. I resented you and the God you stood for, and I made up my mind that I would never go your way."

The father begged and pleaded with Jesus Christ, but He never looked his way. And the hell for that father who was now in eternity was

that Jesus would not do that; he had led his son into hell even though he was going to heaven.

And I said, "Lord, can anyone stand such a thing?" He said, "Your life is being recorded and you are becoming what you are. This is reality, and this must be faced where grace and love and truth are being rejected."

One Final Scene

First, there were the last looks. Then, in the grandstands, there were the last thoughts. Dear friends, more tears will be shed in that day than in all of our lifetimes put together. Tears were being shed in buckets and people in the grandstands were weeping. There were no good-byes, just last looks and last thoughts. I saw a mother get up in the grandstands and say, "I want to go to hell, too. They have grown up in disobedience, and I helped to send my children there.

And then, there were the last words of Jesus to the lost: "Depart from Me. I am sorry, I never knew you."

Those last words were piercing the grandstands and piercing the masses who were being judged at the White Throne Judgment, with the glorified Savior now facing them as their judge. He faced them and they could not look at Him.

No place was found for them. They looked at their loved ones and the corporate Body who knew they would be with Christ forever. The agony, the drama, the terrible sin, the hatred, the resentment—all the horrible feelings were manifested all at once.

Parents were separated from children. In some cases, husbands and wives were being separated. People in the grandstands were sorry they had not been faithful to church and to the leadership of God under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. All kinds of things went on. And I will never forget the last one being cast into Hell.

Tears Wiped Away

Then, Jesus turned His eyes. He looked to the grandstands and said, "I am privately going to wipe the tears from your eyes."

The scene of the Great White Throne Judgment is described in Revelation 20:10-15. But according to Revelation 21:4, Christ personally takes away the tears from their eyes. In some mystical, supernatural way, Jesus will wipe away the buckets of tears from their eyes and look into each one and say, "I am wiping away all memory so that you can inhabit the reality of

eternity that I have for you.”

So all of the memories will be wiped out, except for Jesus Christ in the Eternal Is, the eternal now, of His eternal Person as the Head of His eternal corporate Body. We are married to Him, and He wiped the tears away with beauty and compassion. But just before He wiped the memories away, He said, “I am sorry but this is the way it is, because this is reality, and it is the truth, as I said it would be. I am just, and when grace is rejected, that is what will be.”

We all seemed to understand, and, as a multitude, we looked back with brand-new eyes and brand-new countenances. We thanked Him and worshipped Him and blessed Him. We sang a new song, and all the grief and sorrow were gone forever. Heaven and earth and everything about it was gone, and I remember that we got up and sang a new song about the Blood. Everything was over. Our past had been blotted out, and together we sang with the Master.

A Final Celebration

There were choirs and bands of angels and thousands of redeemed people singing with harmony—music that was unbelievable—music that could not be heard on earth except through

a supernatural revelation, and all of it just seemed to ring out. And the Son was in the center, but it was just as if He was facing each one.

The magnitude, the royalty, and the beauty of His presence captivated us. We were there with each other. Sin had gone. Sickness had gone. Death had gone.

We embraced Him and worshipped Him and He gave us personal attention. We realized that here we would be forever, with Jesus Christ, with the glory and beauty of hearts unspeakably filled with His glory. We thanked Him, and we worshipped Him, and it went on like that forever, more beautiful every moment.

CONCLUSION

Last looks, last thoughts, and last words. This was my heart's vision many years ago, and it is just as clear today.

I came out of my heart's vision, and the Lord said, "Do not tell it until I tell you to tell it." Three weeks later I was permitted to speak of this vision. I never said a word to anyone until the Spirit told me to reveal it to some folks in my car and then in a morning service.

You will notice that it is extremely scriptural. I prayed then, "Lord, help me to be a Spirit-filled preacher continually, a soul-winning Christian, a loving pastor, a concerned man for everyone.

"Please help the Body to take up the Cross and give everything for God and through God."

Then, He showed me something else that I cannot reveal to you today about His second coming, which would be totally misunderstood so I cannot share it. But I am convinced that many will never face death, and they will be

raptured—caught up to meet Jesus in the air (1 Thessalonians 4:17). The Second Coming is that soon. I don't mean that He showed me the date or anything like that. But He did show me in a fantastic way from His Word the proximity of the Second Coming.

I was weak and faint and could not drive, and I said, at last, "Lord, what can I say, except that I love you. I love you! I am unworthy, but I have been accepted and made worthy through Your Blood. I love you."

Father, Please continue to encourage every one of us in the reality of the truth about who You are and what will be. Make us people who share Your heart for the lost, who never take for granted what it means to be saved. We love You. We thank You. In Jesus' precious name, Amen.