Three T’s Of Eternity

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday January 2nd, 2022

Text: Colossians 1:13; Romans 12:2; Luke 16:22-23

### Intro

1. It can be said that our deeds will “echo in eternity” – Rom. 14:11-12; II Cor. 5:10
   1. We will all give an account of our actions, and the paths we take in life will determine our eternal destination!
2. Transferred, Transformed, Transported
   1. Colossians 1:13: Transferred us into the kingdom of His Son.
   2. Romans 12:2: Be transformed by the renewing of your mind.
   3. Luke 16:22: The beggar died and was carried (transported) by angels.
3. Two of these are optional in our lives, but the third is not optional and will affect every one!
4. It is important to take the right paths that lead to eternal life!

#### Transferred

* 1. Colossians 1:13
     1. Apostle Paul was informing the Colossians that after becoming obedient to the gospel (Vs. 2) they were transferred from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of God’s Son.
        1. In ancient times, when one kingdom conquered another, it would often transfer the conquered peoples from one place to another (Assyria).
        2. They would carry their captives away, transferring them into their kingdom. *(Assyria did that to Israel; Babylon did it to Judah)*
     2. The sinner is delivered from the power of Satan (called out through obedience) and transferred into God’s kingdom.
  2. A spiritual war between Satan’s arsenal of lusts & pride vs. the gospel of God which is grace and love.
     1. II Cor. 4:3-4; 10:3-5: Spiritual warfare is waged to win souls for God.
     2. Rom. 1:16: The gospel is the power of salvation: Christ died for our sins!
  3. When one obeys the gospel, their allegiance changes (from darkness to light)
     1. Lk. 8:15; I Pet. 1:22: One must choose to obey from the heart.
     2. Citizenship is changed – *Eph. 2:19-3:6*
     3. Subtracted from the lost & added to the saved – *Acts 2:38, 47*
  4. Have you been transferred into His kingdom or still following the course of eternal misery?

#### Transformed

* 1. Romans 12:2
     1. Paul told both the churches at Rome and at Ephesus (Eph. 4:22-24) that after becoming transferred into His kingdom, there is a transformation that must occur!
  2. When one is transferred from darkness to light, there should be a transformation of character & conduct.
     1. Lk. 8:13-14; I Cor. 3:1-3: Some are transferred but are not ever truly transformed.
        1. Cares of the world overcome some.
        2. Fighting and quarreling with each other overcome others.
     2. Rom. 8:29-30: Being transformed (conformed) to the image of God’s Son is a daily struggle.
        1. It is not always easy, and can be frustrating, but the rewards are worth it.
        2. In a sense, being transferred is the easy part: being transformed is the hard part – requires us to change our lives completely.
        3. Being born is easier than properly developing and growing.
  3. Apart from transformation (sanctification), there can be no salvation – Heb. 12:14
     1. We sometimes (rightly so) stress the need in people’s lives for transferring, but often lightly touch (or fail) on their need to transform!
        1. As a newborn baby dies if it does not grow and develop, so the babe in Christ will die if he does not transform his life! *(Lk. 8:13-14)*
        2. The mature, who do not daily grow will become unfruitful, ineffective (Heb. 5:12-14).
  4. You must transform your life & conduct into the image of the Son!

#### Transported

* 1. Luke 16:22-23
     1. When the beggar died, it is described as being “carried away by the angels.”
     2. His soul was transported from physical life to eternal life.
     3. The rich man is described as having died and was buried, and his soul was also transported, but to a place of eternal torment.
        1. Mt. 13:41-42, 47-50: There is a difference in the transportation used, but the common factor is: wicked or righteous, we will all be transported!
  2. Some may not ever be transferred into the kingdom of God, and some may never truly transform their lives, but we will all be transported when we die!
     1. I Thess. 4:16: All that are in the graves will hear the voice of Christ, and those who have been faithful will rise to meet Him in the air.
     2. II Thess. 1:7-9: Those that turn a deaf ear to the gospel call to be transferred, even those who reject the transformation will be given eternal transportation…
     3. We will be transported to meet Him in the clouds, or be cast away from His presence forever!
  3. It is the finality and ultimate end of our eternal transportation that makes our being transferred and transformed so vitally important!
     1. Imagine being carried away by the angels to meet the Lord in the clouds and ever be with Him in comfort! (Phil. 3:20-21: Transformed in to His glory!)
     2. Now imagine being cast away in wrath and indignation to an eternity of misery and torment!
        1. *Heb. 10:31:* “It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”
        2. *Jer. 8:20:* “Harvest is past, summer is ended, And we are not saved.”
  4. The how and where of our transportation is dependent on our being transferred & transformed in this life!

## Conclusion

1. Have you been transferred from the power of Satan into the power & kingdom of God?
   1. Romans 1:16: The gospel has the power to save!
2. If transferred, have you been transformed into the image of His Son, or are you still looking back at your former life of slavery & bondage?
   1. Hebrews 11:15: You look back long enough you will find opportunity to return. *(Lk. 8:14-15: You will fall away or will become unfruitful!)*
3. Regardless of your choice to be transferred or transformed, you will be transported!
   1. Matthew 25:31-34, 41, 46: Where will you spend eternity?
4. Make the right choice today to be transferred into His kingdom & transform your life!
5. If you are not a Christian, you need to be. Repent and be baptized into His name!
6. If a Christian in error, don’t wait till it’s eternally too late. Repent and be renewed!
7. Whatever your requests, let them be made known ***NOW*** while we stand & sing!