

Anchor

Bill LeGrand

"...And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." Revelation 21:1-6 (Anglican Book of Common Prayer page 609). Recently, there was an inspiring program on W5 which addressed "the after-death experience." The program explored what psychologists, theologians, psychiatrists, therapists, and

philosophers had to say about life after death. Hundreds of documented cases of patients, who had been clinically dead and later brought back to life, described some common impressions: 1 - a sense of leaving the body and being able to observe the normal things of life. 2 - a sense of being enveloped in love and warmth, regretting the lost opportunities to show love to others. 3 - a sense of disappointment in being called back to an earthly existence.

Although fully 20 percent of all Canadians do not believe in life after death, an astonishing 70 percent admit to some belief in a hereafter...often arrived at from their own religious or philosophical perspective.

Among Christians, there has been much debate about the afterlife. Some qualify the afterlife as a place of Heaven or Hell others, especially in the Eastern Churches, see all people aspiring to Heaven; a third group point to a Purgatory or inbetween state, where the soul is in a type of limbo between Heaven and Hell. A minority of Christians even hold to a mystical view of reincarnation.

While my reading of scripture places me firmly into the Heaven/Hell duality. I must confess that God's word does not reveal much about what these two existences would be like. I feel that Hell, however, would be anywhere that the

love of God, as revealed by Jesus Christ, would be absent. Heaven, on the other hand, seems indescribable, as it becomes portrayed largely in allegory in scripture. These allegories, especially in Revelation, all point to God's immeasurable love.

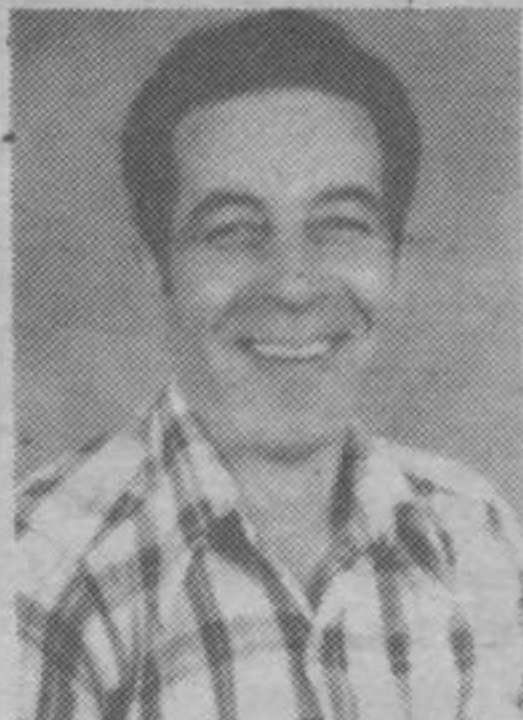
As Christians, we do have some affirmation through Jesus Christ. John 6:40, gives us a particular hope that we will live again, in a new existence, if we believe Jesus died for our sins, so that we might rise to eternal life. Jesus tells his disciples, "For this is the will of my Father that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him should have eternal life; and I will raise him up on the last day." (RSV) Through Jesus' resurrection from the dead, we have a firm promise that by grace, we too will rise to new life in him.

Many churches today have replaced the color black (to symbolize our sinfulness) to white (to symbolize our sins being forgiven through Jesus Christ, and our hope in our own resurrection through him). White liturgical colors, including white palls points to our celebration of the life of a devout Christian, that he will be with Jesus, and risen in his glory.

The early Church used joyous Easter hymns and the color white, to celebrate Christ's victory over sin and death, for those who believe in Jesus as Lord and Saviour. Over time, the Medieval Church became obsessed with Man's basic sinfulness, and black became prominent. In recent times, Christians have returned to ancient practices...not to deny the reality of sin, but to give a clearer focus to our joy at the death of a committed Christian. This is not to say that we do not grieve...even Jesus cried over the death of his friend Lazarus. Yet, within our grief, we have renewed hope for ourselves, that death is conquered for us through Jesus Christ. Holy Communion is very appropriate at funeral services today. In the Eucharist, we recall how Jesus overcame death to claim us for God the Father.

W5 may or may not have presented an accurate picture of the after-death

experience. What this program had done, is to reawaken Christians to the promise of eternal life with Jesus Christ. It also has helped to fulfill the Biblical perspective that death is not the end, but the start of a new beginning in an existence unknown to us in this earthly life.



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BOURGUIGNON — Mr. Albert Bourguignon, age 54 years, of Terrace Bay, passed away in hospital on Tuesday, June 11, 1985. He was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion, Terrace Bay, and was employed by Kimberly-Clark of Terrace Bay. Survived by his wife Patricia; children: Bart of Gibson, B.C., Derek of New Glasgow, Nova Scotia, Roland and Bernard, both of Thunder Bay; Jason of Terrace Bay; step children: Derek and Jim Charlton of Prince Rupert, B.C., and Sandra Charlton, of New Glasgow, Nova Scotia. Also survived by brothers Lionel and Pat, both of Schreiber; and Monsignor George of Thunder Bay. Predeceased by his mother in 1980, his father in 1981, and a sister in 1983. Resting at the King Funeral Home, Schreiber. Funeral Mass was Thursday, at 11 a.m. from St. Martin's Catholic Church, Terrace Bay. Interment in Terrace Bay Cemetery. If friends so desire, memorials to the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated.



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PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS the Canada Employment Centre for students is designed to assist local students in obtaining employment during the summer, and

WHEREAS it also assists local employers in obtaining enthusiastic and qualified students to fill positions in local firms during the summer months;

NOW THEREFORE: We, Dave Speer, Reeve of the township of Terrace Bay, and Harold Fischer, Reeve of the township of Schreiber, do proclaim June 22, 1985 to June 29, 1985, as "**HIRE A STUDENT WEEK**" and call on all citizens to lend their interest and support in making this observance in every way.

**Terrace Bay and Schreiber
June 20, 1985**

PROCLAMATION

BEAUTIFICATION WEEK

TOWNSHIP OF SCHREIBER

In preparation for the Centennial Celebrations, to be held in July of this year, and in keeping with the general desire to make our town an attractive place in which to live, I, Harold H. Fischer, Reeve, hereby proclaim the week of June 23 - 29th, to be **BEAUTIFICATION WEEK**, and call on all property owners and residents, to make a special effort to clear their residences and property of all debris etc., this year.

And further, I urge all to take part in the Beautification Contest, sponsored by the Beautification Action Committee, prizes for which will be awarded during Centennial Week.

H.H. FISCHER
Reeve,
Township of Schreiber

