

IF I HAD ONLY A YEAR TO LIVE
Isa. 38:1, "Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die."

Introduction:

1. Hezekiah's notice to prepare for death coming in the near future.
2. What would you do if you were told you had only a year to live? How would you feel?
3. Here are some things NOT to do.
 - A. Do not shorten your life even more drastically and end it suddenly by suicide.
 - B. Do not "take a fling" of loose living and reckless revelry.
 - C. Do not be bitter or worry yourself into a melancholy gloom of despair.

WHAT I WOULD DO:

- I. I would make sure I was right with God.
 - A. That my sins were forgiven
 1. The need of forgiveness
 - a. The fact of sin
 - b. The consequences of unforgiven sin
 2. The Way of forgiveness
 - a. Remission provided through the Blood
 - b. Remission accepted by faith.
 3. The Results of Forgiveness
 - a. Peace of heart
 - b. Joy of life
 - c. Hope of heaven
 - B. That My Heart Was Pure
 1. "Blessed are the pure in heart"
 2. No compromise with sin in the life
 3. The fullness of the Holy Spirit
- II. I would Make Sure I Was Right With My Fellow Men.
 - A. That I harbored no hatred or ill feelings
 - B. That I was magnanimous in my dealings with others
 - C. I would give special attention and time to my family and see that they were provided for.

**III. I Would MAKE SURE THAT MY LIFE WAS DEDICATED
IN SERVICE TO GOD AND MAN.**

A. Winning lost souls to Christ

B. Helping Christian Believers

1. All Christians everywhere, without prejudice,

2. Esp. young converts, young people, and
children, knowing they could carry on after
I was gone.

**C. I would support Christian missions to the limit of
my ability.**

1. I am sure I would put direct evangelism ahead of
institutional work.

2. There are churches in Costa Rica with only 100
members starting new missions. - (Dutton Mills)

**D. I would take a positive stand against all prevalent
evils and fight them to the end.**

**E. I would serve unceasingly in the church, investing
my last energy, activity, and resources in it,
remembering it in my will, and
believing it to be the only divinely instituted
religious organization on earth.**

I would put the church ahead of all other
good, worthy, and humanitarian causes,
not because they are not deserving of my support
and assistance, but because I cannot do everything
this last year of my life, and I am compelled by
common sense to select and concentrate on something
supremely important.

**F. I would be LAYAL AND PATRIOTIC to our COUNTRY and to
the things we stand for in the American way of life.**

**G. I would seek out and help particular individuals in
need or in trouble, thinking more about others
than about myself, and leaving behind me a trail
of kindness and thoughtfulness.**

This would help me more than I would help them.

CONCLUSION: I would pray for a quick, quiet, and peaceful
departure, but I would discipline and prepare my heart dur-
ing the year with spiritual exercises and devotions,
so that if the last weeks should be hard and painful,
I would be able to bear it in quiet faith, Christian grace
and cheerful surrender to the Lord "Who doeth all things
well."

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