

Funeral – (LK 12: 35-40)

In today's Gospel Jesus says –

“At an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come” - So be ready – Are you ready?

At an hour we did not expect God called Terrance

And it was a lot earlier than anyone expected

WHEN and WHY we are called has always been a problem for us

It's always too soon

We're never ready to loose someone we love

In fact - Death is why Paul wrote the letter to the Thessalonians we just heard

St. Paul had visited, evangelized, watch the church grow – then moved on to the next town

Christians in 1c believed JC was coming again SOON – they knew what JC taught:

“At an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come” - So they were prepared for 2nd coming
BUT

Christians began to die BEFORE Jesus came back again – NOW WHAT?

So Paul writes them explaining what will happen:

“Just as Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with Him
those who have fallen asleep”

THAT IS OUR DESTINY

As Christian men and women we believe in the resurrection of the body & life everlasting

As Christian men and women we know that we are God's beloved and He will not leave us orphan

We are “Children of God and heirs of heaven” We are the redeemed

AND SO WAS TERRANCE

Jesus says

“At an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come” - So be ready – Are you ready?

Some of us here today are following God's call, walking on the path to the Kingdom

Some of us here today have already left that path looking for a better way – OUR way

There is no better way

There's only one way to the Kingdom – Jesus Christ

Let me tell you a story:

Once upon a time 3 men got an invitation from the King to come live in his palace

They had heard about the palace - Golden walls, windows made of diamonds, fabulous

The King even sent a map and said “If you stay on the path you'll come right to the palace”

So they set out on their way – but it wasn't easy

The path had huge boulders thistles and thorns BUT THEY KEPT GOING

Eventually they met another traveler coming toward them

“Where are you going?” He asked. “To the King's palace”, they replied

The traveler's eyes widened “I was invited too, but turned back because of the lions”

The path is blocked by huge hungry lions with sharp teeth and huge claws

You should try another path

The 3 friends looked at each other – one wanted to go back

“But the King said if we stayed on the path” – so they trusted and went on

Soon they heard a huge roar, the ground shook, and they knew

One said, “It's not worth dying for” and went to follow another path

The other 2 continued until – they saw the lions – 6 of them!

One said “They we right, they're too big” and he ran off

The last man kept walking and when he got close, saw the lions were chained

He was able to walk past them to the palace where the King welcomed him home.

Here's the Good News – We are invited, like Terrance, to come to the palace of the King

No matter how you have lived your life – no matter what you've done – you can still get on the right path

No matter how big the boulder No matter how sharp the thistle

No matter how big the lion Satan has put in your path

The King is inviting us all to the palace – and if you are faithful – if you stay on the right path

When you reach the palace – Don't be surprised if Terry is waiting to greet you