

HUMAN DESTINY AND TIME



FR. PROF. CORNELIUS OMONOKHUA

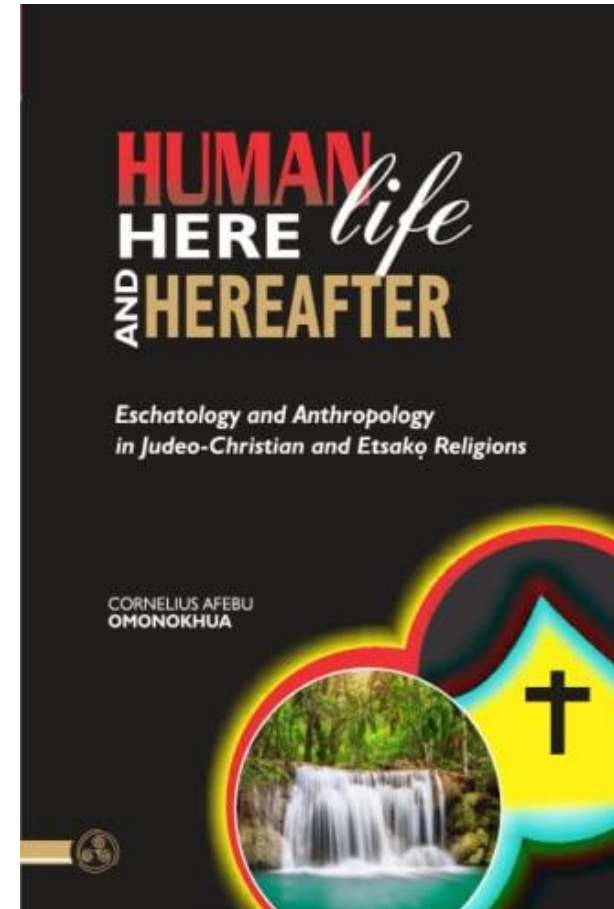
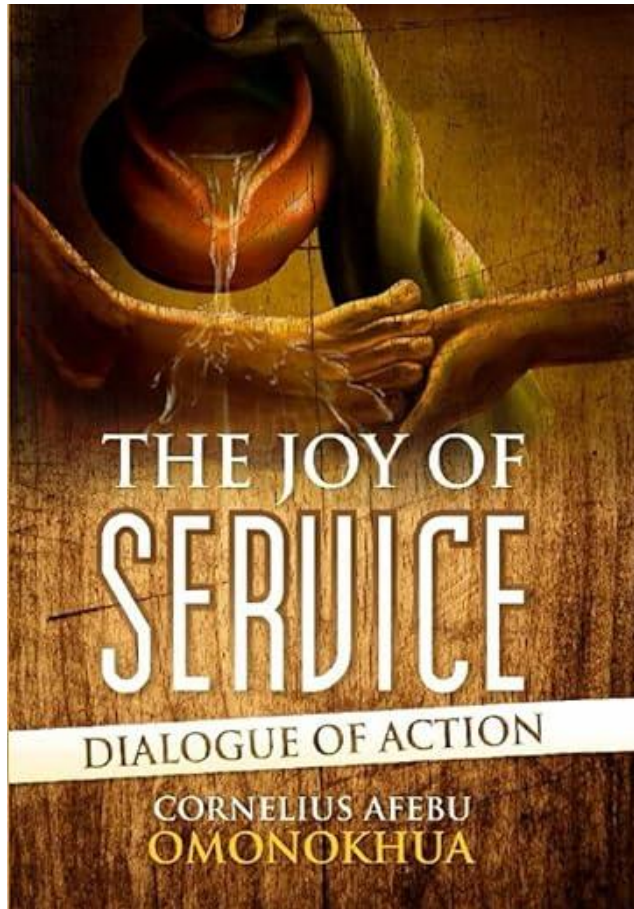
QUICK REVIEW

- **THIS IS THE 8th LECTURE OF THE NIREC PUBLIC WEBINAR. SO FAR, WE HAVE COVERED:**
- **1. ANTHROPOLOGICAL FOUNDATION OF CHARACTER.**
- **2. EDUCATION FROM WOMB TO TOMB**
- **3. PRINCIPLES AND DYNAMICS OF DIALOGUE.**
- **4. CHALLENGES OF RELIGIOUS PLURALISM**
- **5. BASIS FOR DIALOGUE IN AFRICA**
- **6. NATIONAL UNITY AND RELIGIOUS COOPERATION**
- **7. THE ROLE OF NIREC IN STRENGTHENING NATIONAL UNITY**

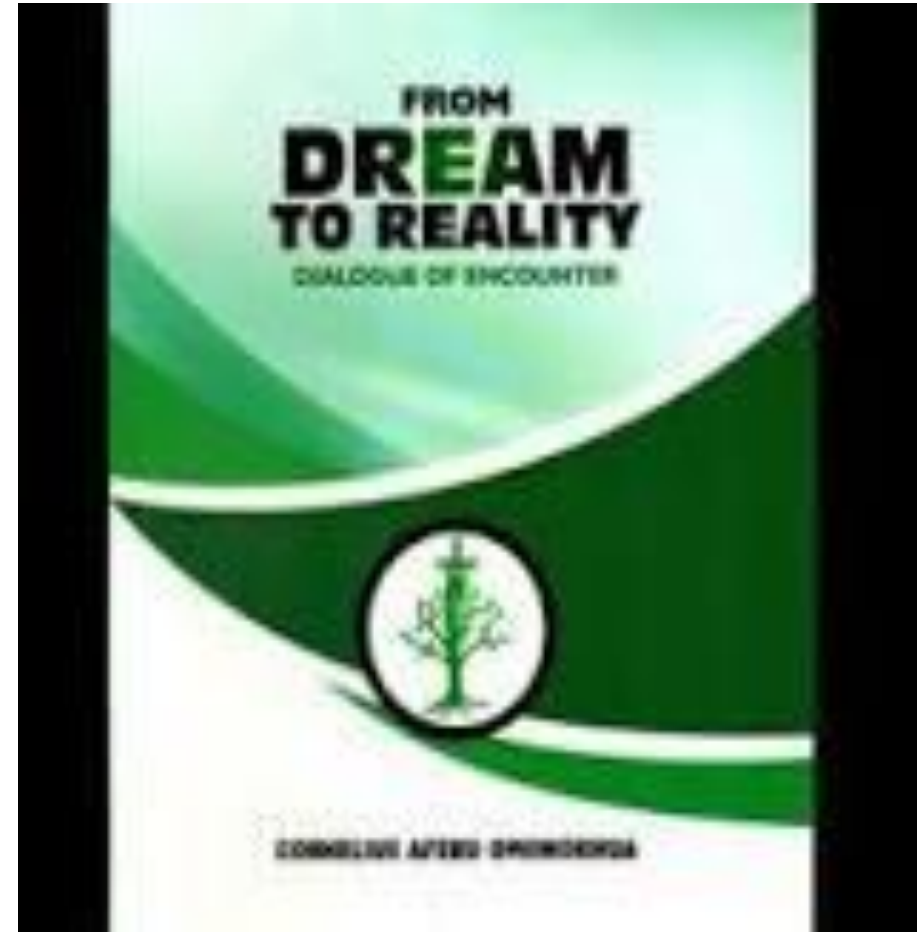
QUICK REVIEW

- **8. HUMAN DESTINY AND TIME**

REFERENCE BOOKS



REFERENCE BOOKS



WHY DID GOD MADE YOU?

(Baltimore Catechism)

**“God made me to know Him, to
love Him, and to serve Him in this
world, and to be happy with Him
forever in heaven.”**

PURPOSE OF CREATION IN ISLAM

- **In Islam, man's ultimate life objective is to worship the Creator, Allah SWT by abiding with the divine guidelines revealed in the Holy Qur'an and the tradition of the Holy Prophet SAW. Earthly life is merely a test, determining ones after life, either in Jannah (Paradise) or Jahannam (Hell).**
- **In Islam, the ultimate goal of life is to seek the pleasure of Allah and attain paradise in the hereafter.**

TIME FOR EVERYTHING

Ecclesiastes 3:1-11

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh,



TIME FOR EVERYTHING

a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak,



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TIME FOR EVERYTHING.

a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace. What do workers gain from their toil? I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race. He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.



PLACE YOURSELF IN A DESERT

Imagine you have only thirty days to live,
How will you spend the thirty days before the
arrival of death?

WHAT DO YOU DO IN THE DESERT?

MEDITATING AND CONTEMPLATING



WANDERING AND SEARCHING



ACCOUNT FOR THE 30 DAYS

- **RESIGNATION?**
- **FASTING AND PRAYING?**
- **PAYING THE DEBTS YOU ARE OWING PEOPLE?**
- **REPENTANCE?**
- **CHANGE OF ATTITUDE?**

- You do not know how many years you have to spend on earth?
- But how do you intend to spend every second out of the 86,400 seconds you have in a day?
- How do you intend to spend every minute, hour, day, week, month and year available to you in time?

TIME CONSCIOUSNESS

ACTIVE MEMORY

- **Yesterday** is history and never returns
- **Tomorrow** is a mystery and God's secret
- **Today** is a gift and sacrament of the moment that is only present

DELIBERATE ACTIONS

- Manage every moment as if that is your last day on earth.
- **Time** flows like a river and never comes back
- Life flows along with TIME to ETERNITY.

St. Francis de Sales. (1567-1622)

Bishop of Geneva

Put aside all useless thoughts

Be at peace

- Do not look forward to what may happen tomorrow.
- The same Eternal Father who cares for you today will take good care of you tomorrow
- and every day of your life.
- Either he will shield you from suffering or He will give you the unfailing strength to bear it.



TIME TO BE ALONE AND TIME TO BE WITH OTHERS

BE FOCUSED, NO TURNING BACK



LIFE AND DEATH AS COMMUNION



TIME MANAGEMENT

- **We may not have the opportunity to know the remaining time available for us on earth before passing into eternity.**
- **How many years do you have to spend on earth?**
- **How do you intend to spend every second out of the 86,400 seconds you have in a day?**
- **How do you intend to spend every minute, hour, day, week, month and year available to you in time?**

TIME MANAGEMENT

- **What is your vision in life?**
- **What is your mission?**
- **What are your specific objectives?**
- **How do you flow with time?**

TRANSITION

- **You have only one life to live. You will pass this earthly road from time to eternity only once.**
- **Life has no duplicate. So there is need to have a positive economy of time. We must learn to invest our time meaningfully.**
- **Time flows like a river and never comes back while life flows along with it.**

REMEMBER

- **That yesterday is history,**
- **That tomorrow is mystery and**
- **Today is a gift.**

- **Today is the sacrament of the moment.**
- **Today is called the present because it is a gift.**
- **Tomorrow is God's secret. It may never come**
- **Manage every moment as if that is your last day on earth.**

MARILYN MONROE

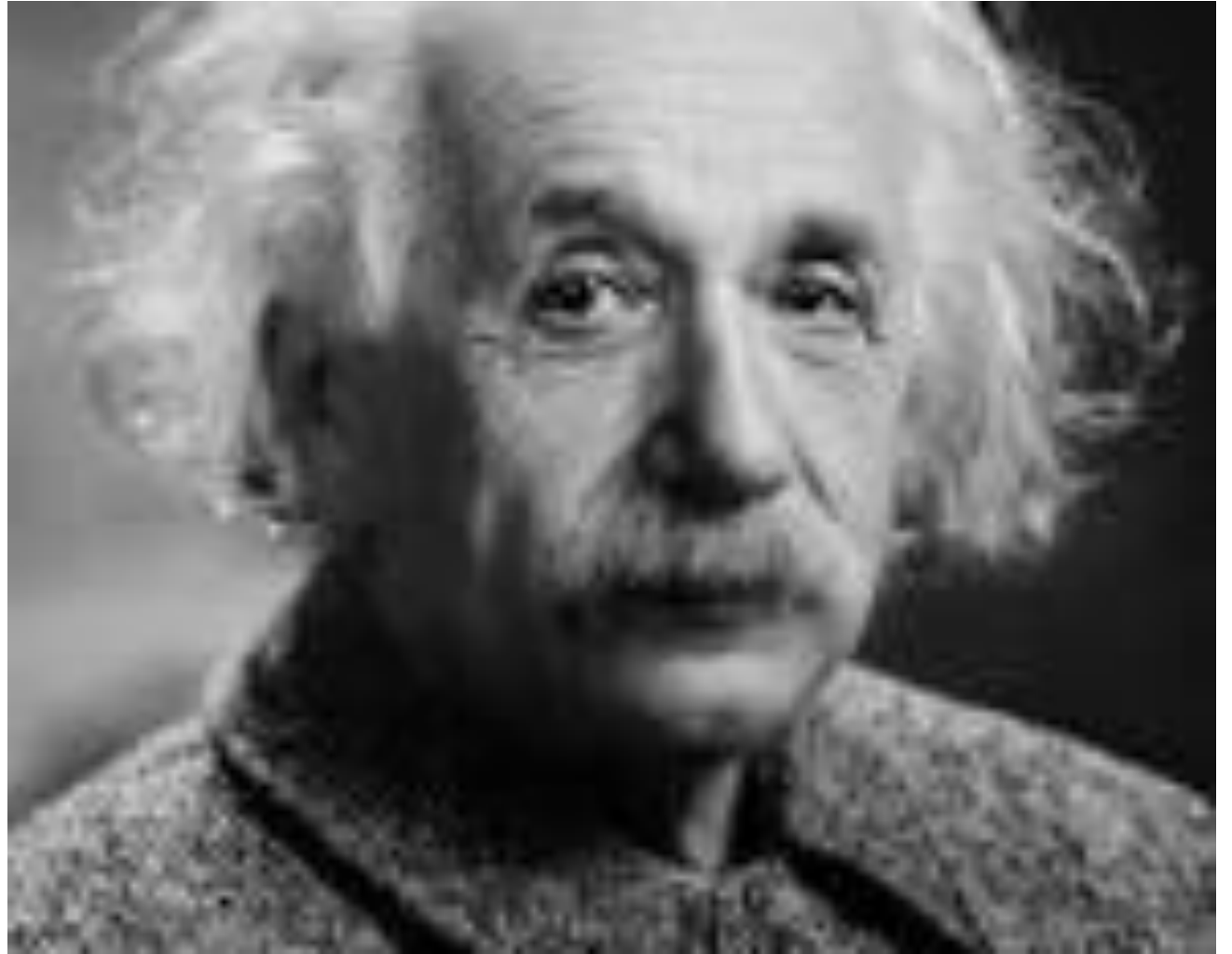
I've been on
a calendar,
but I've
never been
on time



ALBERT EINSTEIN

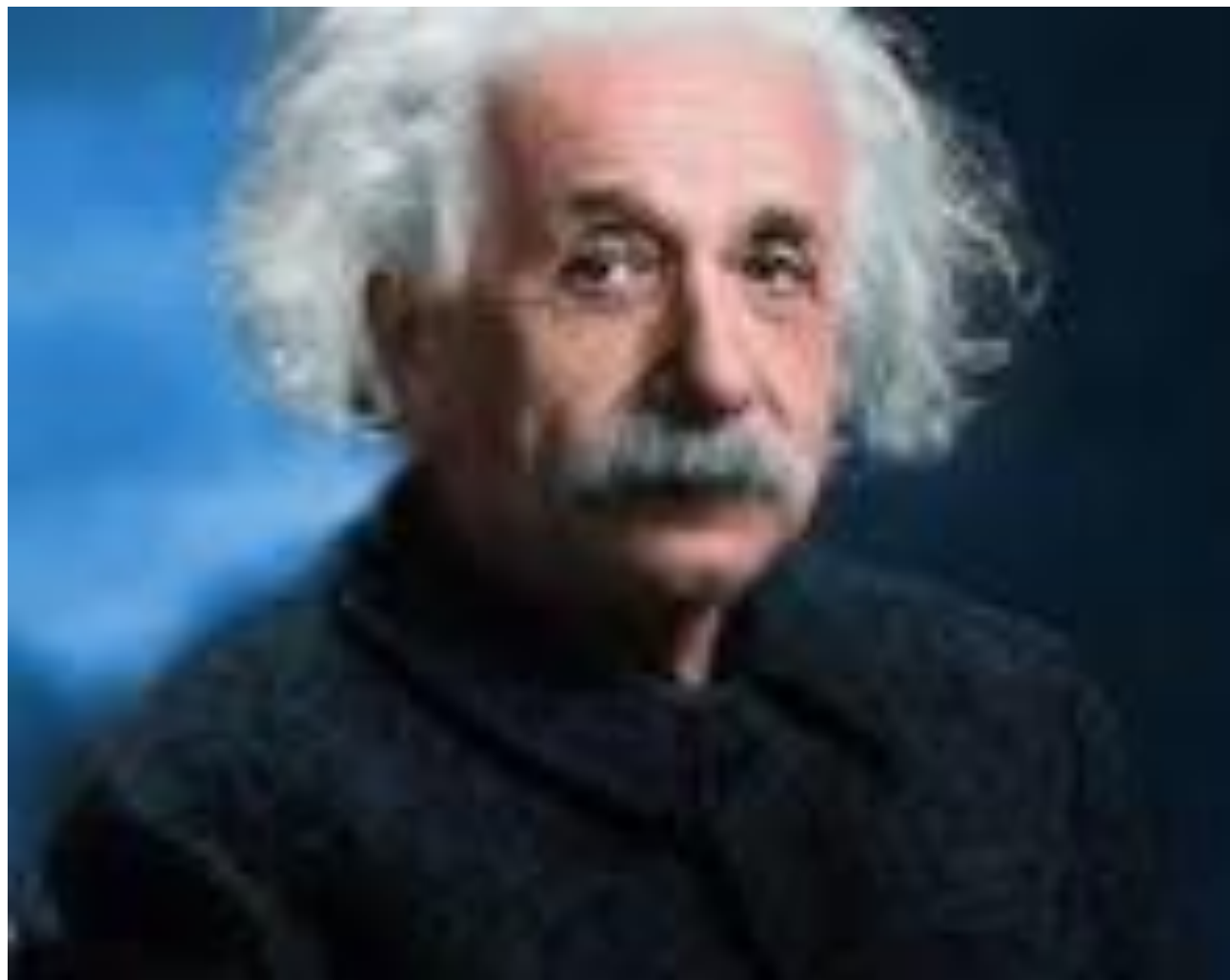
I think and think for months and years. Ninety-nine times, the conclusion is false. The hundredth time I am right

Time is what prevents everything from happening at once.



ALBERT EINSTEIN

**There comes a time
when the mind
takes a higher
plane of knowledge
but can never
prove how it got
there.**



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

- **That old law about 'an eye for an eye' leaves everybody blind.**
- **The time is always right to do the right thing**



THOMAS JEFFERSON

**The tree of liberty
must be refreshed
from time to time
with the blood of
patriots and tyrants**



DEATH, FINAL DESTINY

- **Death is a mystery that has been a part of the human existence. Death ends the temporal existence of a human being on earth.**



DEATH, FINAL DESTINY

- **After death, only the remembrance of a person survives in time. TIME AND PLACE OF Death is very uncertain.**
- **This makes a lot of people pray and prepare for a happy death.**
- **The Jews have a lot of literature on how to prepare for a happy death.**
- **Many Africans see death as a continuation of life.**

DEATH, FINAL DESTINY

- **Death is a mystery that has been a part of the human existence. Death ends the temporal existence of a human being on earth.**



MANAGEMENT OF TIME

- **Use time as a scarce and limited resource**
- **Use time to do good and avoid evil**
- **Use time to prepare for eternity**
- **Use time to be happy and find fulfilment**
- **Use time to build humanity and preserve nature**
- **Death is a means by which time is translated into eternity**

ADRIENNE VON SPEYR

- The *moment* comes into existence at the point where the permanent relationship meets its death. Previously there was no irretrievable “now” cutting into temporal duration.
- There were changes in this duration, but they were full of the promise of future and recurrence.



ADRIENNE VON SPEYR

- **Time was part of man's "possession" that he shared with God-though no precise law could be formulated to express this sharing. God, as Lord, shaped things, but he granted man a share in his shaping activity. Now there is a "here and now" in complete uniqueness. The form of time shows man that he must die, that his existence is proceeding toward a nonexistence, an hour over which he has no control**

LIFE, A PILGRIMAGE IN TIME



**TIME FOR PEACE
AND HARMONY
ISAIAH 11:6)**



TIME TO ADMIRE NATURE

- **Meditate on life, death and imagine how heaven will look like.**
- **Nature offers silence and solitude.**



TIME TO THINK OF DEATH

- **Death ends the temporal existence of a human being on earth.**
- **After death, only the remembrance of a person survives in time**



VISIT THE CEMETERY

- **Death ends the anxiety of the future.**
- **The cemetery is calm and peaceful, no stress, no worries.**
- **Peace in the cemetery does not exist among the living**



ALL SOULS DAY, NOVEMBER 2

- **The Catholic Church set November 2 aside to remember the dead. That day is called ALL SOULS DAY.** On November 2, 2015, I followed some priests of the Oblates of Saint Joseph to say mass for the dead in a cemetery in Rome. As we were getting close to the cemetery, I started seeing tall buildings with each floor decorated with flowers. I thought it was an estate or a city in Rome. When we arrived, behold the buildings were graves. That was the first time I saw corpses buried inside the wall.

MASS AND PRAYERS IN THE CEMETRY

- **The City of Rome's Cemetery Department maintains a total of 99 acres in four historic cemeteries: Myrtle Hill Cemetery, Oak Hill Cemetery, East View Cemetery, and Oakland Cemetery, along with the newer Myrtle Hill Mausoleum.**
- **Cemeteries are maintained in civilized societies in a way that death no longer appear like punishment but a natural medium to a transcendent home.**
- **We offered mass for the souls of the departed Oblates and the Souls of the departed in the cemetery. After mass, we toured round the different buildings.**

EPITAPHS OF DEPARTED HEROES AND LOVED ONES

- **On some of the graves were epitaphs of Departed heroes, Artists, Theologians, Philosophers, Scientists and great people who in human judgement had fulfilled life on earth and died in peace. These were people who promoted human dignity and cannot be forgotten in beautiful sepulchers. Their good deeds are buried in the memory of humanity. God had delivered them from sudden death. The graveyard is a home in the city of the dead. In this city, there are no kings and servants.**

THE GRAVEYARD CITY

- **The equality of humanity is made manifest in the graveyard city. There are also inhabitants of this city that never lived fully. The Spirit of those whose life were terminated prematurely keep crying for vengeance. There exist unfilled dreams and never actualized potentials. Their dreams, desires and potentials were destroyed by incompetent, greedy and corrupt rulers. To them applies this wise saying: “Do not give a person leadership because you like him, but give a person leadership because he is competent.” Power given out of injustice is a weapon for human destruction.**

MERCHANT OF DEATH

LUDVIG NOBEL

- When Alfred's brother Ludvig died in 1888, a French newspaper accidentally published an obituary for Alfred that referred to him as the "merchant of death."

OBITUARY OF ALFRED NOBEL



WHAT WILL YOU BE REMEMBERED FOR? THE MAN WHO READ HIS OBITUARY

CHANGE IS POSSIBLE

- As soon as Alfred read the obituary, he decided to rewrite his Will. Afraid to leave such a legacy behind, he decided to donate more than 90 percent of his life earnings to create a symbol of respect and honor for the people who contributed to the betterment of mankind.

ALFRED NOBEL



THE NOBEL PRIZE

- The symbol was named after Alfred Nobel's name, the Nobel Prize. The prize had initially five categories, which were, chemistry, physics, medicine or physiology, literature, and peace. Later in the year 1969, Economics was also added as a category for the Nobel Prize.
- According to Alfred Nobel's will, the Nobel Peace Prize would be awarded by a committee of five people chosen by the Norwegian Storting. The Nobel Committee of the Norwegian Storting was established in August 1897 as soon as the Storting accepted the assignment in April of the same year.

ELIZABETH KÜBLER-ROSE -

Human mortality may not be denied, for death is the common end to all life. To the individual or traditional faith, death is not an end but a transition from one state of human existence to another



ELIZABETH KÜBLER-ROSE -

- *Electroencephalogram - (EEG zero lines) indicates the cessation of any kind of brain activity.*
- *This shows the advent of death.*
- *But even people shown by the electroencephalograph to be dead have sometimes been revived, as in cases of hypothermia or of an overdose of sedatives.*

CONCEPT OF DEATH.

- **R.A. Moody** – Death is the state of the body from which it is impossible to be revived.
- **Hans Küng** - Dying then is the way, death the “destination.”



FEAR OF DEATH?

- **Walter Schulz a Tübingen philosopher –**
- If man were an animal or a god, he would have no fear of death.
- **Michael Simpson -**
“Is death simply the end of all that has been achieved in life?”



**DR. RAYMOND .A.
OSBOURN**

**Death is The cessation
of *life in a plant or
animal organism.*
Somatic death - death
of a part of the
organism (local death
or necrosis). Death of
the cells is known as
molecular death.**



Raymond A. Osbourn

- **Somatic death occurs in man and the higher animals when breathing and the heart action stops and cannot be restarted.**
- **When the vital functions of the body have ceased long enough that their restoration cannot be accomplished, death really occurs.**
- **The changes - cooling of the body, rigidity of the muscles, clotting of the blood, post-mortem rigidity, *livor mortis*, autolysis, and decomposition (putrefaction).**

LOOKING UP TO HEAVEN

- **What does it profit a person to have the whole world and suffer for eternity. while on earth gaze unto heaven. be God conscious.**



CONTENTMENT

**If a newly born baby inherits
ONE Billion NAIRA
To spend ONE million NAIRA
every month,
The money will last 83 years
And 4 months**

**THEN WHY DO GREEDY
PEOPLE AMASS SO MUCH
MONEY WHILE OTHERS ARE
STARVING?**

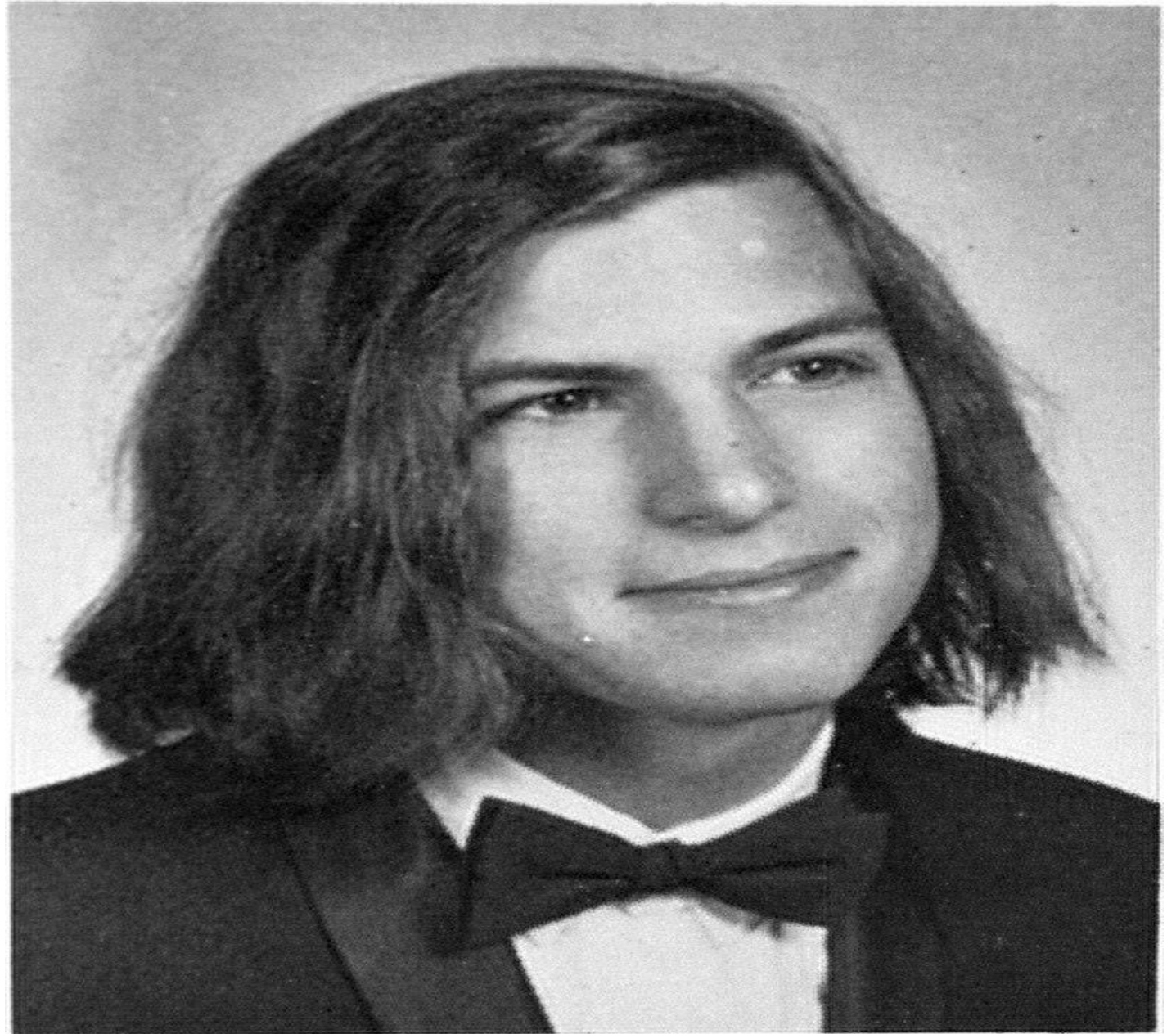
ANALYSIS

- 12 Months = 12M**
- 10 Years. = 120M**
- 20 Years. = 240M**
- 40 Years. = 480M**
- 80 Years. = 960 M**

Steven Paul Jobs

Feb 24, 1955 – Oct 5, 2011)

- **An American businessman,**
- **inventor and investor best known for co-founding the technology giant Apple Inc.**
- **Founder of NEXT and chairman**
- **Majority shareholder of Pixar.**
- **A pioneer of the personal computer revolution of the 1970s and 1980s along with his early business partner and fellow Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak.**



WORDS OF Steven Paul Jobs

- **Lost material things can be found. But LIFE can never be found when lost**
- **Love your family, spouse and friends. Treat them well. Cherish them.**
- **Don't educate your children to be rich. Educate them to be happy. So when they grow up they will know the value of things and not the price.**



WHERE TRUE LIFE IS DISCOVERED

- **HOSPITAL** – Health is wealth
 - **PRISON** – Freedom is a precious gift
 - **CEMETARY** – Body is a return to dust and soul to eternity.
- His sister, Mona Simpson , described his death thus: "Steve's final words, hours earlier, were monosyllables, repeated three times. Before embarking, he'd looked at his sister Patty, then for a long time at his children, then at his life's partner, Laurene, and then over their shoulders past them. Steve's final words were: 'Oh wow. Oh wow. Oh wow.' " He then lost consciousness and died several hours later

FINAL DESTINY

**THE SACRIFICE OF
RECONCILING MEN
AND WOMEN
TO GOD, AND TO
ONE ANOTHER
AFTER THE
EXAMPLE OF
CHRIST**

HEAVEN

- PEACE AND RECONCILIATION
- LIFE OF COMMUNION

PURGATORY

- WAITING AND LONGING
- PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

HELL

- FINAL DECISION
- INTERNAL SUFFERING.

THE MISSION OF JESUS

Jesus lived among us teaching and acting to save us from final damnation. His reconciling mission was to enable us have peace of mind, soul and body. When the human person is at peace on the inside, this peace can now radiate and affect the world around the person.

SERMON ON PEACE

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God (Matthew 5:9). Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you, let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid (John 14:27).



SERMON ON TRIBULATION

“I have spoken to you, so that in me you might have peace. In the world you shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world (John 16:33).”



WISDOM OF THE PSALMIST

- **“You turn your face away, they suffer; you stop their breath; they die and revert to dust. You give breath, fresh life begins, you keep renewing the world” (Ps 104, 29).**
- **“What man can cling to life and not see death? Who can evade the clutches of *Sheol* (Ps 89, 48)?**
- **“Our days dwindle under your wrath; our lives are over in a breath. Our life lasts for seventy years, eighty with good health, but they all add up to anxiety and trouble then we are gone (Ps 90, 9-10).**

CONCLUSION

Since life is a pilgrimage, let us use the time available to us to be happy on earth even as we prepare ourselves for the day when we shall return to our creator. Live one day at a time and meditate on the scriptures

