

“AS THE DAYS of NOAH WERE”

It was an ordinary Spring Wednesday in Oklahoma City. A light rain fell as people went about their daily affairs—children in school and daycare, parents at work, business as usual. Then just after 9:00 a.m. an explosion at the Alfred E. Murray Federal Building changed their world and ours forever. What was then the worst act of terrorism on American soil claimed the lives of 158 men, women and children. That was ten years ago this past Tuesday (April 19).

On that day 168 people were swept into eternity without a moment's notice. No time to make further preparations. No time for goodbyes. No time to make amends for wrongs committed or hateful words spoken. No time to get right with their Creator before facing Him in judgment one day. The words which Jesus spoke regarding His second coming allow us to envision this same kind of scenario. He stated, *“But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered in the ark, and knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be”* (Matthew 24:37-39).

Those who casually went about their business on April 19, 1995, “knew not” of the fate that was about to befall them. But, that dreadful event occurred and “took them all away”. We sing the song, “There’s a Great Day Coming,” the third stanza of which states, “There’s a sad day coming... when the sinner shall hear his doom, ‘Depart I know ye not,’ are you ready for that day to come?”

One day every resident of this old world will be “eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage” (going about his daily affairs), without any thought whatsoever that this is the day of the Lord’s return. Then, just as suddenly as that fateful April blast ten years ago, each will be swept into eternity to meet his Creator. There will be no time for farewells, no opportunities to make amends and, certainly, no chance to make things right with God. “Are you ready for that day to come?”

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