

Maybe Tomorrow

By

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Theme:

This play portrays a typical attitude among people, namely the thought that they plan on becoming right with God sometime 'tomorrow.' Well, in this play Bill runs out of tomorrow's as the rapture takes place and he finds himself left of earth. The irony in this play is that he doesn't even realize that he has been left behind.

Biblical Reference:

1 Corinthians 15:52

In a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

Approximate Running Time:

10 minutes

Props:

A lounge chair.

Numerous Beer Cans. These can be pop cans with paper 'beer' labels.

A recorded telephone message with the pastor's voice.

Cast of Characters:

Bill: A 'beer bum,' 'couch potato' kind of a man. He pretends to be a Christian just to keep his wife off of his back.

Beth: A good Christian woman who is concerned about giving back to the Lord. She is concerned about her non-Christian husband but doesn't want to push him over the edge with her constant nagging. She needs to be played as motherly as possible.

Note:

The names of this play can be changed to those of the performers.

Scene:

Bill is lying back on a recliner. He is focusing his attention on the beer in his hand and the football game on the television. Beth moves around him as she prepares to leave for church. Bill should act as if his conversation with Beth is a sideline to the game on the television.

Beth: Honey, I'm off to church now, is there anything that I can get for you before I go?

Bill: Are you telling me that you are taking off to that church again? Gosh honey, why don't you just move in there? You spend half of your life there and the move would save me a ton of gas money.

Beth: Ha-ha, very funny. You know that I don't spend have of my life over there. I only spend a few nights a week at church. It's the least that I can do to show the Lord that I am grateful for all that He has done for me. Tonight the pastoral committee is meeting to interview a new candidate. I know that this has been a long process which has taken its toll on your patience, but I know that we'll find a good one sooner or later.

Bill: Why don't you just put all of the names into a hat and pick one? I mean, that's how I would do it if I was in charge of this committee. Everyone knows that no pastor is better than another pastor.

Beth: I am sorry, but I would not agree with that statement. Some pastors are more dedicated to the church, some believe in the Bible more than others, some strongly believe in strengthening families, and some believe in the strength of Christ. We are finding that the pastors that we are interviewing have many different beliefs on salvation. Some believe in works, some believe that it is every man for himself, and some believe that salvation comes through other people in history.

Bill: Yeah, yeah, this isn't the time to get into this. Hey, could you get me a couple more beers before you go...please? There's a good football game on TV today so you go on to your little meeting at the church there and leave me alone to watch it.

Beth: Here are your beverages [*exaggerates beverages,*] dear. I don't want you to drink any more than this, though. Remember that Ephesians 5:18 says "Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit."

Bill: Well dear, I am drinking beer and not wine, you know.

Beth: What you are drinking is not the point. You can get drunk on beer too you know.

Bill: You've got to be kidding me. Do you mean to tell me that I can get drunk by drinking beer? And all these years I thought that you were the cause of all of my headaches.

Beth: [*Ignoring his comment.*] You know that the Bible does say that a changed life is the evidence of a changed heart. So a true Christian can be spotted because of the life that he is leading.

Bill: I know...I know...and, boy are you leading a great life. I sure wish that little 'ole me could be as great as you. But we can talk about it later. Why don't you just run along to church now and leave me to watch this game.

Beth: You could be if you only tried. Someday you will see if you are really saved or not. Remember, the Bible says that every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that...

Bill: Jesus Christ is Lord...I know, I know, maybe tomorrow, OK? Didn't you hear me tell you that there is a great football game on tonight? And by the way, I think that a few of the players are Christians. So that means it's a Christian program, right?

Beth: I'll say one thing, at least they are out exercising and doing more than sitting home reaching for the remote control.

Bill: That's not fair, you know that I have a membership at the health club and that I go once a week.

Beth: And I know that all you do is sit in the hot tub and watch the girls. Dear, someday you have to realize that you are not leading a productive life. Someday you will be asked to give an accounting for what you have done with the talents that were given to you.

Bill: Honey, we've gone over this before. I don't know what my talents are. How can I use my talents if I don't know what they are?

Beth: Well how are you going to find out what your talents are if you don't go out and explore? You'll never know if you don't try.

Bill: Yeah, yeah, maybe tomorrow. Are you ready to go all ready? [*She turns to leave.*] Oh, by the way, the guys are coming over to play some poker tonight after the game, OK?

Beth: I thought that you had promised me that you wouldn't start gambling again.

Bill: I did. And I haven't started it again. We aren't playing for money any more.

Beth: You know, in the end there isn't a single gambler that comes out ahead.

Bill: I'm not a gambler.

Beth: Well...I guess it's all right, as long as you are done before I get home. I don't want to watch you fall back into sin again. But I want you to know that I'm going to continue praying for you and that we will all be praying for you tonight at church. I'm sure that you'll come around one of these days.

Bill: [*Already having devoted his interest in the game.*] Yeah, yeah, maybe tomorrow.

Beth: [*Kisses him on the cheek.*] Good-bye dear.

Bill: Have fun.

[*Beth exits as Bill acts interested in the game. Suddenly, he looks around as if to catch her before she drives away.*]

Bill: Honey. [*Pause*] Honey. [*looks out the window*] Honey, I know that you are still here, the car's in the driveway. [*He goes to the phone*] Hey Frank, did Alice leave for the meeting yet? Well, is she going to pick up Beth? What? You say that her car is still in the driveway but you can't see her anywhere. Same with my wife. Something fishy is going on around here. I'll call the church and see what's up. Well, anyway, come on over, I got the game on. OK, see ya in a bit. Bye.


[*He calls the church. The phone rings four times and then an answering machine kicks in.*]

Pastor: Hello, you have reached the Community Baptist Church. We can't come to the phone right now - we've been raptured into heaven. [*Pause.*] BEEP.

Bill: [*Looks at phone, wondering if it's a joke or something. Hanging up phone.*] Yeah, well, maybe tomorrow...

[*He returns to his easy chair and once again focuses his attention on the game.*]

- CURTAIN -



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