Have your say, have it your way starting NOW. Don't put off for tomorrow what you can do right now!

Having your say and having your way, pre-plan

Somebody, anybody, everybody, please just ask me this question! Wait a minute, because before I tell you the question to ask me, let me ask you my readers a few questions first. If you didn't understand what I just asked, simple read it over again.

Between January of this year 2012 and the end of this month, being February of 2012, from what I've experienced and still am dealing with, I need to ask each of you a question. But before I start with my first question I want to share the experience I had just last week at one of the local Funeral Homes here in Cleveland. I won't tell you the name of the Funeral Home but I'm sure other Funeral Homes might say, "Oh Bishop what you experienced was nothing. We see and deal with this everyday." But to me it was something which left me speechless. I wrote about this last year in a few of my Bishop Speaks columns and I back talking about it again.

At this Funeral Home the body was still there in the coffin and it seemed to me the man that was in it was frowning. It seemed to me he was not happy still sitting there, oops, I mean laying there, waiting for something to happen. I had stopped by this Funeral Home three weeks ago to meet with a family who had lost their love one. They requested me to meet them there for prayer and a counseling session on how to handle this untimely death. Now three weeks later, this man is still laying in that coffin, wearing the same suit and waiting on something to happen. It seemed when I looked down at him that his smile changed to the look with a question, "I can't believe I'm still laying around here."

I had to ask, I wanted to know why was he still in that same spot, in that same coffin and wearing that same suit? I wanted to know why he had not made it to his final resting place in the ground?

Going to the Director he stated, "Bishop, I'm still waiting for one of the family members to bring the money to bury him." With my hands over my mouth, I was at a loss for words. The Funeral Director continued, "Bishop, everyday a family member calls us here and tell us somebody is on the way with the rest of the money so that we can get him to his resting place."

It's sad to say that no one from the family ever showed up as this man truly went from ashes to ashes. When the Funeral Director called to ask if they wanted to at least pay for the man's ashes they told him, "burn them too." Why did this family keep the Funeral Home waiting when they knew they were not going to pay the large balance? This man was a father, uncle, brother, grandfather yet no one could pay off the balance to get him in the earth from which we come from.

Ok, to my questions – and be honest in answering them, OK? Will any of you reading this article live forever? If you died today and your spirit looked at what would happen after your death, what would you see? Would you see your loved ones talking about you because you had no Life Insurance Policy? Would you hear somebody say, "She had a policy but stopped paying on it?" "Would your children, wife, husband or family and friends have to call around and try and get monies together to bury you? WHAT WOULD YOU SEE? Would the preacher have to take up a collection at your funeral service as I've had to do at the last two funerals I did? Would somebody quote you after your death saying, "She said, honey I'm dead, I could care less what y'all do with my body." SHAME! SHAME! SHAME!

The man that was in the coffin for a few weeks I understood from family members telling the funeral Director that he had a least two cans of beer a day and he smoked, he had the best of clothes and lots of nice shoes. Instead of investing in a Life Insurance Policy, he used what monies he had to do other things. NOW LOOK AT HIM WAITING ON SOMEBODY ELSE TO DO WHAT IN REALITY HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN DOING WHILE LIVING.

I want to ask another question which is, if we know we have to die one day, why is it that individuals just don't prepare to DIE? If I can have my voice heard while living than I should

have my voice heard while DEAD! HOW? ‘Cause I had my SAY, I did it my way in pre-planning and having a Life Insurance Policy to cover my expenses.

I'm proud to say that I have peace of mind to know that when I die my responsibilities have been taken care of. No one from my family will have to call anyone to do anything in regards to my expenses to pay for what I already did. Thank God for a mother who got me going in the right direction to start this process.

Stay tuned to part II as I make some major points and quote Funeral Home Directors in pre-plan needs.

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You can e-mail the bishop at bishopspeaks@aol.com . Check the bishop out on FaceBook under Bishop Prince J. Moultry or the church website at www.intouchforchrist.com . Call the church at (216) 761-7100 or stop by the church each Sunday morning 11a.m for their Worship Service at 969 E. 140th St. Cleveland, Ohio 44110 off St. Clair in the heart of the Collinwood Community.

Everybody wants to go to Heaven but nobody wants to die! If Heaven is a prepared place for prepared people why are many people not prepared for death? How can one get their SOUL in order to meet the Lord, yet not get the TEMPLE in which the SOUL LIVES prepared for DEATH ?